

Taiwan Historical Research 2007: Retrospect and Prospect

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ABSTRACT

Ever since the founding of the Institute of Taiwan History, Academia Sinica in 2004, the Annual Bibliography of Taiwan History has been published with the aim to provide timely information on publications and an integrated bibliography of historical research of the preceding year, thus establishing a tradition of cumulative and yearly academic review on past studies in Taiwan history.

Focusing mainly on the “2007 Conference on Taiwan Historical Research”, this paper explores the trend in research on Taiwan history in 2007, beginning with a brief introduction on research efforts in four main categories: General Works, Economics, Politics and Social Culture, followed by an overall discussion on the results obtained, and finally ending with prospects for future historical studies.

While the past year has seen diverse development in research on Taiwan history, a basic understanding on the trend of thought and direction of research concerning contemporary historiography is required in order to have a comparative historical perspective for reflecting on current results and future direction for Taiwan historical research. The dual emphasis on academic independence and professionalism in historical recount and way of thinking is the key to prosperous development on Taiwan historiography.

Keywords: Taiwan History, Historical Materials, Biographies, Economics, Politics, Social Culture, Retrospect, Prospect