ARCHITECTURE IN ACTIVISM

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thesis preparation

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WHAT ARCHITECTURE IN ACTIVISM MEANS TO US

To acknowledge the limited role of the architect/ure to affect change
Architecture is in the custody of larger social and political forces. It is a tool and mediator that is designed and created by several authors.

To work on behalf of a neglected, excluded or disadvantaged group
Activist movements stem from minorities, private individuals and organizations. The context of Southeast Asia limits the success of completely ground-up initiatives as top-down bureaucratic regulations and restrictions are typically implemented on developmental states. Architecture could serve to enable marginalized and neglected groups by returning agency within a higher authorial power.

To recognize the continuous and circulatory effects of activism
In this digital age, activism is no longer localized at its spatial point of intervention. The widespread media continues to perpetuate ideas and discussions that drive activist movement. This aligns with architecture's cyclical process of design, construction, occupancy and demolition that impacts other entities. Activism may be embedded at any point of architecture's creation, destruction and preservation.

To publicly reveal or frame a problem or challenging issue
Beyond attempting to solve problems, architecture serves to make underlying problems visible. Architects may engineer people's perception of buildings within a historical and social context to unravel an activist agenda. Activist movements, unlike design movements, do not prescribe or imply a common design approach in architecture that is physical in nature.

To propose and derive new imagination from difficult scenarios
Challenging issues catalyse architecture. However, this is not relegated to solving problems or providing infrastructure. The architectural work may be projective in addressing issues to generate possibilities.

Architecture inevitably participates in activism.
Architecture is squarely cemented as a pedagogical tool in activism as it creates environments that can be seen and inhabited. It s ability to engage in cultural and social discourse does not hinge on its success or failure as a piece of physical infrastructure.

PROMINENT
LITERATURE REFERENCES

ANN THORPE
Defining Design as Activism

Approaches to Design Activism
1. Conventional activism by designers
e.g. Architecture 2030 used to educate about design's role in climate change

2. Design elements of protest, Spaces of contestations
e.g. reinforcement of formal patterns of congregating in Yitzak Rabin Square in Tel Aviv

3. Collections of cause-oriented case studies
e.g. green building, humanitarian design, participatory design, community design

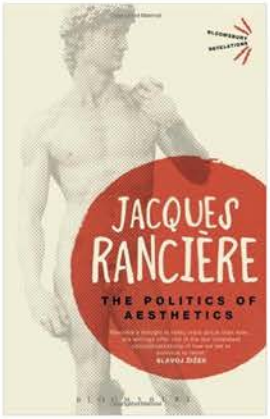
4. Critical Design and Critical Architecture
e.g. Daniel Libeskind's Holocaust Museum, Maya Lin's Vietnam Veterans Memorial

5. Protest of bad design (perspective of researchers within sociology and political science)

Defining Design in Activism (protest/resistance)
4 basic criteria:
1. Publicly **reveals** or **frames** a problem or challenging issue
2. Makes a contentious claim for change based on that problem or issue
3. Works on behalf of a **neglected, excluded or disadvantaged** group
4. **Disrupts** routine practices, or systems of authority, which gives it the characteristic of being unconventional or unorthodoc- outside traditional channels of change

Framework from the 'Sociology' standpoint

Design Activism may thus manifest itself in these forms:
1. **Demonstration** Artifact (that reveals positive alternatives to the status quo)
2. Act of **Communication** (making information visual)
3. **Conventional** Actions (proposing legislation)
4. **Service** Artifact (humanitarian aid)
5. **Events** (such as conferences/ talks)
6. **Protest** Artifact (deliberate confrontation of situation to raise critical reflection)



JACQUES RANCIERE
The Politics of Aesthetics
Disruptive Aesthetics of Design Activism, Thomas Mackussen

"The aesthetic act is characterised with the introduction of new, heterogeneous subjects into the social field of perception. It reorients perceptual space, thereby disrupting socio-culturally entrenched forms of belonging in and inhabiting the everyday world."

Defining characteristics of the aesthetic act:
Introduces new, heterogeneous subjects into the social field of perception
Affects people's experiences and reorients perceptual space, and thus disrupting socio-culturally entrenched forms of belonging
Contains a significant and hitherto unexplored contribution to the theorisation of design activism.

"The aesthetic act is to be enacted according to the logic of dissensus."

Consensus:
Defines hierarchical systems where individuals are assigned certain roles/ place.
Delimits people's freedom and doings and entails a common "feeling of what is right and wrong".

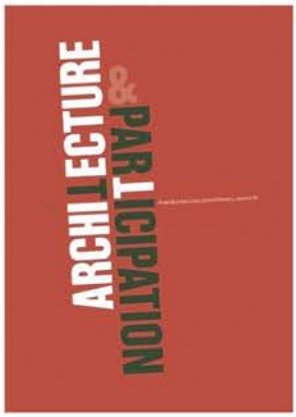
Aesthetic Dissensus
Of egalitarian social order
Demonstration of a certain impropriety, which disrupts consensus (reveals a gap between what people do and feel)
Non-violent unsettling of the self-evidence, with which existing systems of power can control and restrict the unfolding of everyday interaction.

"The disruptive character of the aesthetic dissensus lies in the subtle way it cuts across and exposes hierarchies, so that zones can emerge where processes of subjectiviisation might take place."

Political Dissensus
Manifests as a struggle between two or more groups that have goals of reordering the relation of power between them

Urban design activism: A distribution of urban space and time and constructure of alternative ways for individuals to participate in a "common" public environment.

How Urban Design Activism matters
Urban Experiences in terms of 5 urban act categories: *Walking, Dwelling, Playin, Gardening, Re-cycling*



JEREMY TILL
Architecture and Participation

The term 'participation':
The story of participation runs parallel to that of democracy - that soothing, Hellenic etymology which is continually disturbed by undercurrents of power, manipulation and disenfranchisement.
These undercurrents are equally true in participation, too.

We should be surprised, therefore, when the term 'participation' is so willingly (and uncritically) tossed around as being "for the common good".

In order to avoid participation in architecture and urban design becoming merely a politically required token of democratic involvement - a kind of fake participation that does not actually engage the participants in any meaningful way - architects, planners, and designers need to commit themselves and relinquish control, as Jeremy Till claims.

The scope of the discussion reassesses to what extent individual citizens really can and should become proactive in the production and development of cities and in the shaping of neighborhoods, and **where the limits of such Participatory Urbanism really lie.**

A certain doubt with regard to the functioning and effectiveness of participation procedures is to a certain extent understandable, however, as such processes easily become too complicated and impossible to manage.

Bringing more people to the table certainly does not make things easier, as so many people are involved in architectural and urban projects already, even without citizens' participation. The process might get complicated and even dangerous when people participate in projects.

Participation

Urbanism

Planning

Process management

MARKUS MIESSEN
The Nightmare of Participation

The term 'crisis':

The concept of participation and the term crisis seems to be equally present in current discussion about cultural politics.
It seems that the two concepts are closely linked - they complement each other as indispensable parts within contemporary political rhetorics. Crisis is the problem, participation the therapy.

It is useful to consider if collaborative practices can help to solve or to survive the crisis.
How do **collaborative practices** work in a time of crisis and how does a crisis play itself out within the space of a collaborative practice?

Modes of participation have, in terms of state politics, but also on smaller, less formal scales, most recently been used as a kind of placebo.
For example, look at the United Kingdom or The Netherlands. **What was once thought of as a pro-active mode of individual engagement has been cleverly revamped as a populist tool to regain a larger consensus, even if agendas do not add up or meet.**

However, there is the question of what we are really talking about when we talk about crisis? Are we talking about a content crisis or an economic one, which then leaves us with infrastructural changes that have an effect and affect on the cultural landscape?

There is a danger of calling everything a state of crisis today. This is similar to the danger of refereeing to the notion of urgency. If we only ever deal with the urgent we may in fact forget the important. Collaborative approaches can on the one hand be sustainable while on the other they can produce and foster specificity, which would otherwise be very difficult to achieve.

historicized research:
timeline of world, region and vicinity

WORLD CONTEXT

CONFLICT

HISTORICAL EVENTS

1941 Bombing of Pearl Harbour

1944 D-day

1945 U.S. drops Atomic bombs over Japan
U.N. founded

1947 India gains independance from British

1949 Baltimore Plan (U.S.)

1950 China involves itself in Korean War, opposes U.S.

1952 Allied occupation of Japan ceases

1955 Montg
Warsa

1

World War II (1939-45)

African-American Civil I

Korean War (1950-53)

Vietnam War (1954-73)

Decolonisation of Southeast Asia by Western powers (beginning with Indonesia in 1945 and ending

Cold War 1947-91

1940 1950

DESIGN MOVEMENTS

CIAM (1928-59) ATTEMPTS TO ADVANCE MODERNISM TO AN INTERNATIONAL SETTING

TOTALITARIAN ARCHITECTURE (1933-60)

MODERNISM: INTERNATIONAL STYLE (1940-70)

MODERNISM: BRUTALIST ARCHITECTURE (1950-75)

DESIGN ACTIVISM

1933 Schindler Shelter, post-war modern home
-38

1945 Geodesic Dome, Buckminister Fuller
-50s

gomery bus boycott
aw Pact signed

1957 Soviets launch Sputnik

1958 China's Mao launches Great Leap Forward

1961 Bay of Pigs invasion
Berlin Wall built

1962 Cuban Missile Crisis

1965 Civil Rights Act.
U.S. sends troops to Vietnam

1967 ASEAN formed

1969 Space Race
First landing on the Moon by USA

1973 Middle East Oil Price Ris
to Israel conflict with Syr

1973 Paris Peace Accord to end Vietnam War

1975 Khr
tak
Per

Rights Movement (1954-68)

with Timor Leste in 1975)

Second Wave of Feminism early 60s-80s

Cambodian-Vi

1960 1970

ARCHIGRAM (1961-73)

RADICAL ECLECTICISM

ANTI-DESIGN & RADICAL DESIGN 1968-78

POSTMODERN ECOOGICAL DESIGN 1969-PRESENT

HIGH TECH DESIGN 1972-1985

MODERNISM: METABOLISM IN JAPAN, M.E. (1959-84)

MODERNISM: STRUCTURALIST FORM (1959-PRESENT)

1961 Plan for Toktyo Bay, Kenzo Tange

1964 Walking City, Ron Herron

The Death and Life of Great American Cities, Jane Jacobs

1965 -69 Drop City

1968 -72 Arcosanti

1969 Design with Nature, Ian McHarg

1970 -76 Lucien Kroll, Medical Faculty Housing (participatory design)

1973 -78 Byker Wall Estat

ECONOMIC

CRISIS

e Crisis in relation
ia and Egypt

1980 Summer Olympics Boycott,
protesting Soviet invasion of Afghanistan
Neoliberalism reintroduced

1989 Collapse of Communism
Fall of the Berlin Wall
World Wide Web is formalised

1990 Opening of Shanghai
Stock Exchange

ner Rouge
es Phnom
ıh

1978 Vietnam invades Cambodia.
Japan-China Peace Treaty

1991 World Wide Web
is born

19

1992 Official end
of Cold War

Early 80s Recession

1993 World Trade Cente
Terrorist Bombing

Intel introduces mi

etnamese War 1975-89

Jiang Zemin leads economic reforms in China

Formation and growth of Eur

US Vice-President Al Gore's Environmental A

Global Recession

Dotcom / Tec

1980

1990

DECONSTRUCTIVISM

CRTICAL REGIONALISM

BLOBITECTURE

NEW DESIGN 1980-90

HIGH-TECH ARCHITEC

TROPICAL URBAN REGIONALISM, KEN YEANG 19870-PRESENT

e

1981 Architects/ Designers
for Social Responsibility

1985 The Granite Garden,
Anne Whiston Spirn

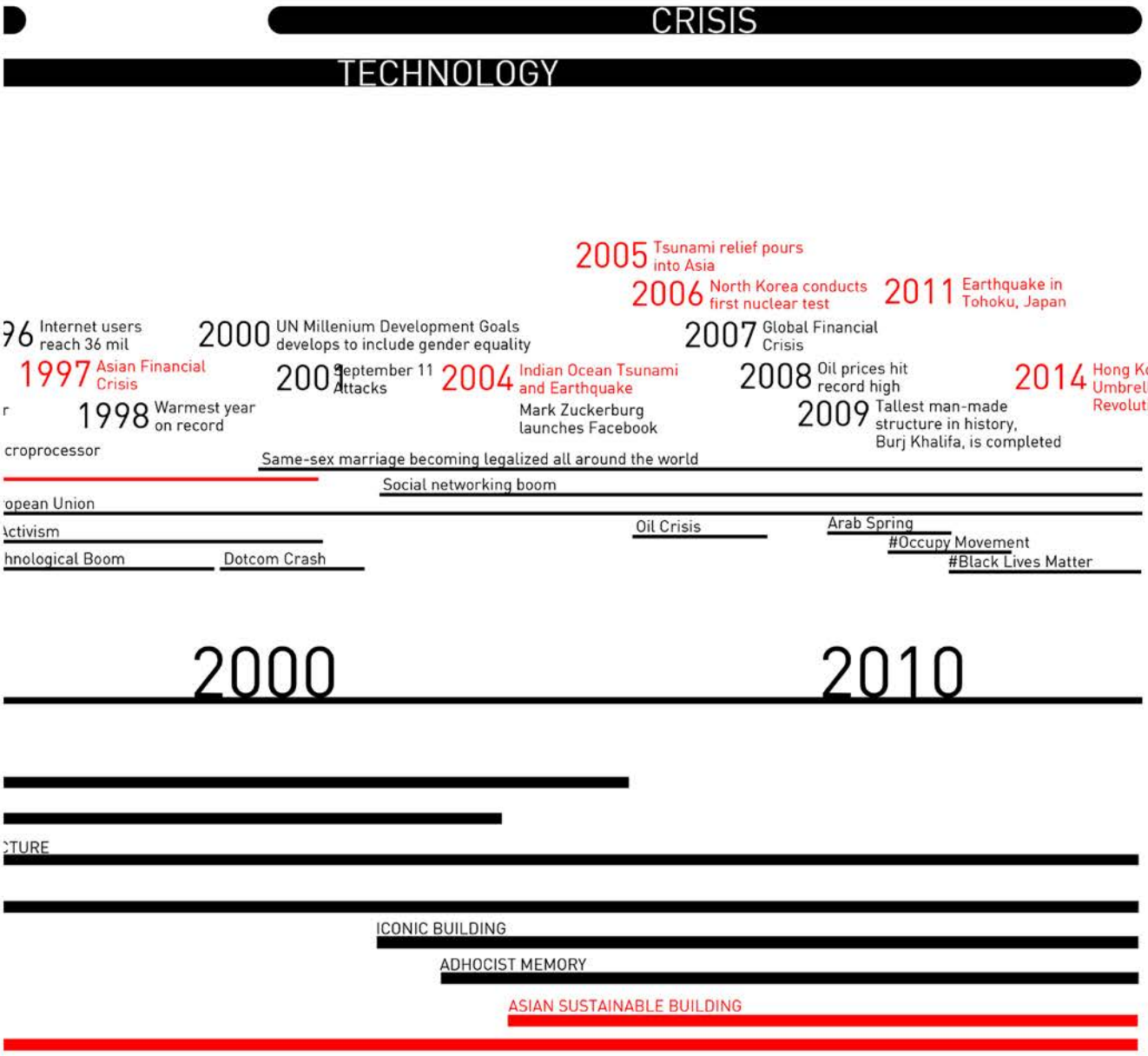
1991 Super Adobe Structures,
Nader Khalili

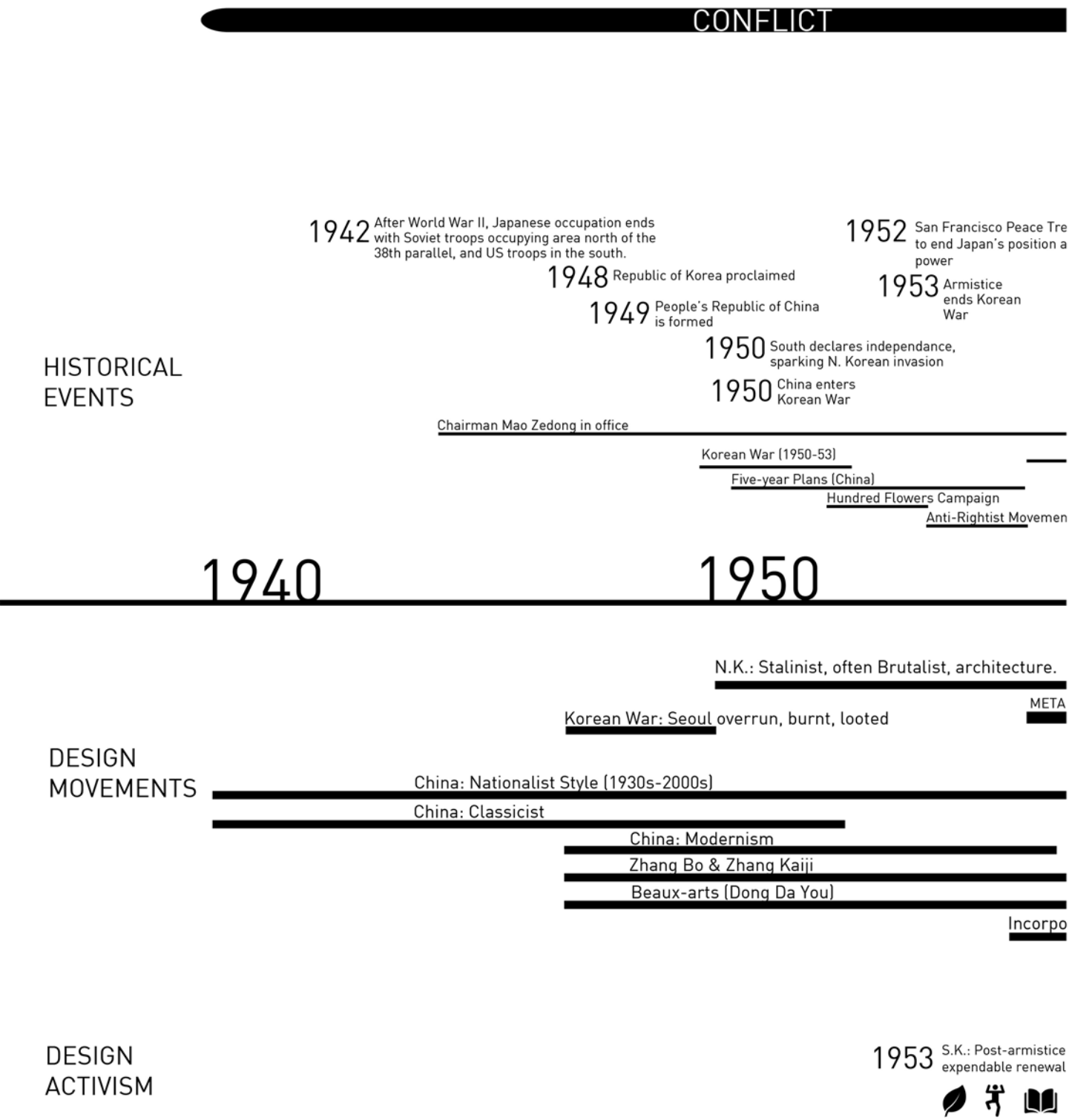
19

1977 Crystal City,
CMPBS
A Pattern Language

1984 Redesigning the
American Dream,
Dolores Hayden

1995 Maggi
Caring
-now (17 arc


CRISIS
TECHNOLOGY
2005 Tsunami relief pours into Asia
2006 North Korea conducts first nuclear test
2011 Earthquake in Tohoku, Japan
96 Internet users reach 36 mil
2000 UN Millenium Development Goals develops to include gender equality
2007 Global Financial Crisis
1997 Asian Financial Crisis
2001 September 11 Attacks
2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami and Earthquake
2008 Oil prices hit record high
2014 Hong Kong Umbrella Revolution
Mark Zuckerburg launches Facebook
1998 Warmest year on record
2009 Tallest man-made structure in history, Burj Khalifa, is completed
croprocessor
Same-sex marriage becoming legalized all around the world
Social networking boom
opean Union
Activism
Oil Crisis
Arab Spring
#Occupy Movement
hnological Boom
Dotcom Crash
#Black Lives Matter
2000
2010
CTURE
ICONIC BUILDING
ADHOCIST MEMORY
ASIAN SUSTAINABLE BUILDING
96 Diggers & Hedgehod Co-Housing Schemes, Architype
1999 Neptune Foundation Floating Swimming Pool, Jonathan Kirschenfeld
2006 Wayne Lyman Morse US Courthouse, Morphosis Architects
2009 Underneath, MAP Office Beautiful Strangeness, Fuad-Luke
2016 Arc of Incremental Housing, Elemental
e's Cancer Centres, hitects)
1998 Pleasure Garden of Utilities, MUF Architecture
2012 Architecture and Design Versus Consumerism, Ann Thorpe
Adversarial Design, Carl DiSalvo



ASIAN CONTEXT

1972 S.K.: Martial law. Park increases his powers with constitutional changes.

1972 Normalization between US and China begins

1960s Japan became the 2nd largest economy, after the US.

aty
s imperial

1961 S.K.: Military coup puts General Park Chung-hee in power.

1973 Paris Peace Accord to end Vietnam War.

1964 Olympic Games held in Tokyo, the first Games held in Asia.

1975 Khmer takes

197

1967 ASEAN formed.

1970 Long March

1970 Japan introduced environmental protection law, which was neglected after the war. (pollution problem) World Exposition held in Osaka, first Expo held in Asia.

1959 Metabolism first introduced at CIAM.

Vietnam War 1955-75

China: Democ

t in China

1960

1970

BOLISM IN JAPAN 1959-73

"THREE STYLES", KAZUO SHINOHARA, EARLY 60S-MID 70S

JAPAN ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT, 60S-70S

ration of Chinese design, socialist realism and international style modernism

: ad-hoc and
efforts

1972 Nakagin Capsul Tower

ECONOMIC

CRISIS

1979 China Invades Vietnam

1980 S. K.: Martial law declared after student demonstrations

1980 S.K.: shift towards high-tech,computer industry.

1989 China: Real estate values were the highest and over-valued

1989 Tiananmen Protests.

1990 Opening of Shanghai Stock Exchange

1994 China connects to Internet

1995 Great Hanshin Earthquake
Voluntary Architects Network (VAN)

1997 Kyoto Protocol

1997 Asian Financial Crisis

· Rouge
Phnom Penh
6 Tiananmen Incident

1977 Open Door Policy

1978 Vietnam invades Cambodia.
Japan-China Peace Treaty.

Waves of public protests are concerning the Chinese government

Cambodian-Vietnamese War 1977-91

International Agreements with Japan (nature & pollution) 1982-89

Japan Economic Miracle 1960

acy Wall Protests

1980: S.K. Gwangju massacre: hundreds died as troops fired on rally

1980 1990

N.K. adopts a more nationalist approach to rule, ideology and architecture (1980s-present)

S.K.: State-subsidised buildings for sporting events (1984-2002)

S.K.: Post-modern Korean architecture (1986-2005)

New School

JAPAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISM, 1992-PRESENT

e

1980s N.K.: Architecture=nationalist & propaganda

1976 Azuma House in Ōsaka, Tadao Ando

1986 Tower of Wind, Toyo Ito

1991 Water Temple, Tadao Ando
Critical Regionalism

1997 Design to Order, Kohei Nishiyama

1998 Tiled garden by Amate Architecture studio (Cl

TECHNOLOGY

2001 Falungong stage mass demonstrations

2008 Beijing Olympic Games

2008 S.K.: banks become vulnerable to global credit crisis

2002 FIFA World Cup cohosted by Japan and Korea.

1998 S.K.: Kim dae-Jung's "sunshine policy"

2004 China has 94 million Internet users

2011 Tōhoku Earthquake and Tsunam Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disa

2012 Change.org by Emmy Suzuki H introduced in Japan.

2000 S.K. :Border liaison offices re-open at truce village of Panmunjom

2007 International Ecovillage Conference gathered environmental activists.

The "Lost 20 Years" 1991-2010

Anti-Nuclear Power Movement, 2011-13

s-mid 90s

2000 2010

China: Influx of foreign architects

movement in Taiwan

ur
ina)

1999 Rural Architecture studio by Atelier 3 (China)

2003 (till present) Ai Weiwei's activist art (China)

2007 New town projects by Movingcities (China)

2011 Paper Partition System 4, Shigeru Ban

2012 S.K.: Kyu Sung Woo's Asian Culture Complex

2014 The Fab Mind: Hints of the Future in a Shifting World

CRISIS

1942 Malaya, Philippines fall to the Japanese
1944 U.S. recovers the Philippines
1945 Japanese surrender
1946 First Indochina War breaks out in Vietnam
1947 Laos gains independence from France
1949 Dutch concede independence for Indonesia
1953 Cambodia gains independence from France
1954 French leave Vietn divided at the 17th
1955 South Viet itself an ir republic

Vietnam War (1954-1975)

HISTORICAL EVENTS

1940 1950

MODERNISM: INTERNATIONAL STYLE (1950-70)

REVIVALISM IN INDONESIA: JENGKI STYLE (1950s)

REVIVALISM/MODERNISM: NEW KH

BRUTALIST

DESIGN MOVEMENTS

DESIGN ACTIVISM

SOUTHEAST ASIAN CON

CONFLICT

1965 Singapore gains independence from Malaysia
US launches regular bombs against North Vietnam

1973 Paris Peace Accord to end Vietnam War

1959 Achmed Sukarno regime begins in Indonesia

1963 Federation of Malaysia is formed
Pol Pot builds Cambodian communist party and Khmer Rouge

1967 ASEAN formed

1974 Battle of the Paracel Isla (China and Vietnam)

1968 British withdraw all troops from Singapore

1960 Vietcong formed

1975 Khmer Rouge tak Penh. North Viet over South Vietna

ıam, leaving it parallel

tnam declares ndependent

Cambodian Genocide (1975-

Opposition to United States involvement in the Vietnam War (1964-1973)

Communist and Islamic insurgency in the Philippines (1969-present)

Insurgency in Aceh

Indonesian Invasion of East

Cambodian-Vietnamese Wa

1960 1970

VERNACULAR REVIVIAL OF TRADITIONAL CLIMATE STRATEGIES (197

MER ARCHITECTURE IN CAMBODIA (1953-70)

MOVEMENT (1950s-MID 70s)

SINGAPORE EMBARKS ON MASSIVE PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAMME (1959 ONWARDS)

SINGAPORE PLANNING & URBAN RESEARCH GROUP, SPUR (1965-1975)

RADICAL ECLECTICISM (LATE 1960s to EARLY 1970s)

1973 People's Park Complex & Golden Mile Complex, Design Partnershp

TEXT

ENVIRONMENT

78 Vietnam invades Cambodia
Japan-China Peace Treaty
ıds 1979 Sino-Vietnamese War
es Phnom
am takes
m.

1986 Hydril Strike Singapore Threats to Sg-Msia Causeway

1991 Vietnam's relationship with China normalizes after USSR collapse

1997 Asian Finan
Clashes in C

1995 Islamic insurgents in the Philippines show signs of fa

1989 Tiananmen Protests
Last Vietnamese troops withdraw from Cambodia

979) Sino-Vietnamese border conflict (1979-1990)

Vietnamese border raids in Thailand (1979-1988)

Southeast Asia is the infrastructure finance capital of the world (1990s)

1976-2005)

Pedra Branca Dispute between Singapore and Malaysia (1980-2008)

imor (1975-1999)

(1975-1989)

1980 1990

ıs-1980s) NATURAL ENERGY & VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE,HASSAN FATHY

ASIAN REGIONAL EXCHANGE FOR NEW ALTERNATIVES (1980-PRESENT)

THIRD WORLD NETWORK (1984-PRESENT)

TROPICAL URBAN REGIONALISM, KEN YEANG (1987-PRESENT)

1979 -83 Anandgram (Squatters Re-Housing Project), Delhi, Kamath Design

1984 Mandawa Desert Resort, Kamath Design

1985 The Roof Roof House, Malaysia, Ken Yeang

ECONOMIC

CRISIS

TECHNOLOGY

cial Crisis
Cambodia

tigue

2002 Bali bombings

2003 SARS Outbreak

2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami and Earthquake

2005 Tsunami relief pours into Asia

2007 Burmese Anti-government Protests

Nepal overthrows old monarch to become youngest democracy

2008 ICJ rules Pedra Branca to Singapore, Middle Rocks to Malaysia

2010 Thai Red Shirt demonstrations

2013 Zamboanga City crisis in the Philippines

Southeast Asia's economic growth among fastest in the world (2000 onwards)

Operation Enduring Freedom Philippines (2002-present)

Thai political protests (2008-2010)

Southeast Asian Tech Boom (Late 2000s onwards)

South Thailand Insurgency (2004-present)

2000

2010

EMERGENCE OF PARTICIPATORY URBANISM (EARLY 2000s-PRESENT)

SMART CITY MOVEMENT (2013-PRESENT)

2003 Baan Mankong Collective Housing Programme by Thai Government

2008 -16 Asian Coalition for Community Action (ACCA) program for urban poor

2012 -16 Vo Trong Nghia's bamboo architecture

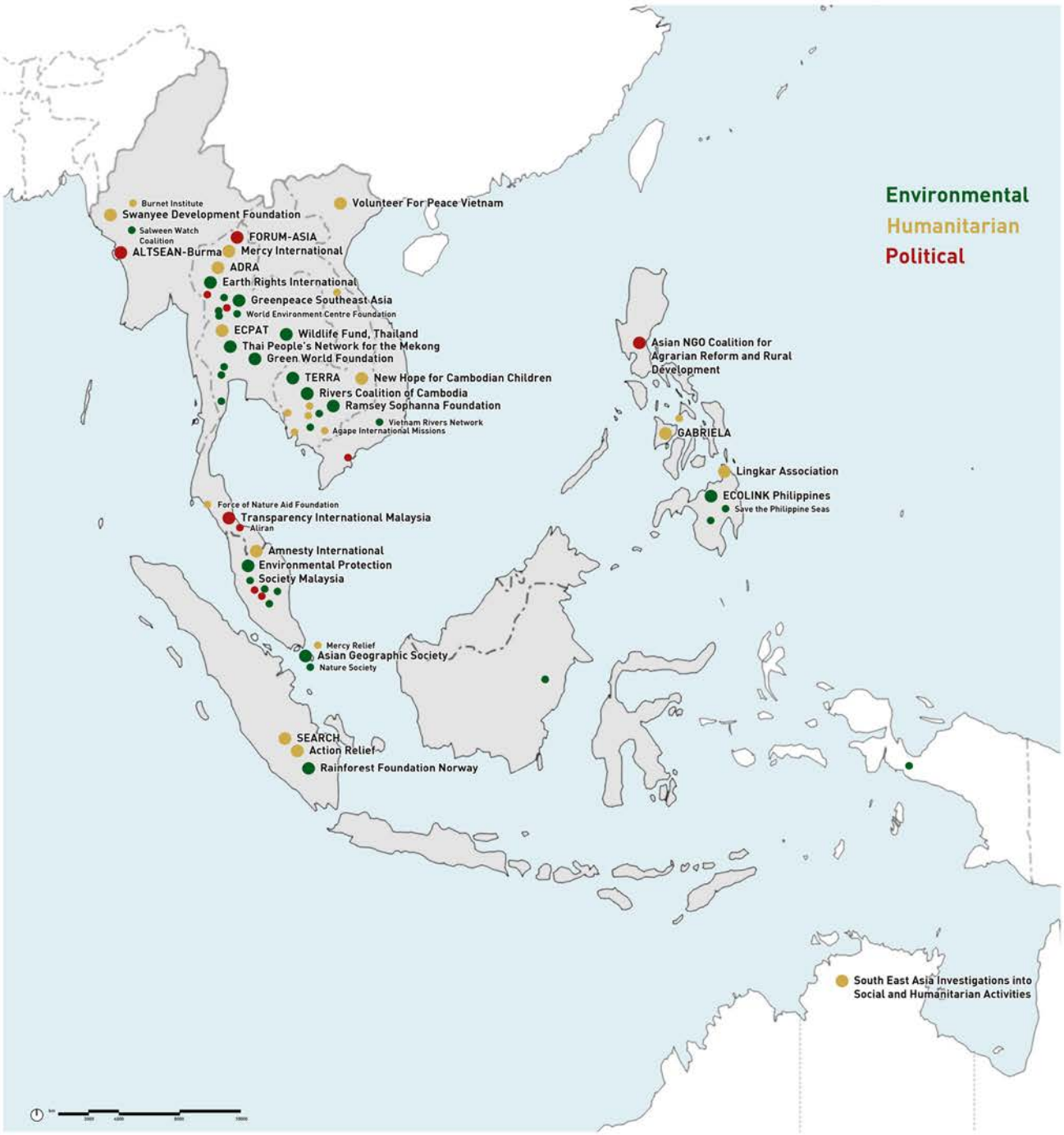
Klong Toey Community Lantern by TYIN Tegnestue Architects

2013 PubliCity project by Singapore's Urban Redevelopment Authority

2016 Border School (School for Burma) by Eleena Jamil Architects

focusing the research: southeast asian context

NGOs IN SOUTHEAST ASIA


Environmental
Humanitarian
Political
Burnet Institute
Swanyee Development Foundation
Salween Watch Coalition
ALTSEAN-Burma
FORUM-ASIA
Mercy International
ADRA
Earth Rights International
Greenpeace Southeast Asia
World Environment Centre Foundation
ECPAT
Wildlife Fund, Thailand
Thai People's Network for the Mekong
Green World Foundation
TERRA
New Hope for Cambodian Children
Rivers Coalition of Cambodia
Ramsey Sophanna Foundation
Vietnam Rivers Network
Agape International Missions
Volunteer For Peace Vietnam
Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development
GABRIELA
Lingkar Association
ECOLINK Philippines
Save the Philippine Seas
Force of Nature Aid Foundation
Transparency International Malaysia
Aliran
Amnesty International
Environmental Protection Society Malaysia
Mercy Relief
Asian Geographic Society
Nature Society
SEARCH
Action Relief
Rainforest Foundation Norway
South East Asia Investigations into Social and Humanitarian Activities

Booming market economies led to encouraging institutional environment.

2nd Generation of NGOs or voluntary organisations emerged

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Colonial Rule | 50s | 60s

SINGAPORE

1965
Independence

CAMBODIA

Cambodia's history and political culture have been heavily influenced by **Hindu-Buddhist notions of hierarchy and status**. This long tradition of absolutism and hierarchy hindred emergence of institutions between individual and state.

VIETNAM

Vietnam's **"creeping pluralism"** gives rise to a **political fluidity** that NGOs can use to occupy new political spaces, to represent new and competing interests independently of the Vietnamese Communist Party and state-controlled mass organisations.

THAILAND

Pridi Bhanomyong: reforming bureaucracy

Buddhadasa Bhikku: Buddhism to alleviate suffering

Thailand Rural Reconstruction Movement, TTRM

Development NGOs emerged in response to the **most centralised state** in non-communist SEA and effective bias in Thai government policy against agriculture and rural poor.

MALAYSIA

Dr. Mahathir criticised foreign manipulators using the worldwide network of NGOs to promote causes in third world countries and described them as "**thorns in the government's flesh**".

1966
Societies Act was applied harshly to prevent emergence of politically-vocal NGOs.

POLITICS OF NGOs IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

GERALD CLARK

Cause and effect of broader political change in SEA. NGOs challenged the legitimacy of SEA regimes and provided an institutional partner that facilitated relations between the state and important constituencies.

▲ **3rd Generation** of NGOs or voluntary organisations emerged

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70s 80s 90s

Emigration forced government to strengthen civil society for an inclusive community.

▼ Range and number of voluntary organisations, trade unions and student assosiations, declined.

▲ Interest groups and voluntary organisations gradually re-emerged.

▲ New types of NGOs (broad political conern) emerged. e.g. Nature Society (NSS), AWARE

▼ Unsucessful attempt to set up independent media watch initiative.

70s 80s 90s 00s 10s

PAP was consolidating its power.

1984 PAP's poor performance in general elections.

1985 "Great Marriage Debate"

early 90s Wave of emigration

late 90s-2001 Officials monitor internet content and circulate reports online.

2004 Low ranking on Press Freedom Index

▲ Small number of civic/ voluntary organisations first emerged.

▲ Indigenous NGOs first emerged. 1st NGO: KHEMARA

▼ No successful private sector to support NGOs. (Only Buddhism survived)

70s 80s 90s 00s

1972-75 General Lon Nol Regime

1991 Paris Peace Accords (transition period)

1968-99 Khmer Rouge Communist Rule

1993 General Elections (More NGOs emerging)

▲ NGOs were legalised. The concept of NGO is still alien.

70s 80s 90s 00s

1991 To operate under 5 principal state-controlled mass organisations

1996 Government consulted international and national NGOs on a framework to be introduced by law, but is constrained by power of the 5 org.

▲ Development NGOs proliferated rapidly.

▲ NGOs deemed leftist were suppressed. Many, like TTRm, closed.

▲ NGOs reopened.

70s 80s 90s 00s

1973-76 Military rule replaced by parliamentary democracy.

1976 Military Coup

1980-88 General Prem Tinsulandond introduced tentative reforms.

▼ 1975 Registration of new Human Rights Org was denied.

▼ 1987 Wave of arrests

▲ 1988 NGO reps appointed to coordinate economic policy.

▲ 1992 Mahathir sought a truce with env. NGOs.

▼ Govt-NGO relations deteriorated again.

70s 80s 90s 00s

Government was threatened. (further amendment to Act)

NGOs won greater political space through militant campaigning and pressure poitics.

1996-97 Forced cancellation of Asia Pacific Conference by Human Rights NGO.

Registrar of Companies raided 3 NGOs.