

Social Distancing Policy in the Enclaves of Migrant Workers in Bangkok

Francois Robinne
CNRS

Abstract

Compared to other forms of housing and to other forms of social dynamics of migrant workers, urban enclaves on brownfield sites in downtown Bangkok are specific in many ways. Due to their recent emergence in the megalopolis, no specific Thai and Burmese vernacular terms define them, somewhat like diffuse identity they produce

After a quick geomorphological presentation, I will discuss three points that contribute to the particularity of the enclaves of migrant workers:

- 1) Distancing from social networks despite a permanent connection on the web.
- 2) Distancing from the associative offer despite the importance of educational, religious and health centers at their disposal.
- 3) Distancing from family relationships due to the distended sending of money and subsequent return to the motherland.

Dispossessed of everything that produces elsewhere the feeling of common belonging, the residents of the enclaves navigate in one of these interchangeable spaces developing against a background of relational distancing.