

**ASIAN SOCIAL INSTITUTE
Manila, The Philippines**

(January to March 1987 & 1988)

**ASIAN STUDIES COURSE – Outline
Victor P. Karunan**

(A) GENERAL INTRODUCTION:

A.1. Relevance and Scope of Asian Studies

A.2. Approaches to Asian Studies:

- a. Modernization approach
- b. Developmentalist perspectives
- c. Dependency theories
- d. Others

A.3. Salient features of Asian societies

(B) COLONIAL HISTORY AND NATIONALIST MOVEMENTS:

B.1. The Colonial Experience (Case Studies)

B.2. Independence Movements and processes

B.3. Crisis of Nationalism: Economic, political, socio-cultural

B.4. The search for an Asian identity: Alternatives models (Socialist Asia)

(C) CONTEMPORARY ASIA: ISSUES & CONFLICTS: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS:

C.1. Types of political systems - The State

C.2. Industry and Agriculture - The Economy

C.3. Ethnicity, Culture, Caste & Religion

C.4. Case Studies:

i. Class and State Formation in Pakistan

ii. Industrialisation in East Asia & India

iii. The Nationality Question in Sri Lanka & the Philippines

(D) SOCIAL FORCES IN ASIA:

D.1. Salient features of Social Movements

D.2. The Ideological Spectrum in Asia: The National Security State, Marxism and Populism

D.3. Case Studies:

i. Action Groups in India

ii. Peasant Movements in Thailand and the Philippines

iii. Populist Movements in Asia

D.4. New social movements in Asia: ecological, anti-nuclear, women's movements

(E) EMERGING TRENDS & CONFLICTS:

E.1. Militarization & Political Authoritarianism

E.2. Economic Dependency & Imperialism (TNCs)

E.3. Religious Revivalism & Racial/Cultural fundamentalism

E.4. Crisis of Progressive Movements/parties

E.5. The politics of Elite Populism

E.6. Emerging perspectives & processes of social change in Asia :
The Future

