

## Biographies of Contributors

**Ernie Shue Fung Chow** is a M.A. student in History at the University of British Columbia, focusing on contemporary Hong Kong political history. A young activist from Hong Kong, he served as the president of the Student Union of the Chinese University of Hong Kong and the Secretary-General at a pro-democratic political party. He organized the Joint-University June 4th Forum and the Hong Kong-Catalonia Solidarity Assembly and was the secretary of the Hong Kong Civil Deliberation Platform, all of which sparked new waves of public debates. He also writes political analyses and commentaries for think tanks, newspapers, and magazines.

**Amy Freedman** is Professor and chair of the political science department at Pace University in New York City. She is also a research fellow at Columbia University's Weatherhead East Asian Institute. Her research looks at questions of democracy and rights protection Southeast Asia. She is the author of numerous books and articles, the most of recent of which include *Empire Competition: Southeast Asia as Site of Imperial Contestation*, an edited book project with Joseph Lee published with Pace University Press in 2021 and "Migration and Contentious Politics in Southeast Asia" in *International Relations and Diplomacy*, Vol. 8, No. 06.

**Tin Maung Htwe** is a researcher and lecturer with a profound dedication to human rights and peacebuilding. He has a Master in Social Science in Development Studies from the City University of Hong Kong and a Bachelor in Psychology from Dagon University, Myanmar. As a research fellow at Chiang Mai University, Thailand, a lecturer at the Myanmar Institute of Theology, and a program manager for several human rights organizations, he has engaged effectively with diverse stakeholders to advance human rights and sustainable peace in Myanmar and the wider Southeast Asia region.

**Tsz-him Lai** is a Ph.D. candidate in Religion and Society at the Theological School of Drew University. He holds a Master in Theological Studies from Boston University and a Master of Divinity from The Chinese University of Hong Kong. He has presented papers on anti-totalitarianism, the civil rights movement, and Hong Kong Christianity at the American Academy of Religion and other conferences. His articles and book chapters have been published in English and translated into German and Japanese.

**Joseph Tse-Hei Lee** is a professor of history and the director of the Global Asia Institute at Pace University. In spring and summer 2024 he is a Taiwan Fellow and a visiting scholar at the Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica, in Taiwan. His research focuses on faith and politics in modern China. He has edited *From Missionary Education to Confucius Institutes: Historical Reflections on Sino-American Cultural Exchange* (2024), with Jeff Kyong-McClain; *Empire Competition: Southeast Asia as a Site of Imperial*

*Contestation* (2021), with Amy Freedman; *The Church as Safe Haven: Christian Governance in China* (2019), with Lars Peter Laamann; and *Christianizing South China: Mission, Development, and Identity in Modern Chaoshan* (2018).

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