Domestic Catholicism

Materiality, Family & Spirituality

in contemporary Asia

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RELIGION AND GLOBALISATION

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The materialization of Catholicism in Taiwanese homes

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Collecting Catholicity:

The Materialization of Faith within the Taiwanese Domestic Sphere

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DRAFT

Abstract

This paper explores how contemporary Taiwanese Catholics materialize their faith within their homes. Based on ethnographic material collected from 34 households in northern Taiwan, it presents the diversity of religious items found in the homes of churchgoers, the organizational patterns of these artifacts, and the invisible relationships behind them. Moving beyond discussions of inculturation as a process of integration and of material religion as a question of semiotic ideologies, this paper argues that Catholic items found in the privacy of Taiwanese homes allow their owners to deploy an array of multidimensional relationships, a form of Catholicity that cannot easily be reduced to a single issue. From the intimacy of home, Catholic items enable churchgoers to position themselves at the heart of a rich, personalized, and evolving network of glocal Catholicism, a material and domestic form of Catholicity which complements the institutional Church.

Keywords

Glocal Catholicism, Domesticity, Materiality, Taiwan.

CHINESE RITE CONTROVERSY

What is the meaning of ritual (li 礼) & of ancestral offerings/ sacrifice/memorial rites (ji 祭)?

基督是我家之主
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真愛
2024
18

TECO
URGEN
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QUALITY

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Collecting Catholicity

Clerical Aspirations
&
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&
Institutionalization

CONCLUSION

Moving beyond discussions of **inculturation** as a process of integration and of material religion as a question of **semiotic ideologies**, this research shows that Catholic items found in the privacy of Taiwanese homes allow **their owners to deploy** an array of **multidimensional relationships, a form of Catholicity** that cannot easily be reduced to a single issue.

From the intimacy of home, Catholic items enable churchgoers to position themselves at the heart of a rich, personalized, and evolving network of glocal Catholicism, a **material and domestic form of Catholicity which complements the institutional Church.**

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