

Peter Kwong is the author of several books, including *Chinatown, N.Y.* and *Forbidden Workers*. He is a professor at Hunter College and the Graduate Center, City University of New York. Dusanka Miscevic is a writer and translator and holds a Ph.D. in Chinese History from Columbia University. They live in New York City.

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介紹150年華人在美經歷

華裔學者新書探討移民史

本報記者胡健宏三藩市報導

美國著名的華裔歷史研究學者鄭治中與Dusanka Miscevic，昨日從紐約帶著他們的最新著作《Chinese America: The Untold Story of America's Oldest New Community》，在三藩市華人歷史協會與讀者 and 學界人士會面，該書不只是強調「種族歧視犧牲者」和「移民獲得成功」兩種極端的美國華人史，而是更全面地去介紹150年以來華人在美國的種種經歷。



鄭治中表示，以往許多有關華人歷史的講法，一是從種族歧視角度出發，例如排華法案等，要不就是从華裔移民獲得成功的角度出發，例如白人以此為例與非裔爭辯等，但這些都只是兩個極端，美國華人的歷史遠不止如此，要比這更廣闊得多。

「在現實中，每個中國人來到美國，有他們自己的目、夢想、野心和不同的經歷，而這些往往都不太被報道。所以這本書就是要以中國人的聲音說出來，美國華人的歷史不應該被簡單化、縮小化，也不應該以美國人所希望的那樣（去表達）。」鄭治中說。

鄭治中在書中也提到中美關係對美國華裔的影響，特別是針對近十年，中美之間的巨大貿易額，以及美國公司在中國設廠投資，在這些事情上，美國的華裔也發揮了非常重要的作用並做出了很大的貢獻。

他說：「美國的華人相信，他們在美國被歧視，是因為中國不夠強大，因此他們往往非常關心中國的政治、經濟、社會情況以及中美關係，在中國事務上也非常活躍，而近年來美國公司需要和中國打交道，美國華裔從中提供協助，因此在這些事務上作用很大。」

此外，鄭治中在新書中對於一些華裔社區的現象，例如華裔的政治活躍性、新華埠的形成、聚居地、傳統習俗、民權等等，都一一進行了探討。

新書由鄭治中與Dusanka Miscevic共同撰寫而成，鄭治中是紐約Hunter大學歷史系教授，而Dusanka Miscevic是哥倫比亞大學中國歷史系博士生，現任作家和翻譯。鄭治中的著作包括《The New Chinatown》、《Forbidden Workers: Illegal Chinese Immigrants and American Labor》、及《Chinatown, N.Y.: Labor and Politics, 1930-1950》。

■鄭治中（右）與Dusanka Miscevic（左）應邀在美國華人歷史協會內介紹其最新著作。
記者胡健宏攝

Highlights from different reviews on “Chinese America: The Untold Story of America’s oldest New Community.”

San Francisco Chronicle:

This is an important, impressively researched addition to the field of multicultural studies.

Editors at *S.F. Chronicle* recommend this book for:

This chronicle of one group's struggle against 150 years of official and unofficial discrimination concludes that Chinese Americans became a

so-called model minority not because of how they were treated in this country, but in spite of how they were treated.

Washington Post:

In *Chinese America*, Peter Kwong and Dusanka Miscevic have chosen to tell this shocking, depressing but ultimately uplifting story by linking the history of racism and labor to the Chinese American experience.

In *Amazon.com* Gerard D. Launay reviewed:

“Extraordinary History of the Immigrant Experience”

Every so often a history writer gets it right. This is just such a book...what extraordinary riches about the Chinese experience

such as the contrast between Uptown and Downtown Chinese, the building of Chinatowns throughout the United States, the

terrible experience of the Exclusion Act, the inroads into Hollywood. Never boring, this is a wonderful book for a gift. Highly recommended.

From strandbooks.com

The Chinese Americans are one of the country's fastest growing ethnic groups. This definitive portrait of the Chinese Americans charts 150 years of American history from the first Chinese settlers of the Wild West to the modern inhabitants of "ethnoburbs." Striding past other books on the subject, the authors have created a truly landmark analysis. With its unique lens, "Chinese America" offers a new picture of the country's development, even as it provides one of the first extensive reports on the new immigrant communities that are transforming modern America.

Comments on the book Jacket:

Howard Zinn:

“This is a wonderful book, which fills an enormous gap in our history.”

Ronald Takaki (author of *Strangers from a Different Shore*):

“In this sweeping study, the Chinese are neither the ‘model minority’ nor the victims of racism. Instead they are multi-dimensional actors in the past and the present, with names and also minds, wills and voices.”

Helen Zia (author of *Asian American Dreams*):

“In masterful strokes of stunning detail, Kwong and Miscevic have re-created an epic journey, a veritable ‘People’s History of Chinese America.’ This breathtaking narrative explodes simplistic views of Chinese Americans by putting the vibrant, complex, and transnational lives of workingaday people in the context of the global political economy, as well as class and race relations.”

Francis Fox Piven (author of *Regulating the Poor* and *Poor People's Movements*):
“Kwong and Miscevic untangle the forces that shaped Chinese America—including the expansion of American capitalism, American labor and racial conflicts, and internal divisions and patterns of exploitation. This book is a magnificent accomplishment.”

Manning Marable (Director, Center for Contemporary Black History, Columbia University):
“A monumental achievement in the scholarly reinterpretation of America’s racialized past, the most authoritative interpretation of Chinese Americans throughout U.S. history. The authors have produced a richly theoretical work that is also accessible and highly readable.”

Margaret Fung (Executive Director, Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund):
“Quite simply, the best book I’ve read about the history of exclusion and injustice against Chinese immigrants and the role of Chinese American today. It is also a provocative insiders’ critique of identity politics.”

Stanley Karnow (Pulitzer Prize winning author):
“One of the nation’s oldest minorities, Chinese Americans have not received the attention they deserve. Here is their story in a meticulously researched, balanced, and highly readable narrative.”

Roger Daniels (Professor Emeritus of History, University of Cincinnati):
“Clearly the best single volume about this fast-growing ethnic group.”