

KINSHIP THAT BINDS TRANSNATIONAL HMONG ETHNIC GROUP

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Hmong first became a transnational ethnic group since the emergence of modern nation-states in Mainland Southeast Asia. Later on they scattered worldwide since there was a huge group of Hmong refugees from Laos migrated to western countries after Vietnam War. Presently, they scattered in China, Vietnam, Laos, Burma, Thailand, America, Canada, France, Germany, French Guiana, Australia and Argentina. Hmong/Miao population in worldwide is about ten million. Although they become citizens of different states and scatter worldwide, it is my finding that kinship still plays a significant role on binding them together as network groups. Traveling across countries, cross-border business, financial support, etc., are due bases on their kinship networks. Evidences to support my argument draw from ethnographic fieldwork in Hmong communities in America, Thailand, and Laos.