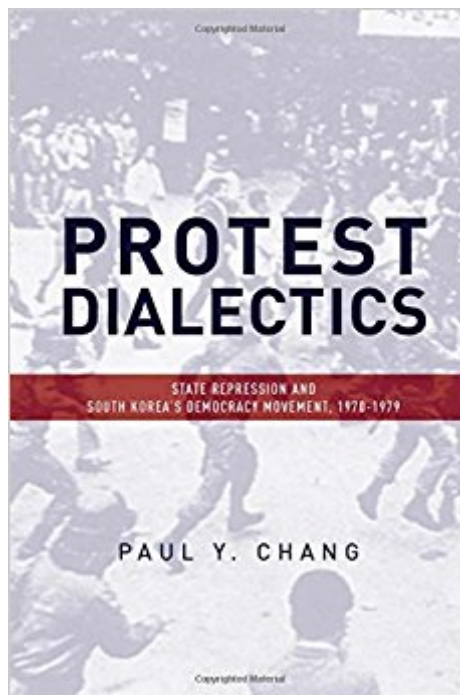




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Protest Dialectics: State Repression And South Korea's Democracy Movement, 1970-1979



Synopsis

1970s South Korea is characterized by many as the "dark age for democracy." Most scholarship on South Korea's democracy movement and civil society has focused on the "student revolution" in 1960 and the large protest cycles in the 1980s which were followed by Korea's transition to democracy in 1987. But in his groundbreaking work of political and social history of 1970s South Korea, Paul Chang highlights the importance of understanding the emergence and evolution of the democracy movement in this oft-ignored decade. *Protest Dialectics* journeys back to 1970s South Korea and provides readers with an in-depth understanding of the numerous events in the 1970s that laid the groundwork for the 1980s democracy movement and the formation of civil society today. Chang shows how the narrative of the 1970s as democracy's "dark age" obfuscates the important material and discursive developments that became the foundations for the movement in the 1980s which, in turn, paved the way for the institutionalization of civil society after transition in 1987. To correct for these oversights in the literature and to better understand the origins of South Korea's vibrant social movement sector this book presents a comprehensive analysis of the emergence and evolution of the democracy movement in the 1970s.

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Customer Reviews

"This important book gives the 1970s democratization movement in South Korea the recognition it deserves. Chang shows that while the working-class movement was certainly a vital element, Christians and white-collar workers, particularly lawyers and journalists, gave rise to the discourse of human rights, forming the moral backbone of the democratization movement." (Namhee Lee,

University of California Los Angeles)"For all the high drama of movements at the peak of their mobilizing power, the seeds of these struggles almost invariably are sown earlier. The singular contribution of Paul Chang's book on the South Korean Democracy movement during the neglected decade of the 1970s is to lay bare those seeds like no scholar before him." (Doug McAdam)"Protest Dialectics shows how the dramatic protest of the 1960s transformed during the repressive era of 1970s South Korea, establishing a foundation for effective activism. Chang offers new insight into how democracy movements find ways to continue in hard times, and to reemerge when circumstances change. To understand democratic transitions, we must pay attention to long struggles for reform, even when effective action seems unlikely." (David S. Meyer, University of California)

Paul Chang is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Harvard University. Professor Chang's research focuses on Korean democratization and Christianity in Korea.

Amazing book. What an author. Want to meet this man one day. Great insights into a topic that needs to be discussed more!!! Can't wait for the sequel!

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