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**Space, Place and Transnationalism in the Chinese Diaspora**

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***Abstract***

The concepts of space and place have not been given the level of attention they deserve in the literature on diasporas which tends to view them as given. The notion of diaspora has been seen largely as a process of dispersal lacking any geographic context. I argue that the concepts of space and place should be foregrounded in the study of diasporas, and that diasporas are essentially geographical systems. The significance of space, place, mobility and identity is narrated using the case of the overseas Chinese as an example.