

Abstract

The paper reviews modern geographic thoughts in the concept of three spaces: the first space reflects social activity; the second space constructs social activity; and the third space is a means of resistance and celebration. This is the framework within which China urban and regional studies are reviewed. This literature has been found wanting: all three spaces have not been investigated sufficiently and accurately. To redress this imbalance, the paper recommends paying more attention to three areas: geographies of difference, time-space intervention, and justice and spaces of hope. Some theoretical issues for each of these areas are then addressed, albeit at a preliminary level.