



TSŪSHIN

SPRING 2001 • EDWIN O. REISCHAUER INSTITUTE OF JAPANESE STUDIES • VOL. 7 No. 1
<http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~rijs>

Contents

Reischauer Institute Reports

From the Director: Big Books on Japan.....	1
Professor Marius Jansen, 1922-2000.....	2
Japanese Studies in Asia: The Department of Japanese Studies at the National University of Singapore.....	3
Japanese Studies in Asia: Recent Trends in Korea	3
Japanese Studies in the West: SOAS in London	5
From the Documentation Center on Contemporary Japan: Online Electronic Texts.....	6

Reischauer Institute News Notes

Research and Publication in the Harvard Japanese Studies Community	8
Special Events	8
From the Editor.....	9
Japan Forum/Events for Spring 2001.....	12

Reischauer Institute Reports

From the Director: Big Books on Japan

**Professor Andrew Gordon,
Harvard University**

The turn of the millenium has coincided with an unusual rush of big books on Japan. In the realm of fiction, perhaps the biggest book of all, considering the measures of length and sales together, has been Arthur Golden's pre-millennial best-seller, *Memoirs of a Geisha*. It appeared in 1997 and topped the best-seller charts for over a year. Plans for a Spielberg film version are well under way. In the realm of scholarly historical inquiry, in 1999 John Dower's *Embracing Defeat* weighed in at a hefty 675 pages to wide attention and justified acclaim, including a Pulitzer Prize. In the summer of 2000 Herbert Bix's study of *Hirohito and the Making of Modern Japan* ap-

peared, winning a rush of deserved attention from scholars and a broader public alike. It tipped the scales at 775 pages. Most recently, what has most sadly turned out to be the late Marius Jansen's final work has been published by Harvard's Belknap Press. This magisterial summation of a life devoted to thinking about Japan and its history in the context of Asia and the modern world shares the second half of Bix's title, *The Making of Modern Japan*, and exceeds it in length. Including a valuable bibliographic essay, it numbers a full 850 pages.

It may be stretching matters to search for more significance than coincidence in this unusual publishing conjuncture. The local patriot wishes to note for the record that each carries a strong Harvard connection. Jansen in the 1950s, and then Dower and Bix in the 1970s, all completed Ph.D.s here in Japanese history, while

Golden did his undergraduate work at Harvard. Dower and Bix, in addition, are currently associates in research of the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies. But beyond this, although the appearance of these major works in close temporal proximity may be no more than a chance happening, some further hopeful points are worth noting.

This is a time of mega-mergers in the infotainment industry, and extraordinary competition from new electronic media, when book publishers face unprecedented pressures to cut corners and watch the bottom-line. Even so, two of these academic "big books" have been published by large commercial houses (Norton/New Press for Dower, and HarperCollins for Bix) with extensive endnotes intact. To be sure, one could cynically attribute the appeal of these works to the facts that each deals centrally with World War II, that enduring staple of



popular interest in history, and each has a strong link to the history of the United States, *Embracing Defeat* in particular. But it is nonetheless true that each is an exhaustively documented, detailed inquiry—by no means a breezy “easy read”—written with the intent to withstand the careful scrutiny of scholars as well as the hope of attracting a broader audience. And each seems to have succeeded thus far in both regards. The third of the non-fiction works, Jansen’s *Making of Modern Japan* has only just been published, making assessment of its reception premature. But I believe it is safe to assume this book will establish itself as a contemporary classic. In sum, in the contemporary culture of the English-speaking world there is still a place—perhaps an expanding place—for serious extended inquiries into major topics in Japanese history.

A second welcome note is that plans are in place for major publishers to translate and produce Japanese editions of both *Embracing Defeat* and *Hirohito and the Making of Modern Japan*. Again, the cynic may note that books about World War II, and about the emperor, are more likely to be translated than works on other topics. But both of these books take strong critical positions on controversial issues. Bix’s critical biography of Emperor Hirohito, in particular, is certain to enrage conservative defenders of the monarchy in Japan. That prestigious publishers have taken on these projects reflects well on the possibility for controversial ideas to make their way into Japan’s public arena.

Finally, what does one make of the truly extraordinary success of Arthur Golden’s *Memoirs of a Geisha*? It has already appeared in Japanese translation, and has been a top-seller in many other languages. The stay at the top of the charts of the English original has outdone all previous best-sellers on Japan noted in Sheila Johnston’s tabulation in *The Japanese through American Eyes*. Sober academics who write for thousands of readers will be tempted to weep in jealous frustration that Golden’s work reached millions. They will complain that however attentive it is to getting the details straight and drawing a careful picture of life in the Gion district of interwar Kyoto, it nonetheless centers on that quintes-

sential figure of the Orientalist imagination, the geisha.

But, my own experience in teaching a seminar framed around issues raised by *Memoirs* to Harvard first-year students this past semester suggests there are great possibilities in embracing the popularity of this work and using it as a point of departure for provocative inquiry into both social history and cultural studies. The heroine Sayuri’s childhood can be read together with ethnographies of rural Japan by Ella Wiswell and John Embree, among others. Sayuri’s choices can be examined with reference to works by Patricia Tsurumi and Mark Ramseyer with their own sharply contrasting views of how and why, and with what consequences, women entered the sex industry in prewar Japan. Sayuri’s work and self-understanding can be the point of departure for inquiry into the turbulence of gender roles in interwar Japan, as presented in English by scholars such as Miriam Silverberg, Sheldon Garon, and Liza Dalby. At the same time, *Memoirs* as a genre—a Western imagining of Japanese society, history and culture—can be read alongside and contrasted to classics of “orientalism” such as Loti’s *Madame Chrysanthemum* and Puccini’s *Madama Butterfly*, as well as recent best-sellers from Michener’s *Sayonara* to Crichton’s *The Rising Sun*. While reading these works, I had the students also consider valuable critical inquiries ranging from Said’s *Orientalism* to Dorinne Kondo’s *About Face* or Anne Allison’s forthcoming piece in *Journal of Japanese Studies*, and David Hwang’s powerful play, *M. Butterfly*. Not only was the student interest in this seminar course (75 applicants for twelve places) overwhelming, but the intensity and fruitfulness of our weekly discussions was extraordinary.

In sum, there is much interesting new work available to a broad audience on the history of modern Japan. In addition to reading the big books of historians such as Dower, Bix and Jansen, there is much to learn from reading and thinking about *Memoirs of a Geisha* with our students in this fashion.

I would be interested in readers’ thoughts on this matter (in Japanese or in

English). We may post them on our website.

Professor Marius Jansen, 1922–2000

As we were preparing this issue of *Tsūshin*, the sad news reached us of the passing of Professor Marius Jansen on December 10, 2000, in Princeton, New Jersey. Professor Jansen began his formal studies of Japanese history with a doctorate here at Harvard and later served for many years as a professor of Japanese history at Princeton University. He was one of the truly preeminent historians of modern Japan of the postwar era, as well as a friend and colleague and teacher to many of us at the Reischauer Institute. We will miss his thoughtful voice and support. Contributions to a memorial scholarship fund (the EAS Jansen Fund) can be sent in care of the East Asian Studies Program, 211 Jones Hall, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J., USA 08544-1008.



Japanese Studies in Asia: The Department of Japanese Studies at the National University of Singapore

Professor Timothy Tsu
(Tsu Yun Hui)
University of Singapore

The Department is a relatively new one, created in 1981 as a result of an understanding between the leaders of Singapore and Japan. Since then, it has grown to include 23 full-time teaching staff and a full-fledged program offering courses in the language, history, society, culture, economy, and politics of Japan. The program has been highly successful: about 500 students major in Japanese Studies, and an equal number take courses from the Department as electives. Indeed, most of the Department's courses are over-subscribed because so many students have a strong interest in the language, in Japanese pop culture, and in the Japanese economy. There is also a small graduate program offering higher degrees based on research.

Research among the faculty may be divided into three broad areas. The first area is Japanese linguistics. Dr. Ōkita Yōko works on kanji recognition among Singaporean learners. She and Dr. Fujimura Yūko coordinate a collaborative project between the Department and the Kokugo Kenkyūjo in Japan with the aim of creating a worldwide database of compositions by learners of Japanese as a second language. Dr. Fujimura is also interested in contrastive analysis of Malay and Japanese. Dr. Xian Qian researches Japanese loanwords in the Chinese used by Singaporeans, and the research of Drs. Watanabe Manabu and Yamaguchi Toshiko focuses on Japanese semantics and syntax.

The second area concerns Japan's political and cultural relations with China. Dr. Teow See Heng, who is the Department Head, works on Japan's cultural diplomacy toward China. He has just published *Japanese Cultural Policy Toward China 1918-1931* (Harvard). Another work pub-

lished recently is Dr. Ng Wai Ming's *The I Ching in Tokugawa Thought and Culture* (Hawaii). Dr. Barry Steben is particularly interested in Yōmeigaku and is preparing a manuscript on Tokugawa Confucianism. Dr. Tsu Yun Hui researches the Chinese community in modern Japan.

The third major area is research that brings together work on both Japan and Southeast Asia. Dr. Thang Leng Leng compares the way Japanese families care for their elderly with practices in Singapore. Dr. Yu Weihsin does comparative study of female workers in Japan and Taiwan; her next project is to study consumption by Japanese women in Southeast Asian countries. Dr. Hendric Meyer-Ohler, a specialist on Japanese management, is interested in Japanese companies in Singapore. Dr. Terada Takashi's research focuses on Japan's diplomatic relations with Asian-Pacific countries.

In addition to these major groupings, Dr. Lim Ben Choo specializes in medieval Nō while Dr. Liz MacLachlan carries out research on the Japanese media.

The Department is expanding its profile in international meetings. Drs. Tsu, Thang, and MacLachlan are planning a joint research project on the Kobe earthquake that will include historians, sociologists, and anthropologists, with a general conference scheduled for 2003.



Japanese Studies in Asia: Recent Trends in Korea

Dr. Kyu-Tae Park

The Institute of Religious Studies,
Seoul National University

Until recently, Japanese Studies in Korea has been mainly concerned with pragmatic issues: what kind of economic and political policy will be needed in order to catch up with Japan, or how we Koreans can overcome various historical traumas originating from the colonial experience. In addition, those working in the field of Japanese Studies in Korea have needed to focus specifically on Japanese language training to help facilitate efficient communications in business, trade, and translation.

However, since the early 1980s, there has appeared a new attitude among the younger generation, which I think suggests a new kind of interest, especially in Area Studies. Koreans with Japanese studies doctorates, especially in the disciplines of economics, politics, history, sociology, anthropology, and religious studies, are most interested in the Japanese local context from this perspective. (This approach contrasts with the macro-perspective based on American-oriented general theory on which the former generations have relied.)

In the 1990s this new Area Studies trend in Korea has developed in many respects. I would like to indicate several points first and foremost: (1) as background support there has been more systematic and general survey work as well as preparation of research materials, (2) a full-scale study of Japanese thought through interdisciplinary co-operation has begun, (3) relating Japanese Studies to the larger discourse on north-east Asia has been recognised as an important research problem, and (4) the possibility of mutual understanding between Korea and Japan on the level of human contacts—not only of academic research—has increased. Examples of the new trend are the Japanese Documents Center at Seoul National University's School of International



and Area Studies, the Korean Association for Japanese Thought, the Institute of Japanese Studies at Hallym University, and the Korea-Japan Forum of Religious Studies.

A mutual agreement on academic exchange was concluded between Seoul National University and Tokyo University in 1999 for the first time. Under the rapidly changing circumstances, a plan to establish a Department of Japanese Studies in Seoul National University is now being discussed. This has a powerful meaning in Korea, since even such a mere discussion has been considered taboo at Seoul National University until recently on the grounds of national pride.

However, in 1997, the Japanese Documents Center (JDC) at Seoul National University's School of International and Area Studies was inaugurated. Under the president of the JDC committee, Prof. Yong-Duch Kim, the JDC endeavors to prepare a foundation for Japanese Studies as a service data base which includes an information network, audio-visual materials, and other resources. The JDC also plans to create a Japanese Studies network for scholars in Korea and to supply information about Japanese Studies taking place in other countries, as well as to promote international research programs. In sum, the JDC plans to become a domestic center providing overall support to researchers engaging in Japanese Studies in Korea. In 1999, the JDC held an international conference centering around such topics as "Religions in the Traditional Age and their Transformation," "Religious Culture and Social Customs," and "Religion and Political Ideology."

The Korean Association for Japanese Thought (KAJT) was also established in 1997. Its president is Prof. Hwy-Chil Song. Although there are numerous associations relating to Japanese Studies in Korea, the KAJT is the only one mainly focused on Japanese thought. A hundred or so researchers with diverse majors in philosophy, history, literature, anthropology, sociology, and religious studies constitute KAJT and pursue an interdisciplinary approach. Such a perspective is very new to Japanese Studies in Korea. The KAJT has held symposiums on such themes as a

Retrospective on Contemporary Japanese Thought, Modern Japanese Thought, Premodern Japanese Thought, Medieval Japanese Thought, and Ancient Japanese Thought, in addition to discussions on the History of Japanese Religious Thought, the Relationship between Korea and Japan from the Viewpoint of Intellectual History, Japanese Thought and National Identity and so forth. The KAJT also publishes annually *The Journal of Japanese Thought*. Recently seven members of the KAJT have contributed articles to *Keikan Nihon Shisōshi* no. 56 (Perikansha, Tokyo, 2000) in a special edition entitled "Japanese Studies in Korea." The KAJT may symbolize a major new step in Japanese Studies in Korea in that a full-scale study of Japanese thought through interdisciplinary cooperation has begun for the first time.

The Institute of Japanese Studies in Hallym University (IJS) was established in 1994. Its president is Prof. Myung-Gwan Jee (Myong-kwan Chi). So far, the IJS has published more than fifty volumes in a series on Japanese Studies which focuses on translating books suited for the general public on issues such as Japanese culture, history, literature, politics, economy, society, thought, language and so forth. The IJS holds a large international symposium every year on topics concerning politics, economy and culture in northeast Asia. It also publishes *The Hallym Journal of Japanese Studies* annually. In addition, the IJS has been sponsoring various research projects, such as Joint Research on Korea-Japan Relationship during the Past Fifty Years and Area-Based Research on Japanese Local Cities.

The Korea-Japan Forum of Religious Studies (FRS) began in 1993; in its development Prof. Susumu Shimazono of Tokyo University and Prof. Jin-Hong Chung of Seoul National University (along with other members of the FRS joint committee) have played an important part. FRS has held numerous international symposiums for eight years in both Korea and Japan. Mainly discussions on religion and modernity in Korea and Japan have been sponsored; more than a hundred attendees have participated, who are majoring in Religious Studies, Folklore, Anthropology, History, Sociology, and Intellectual

History. For example, the FRS has dealt with such topics as Tradition and Modernity in Religion, Modernization and Religion in Korea and Japan, the Experience of Modernity in Religion, Social Change and Religion in Korea and Japan, and the like. The FRS plans to publish, in both Japanese and Korean, a book edition of papers presented at its symposiums.

Apart from these trends, the translations of classics in Japanese Studies cannot be overlooked. For instance, in 1995 the monumental work of Masao Maruyama, *A Study of Japanese Political Thought History*, was published in Korean and in 1998 Tsunetsugu Muraoka's *The History of Shinto*, which is said to be one of the most brilliant works in Shinto Studies, was published in Korean (translated by Kyu-Tae Park).

In conclusion, one can be confident that Japanese Studies in Korea has excellent prospects. As mentioned, academic contacts between Korea and Japan are increasing day by day and the recognition of Japanese Studies as a form of Area Studies is expanding. Moving beyond the old 'Japan complex' which sprang from Korea's colonial past, a new attitude and desire to understand Japan as it is today will gain increasing persuasive power in Korea. In Korea, the end of former restrictions placed on 'imagining Japan' means an opening up to a new realm of possibilities.



Japanese Studies in the West: SOAS in London

**Prof. Timon Screech and
Drew Gerstle
School of Oriental and Asian
Studies, University of London**

The School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) is a college within the University of London. Founded in 1916, it was moved to its present site behind the British Museum and contiguous with the main university campus in 1940. Like all British universities, it is national. Japanese teaching began — initially as a sub-department of Chinese — after WWII. Currently, Japanese Studies is contained within the East Asia Department and offers an independent honours degree.

SOAS now has some twenty full-time professors ('lecturers' in British usage) in Japanese Studies, and a very wide range of areas is covered, some not available in any institution outside Japan itself. From music and art, through literature, linguistics, cinema studies, anthropology, history, geography, religious studies and politics, to law and economics, students choose from some 30 courses on offer each year. The lecturers are divided between those attached to the East Asian Department, where language and literature are the focus, and those associated with other departments in various disciplines, where students can study aspects of Japan (or whatever country of culture they are interested in) without learning a language or combining language and discipline study. The Japanese Studies undergraduate degree attracts about 35 new students annually. There is also an M.A. in Japanese Studies, which can (although need not) incorporate language work, which attracts some twenty-five students annually, as well as a range of other M.A. programmes. There are also about fifteen Ph.D. students working on some aspect of Japan.

The collectivity of lecturers in Japanese things is called the Japan Research Centre (JRC). It hosts two lecture series, which run throughout the year, one in Japanese and one in

English. Distinguished outside speakers are invited to introduce their research. The JRC also hosts social and outreach events. The chair rotates, and is currently held by Timon Screech.

The open-stack SOAS Library is designated the National Library for Asian and African Studies, and contains the largest selection of books on Japan available in Europe. It probably matches one of the better (though not the best) equivalent libraries in the USA. There is also a small rare book collection, mostly of Edo Period printed works. SOAS also has a museum and exhibition space (the Brunei Gallery) and although it possesses only a little Japanese art, it has one of the world's best collections of Chinese ceramics (the Percival David Collection). The British Library and British Museum, with extensive collections of original Japanese material, are both a short walk from the SOAS campus.

In 1999, Sir Robert and Lady Sainsbury endowed funds to create a centre for research into Japan, to be shared between SOAS and the University of East Anglia, in Norwich, where their art collection is housed. This, known as the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures (SISJAC), is under the directorship of Nicole Coolidge Rousmaniere. It has three full-time and one half-time staff members, as well as three annual post-doctoral fellowships. It is a facilitating body for international work on the Japanese humanities.

From 1999 SOAS has received funds to create a Centre for the Study of Japanese Religions, which has three staff attached to it as well as a post-doctoral position and one Ph.D. scholarship. John Breen is the current Chair of the Centre.

SOAS and University College London in 2000 received a five-year grant from the British Arts and Humanities Research Board to establish the AHRB Centre for Asian and African Literatures. Andrew Gerstle is the Director. The Centre will support eight three-year group research projects over the five years, on comparative literature topics such as Translation Theory, Genre Ideologies and Narrative Transformation,

Narrating and Imaging the Nation, Literature and Performance, Gender, City as Metaphor, The Social Context of Literary Production and Consumption, and Modernity and the Loss of Tradition. A website for the Centre will be available through the SOAS site.

This year from May will see 'Japan 2001,' a year-long celebration of Japanese society and culture, sponsored by the Japan Foundation, the Japanese Embassy, and numerous other organisations, and spreading across all of the UK. 1991 marked the centenary of the foundation of the Japan Society of London, and a huge festival was held that year. The centrepiece exhibitions will be on the arts of Shintō at the British Museum and contemporary Japanese art at the Hayward Gallery, but there will also be numerous smaller and grassroots events.

In recent years SOAS has come to be considered one of the most attractive Japanese studies centres in Europe. This is due to a combination of factors: not only an extensive range of staff, diverse activities, and the large, accessible library mentioned above, but also EU arrangements which allow students from all countries to attend any university on a 'local tuition' fees basis. Thus SOAS regularly attracts large numbers of students from all over Europe.

Useful websites:

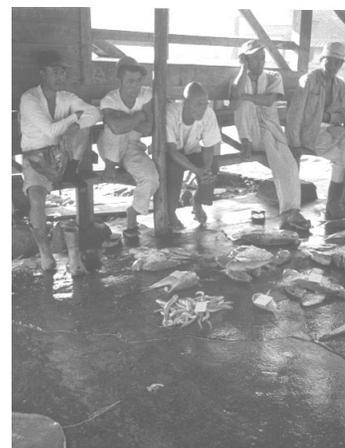
www.SOAS.ac.uk

www.SOAS.ac.uk/Library

www.SOAS.ac.uk/centres/Japan/htm

www.Sainsbury-Institute.org

www.japansociety.org.uk





Documentation Center on Contemporary Japan (Reischauer Institute, Sponsor): Online Electronic Texts

Kazuko Sakaguchi
Documentation Center Director

Until recently, the dominant form of access to electronic texts (e-texts) has been offline media such as CD-ROMs. Nowadays, however, with the dramatic growth and development of the Internet and the increased power and capacity of personal computers, the popularity of online e-texts is growing rapidly. While re-writable CDs have become popular for personal data storage, read-only CD-ROMs as a form of access to e-texts have become gradually obsolete. The main reason is that this type of media cannot be updated, whereas online e-texts can easily be updated due to the vast storage capacity of large computer servers. Also, online e-texts do not require shipping and can supply as many users as needed instantaneously, and so are suitable for on-demand publication. Reprinting titles that are in short supply or out-of-print is easier as well. In addition, needless to say, online e-texts allow one to jump directly to references through high-powered links and to convert format into Braille or to voice with multi-media for the vision-impaired. Depending on the software, online e-texts allow one to enjoy a variety of readings and usage. Accordingly, I would like to take this opportunity to explore several databases for online e-texts, as this publication form is likely to increase in the near future.

Project Gutenberg (<http://prom.net/pg>)

The disclosure of information and the intellectual traditions held in the public domain are the foundations for democracy. Project Gutenberg, a pioneer of e-texts, was initiated by Michael Hart, then affiliated at the University of Illinois in 1971, based on his philosophy that such cultural heritage is common property for all people. Although the Internet was de-

veloped initially for military purposes, Project Gutenberg is an example of how the Internet has expanded for academic use and peace work. It reflects an underlying spirit of the foundation of the United States. The Project covers a wide range of genres including the U.S. Declaration of Independence, the Bible, U.S. Census, the Presidential Inauguration Address, and creative literature, which currently includes over 3,000 documents and works. While the majority of documents in Project Gutenberg is in English, it also includes other languages. In Japanese, the project includes Akutagawa Ryunosuke's *Rashōmon* and a translation of *The Small Catechism of Martin Luther*. The most distinguished feature is its sophisticated cataloging search function that enables one to search six different fields, consisting of author, title, subject, notes, language, and class in the Library of Congress (LC) classification system. For those familiar with the LC classification system, it is easy to use the Project's search function. For instance, by clicking PL in the LC classification, you might find *Rashōmon*, Okakura Kakuzo's *The Book of Tea*, and Lafcadio Hearn's *Kwaidan*. Furthermore, when clicking subject headings for each title, groups of works in each subject are gathered. Downloading, however, is limited to a standard text file format.

The On-Line Books Page (<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/books>)

In addition to the above mentioned Project Gutenberg, a number of other digital development projects are in progress individually across the world, such as The Oxford Text Archive (<http://ota.ahds.ac.uk/index.html>). The On-Line Books Page (OLBP) is another of those independent on-going projects offering a consolidated seamless search for about thirty databases. The OLBP has been edited and maintained by John Mark Ockerbloom. It moved its main server from Carnegie Mellon University to the University of Pennsylvania in 1999. Since its establishment in 1993, the OLBP has digitized and aggregated over 12,000 e-texts. The majority of its collection is from English speaking countries; however, it also includes others. Among Japanese works, for instance, it includes Natsume Sōseki's *Kokoro*. In addition to author and title search,

the OLBP has the richness of the LC classification subject headings. When clicking a subject heading of the classification, titles related to the subject appear. With usage of a high-powered link, it links to related reference materials or to pages with more detailed information. The OLBP also has lists of both banned books and prizewinners. Moreover, under "A Celebration of Women Writers," which lists titles by author and by country, one might find it worthwhile to examine the translation and summary of works by Murasaki Shikibu, Sei Shonagon, Ono-no Komachi, and Abutsuni.

Aozora Bunko (Blue-sky Archive) (<http://www.aozora.gr.jp/>)

Because the publishing industry is dictated by profits, unprofitable books are not given extended opportunities, and remainders are simply cut off. Even out-of-stock items are often not reprinted unless demand assures a sufficient number of copies to warrant reprinting. It is not unusual that out-of-stock books cease publication within a year. Aozora Bunko, or Blue-sky Archive, is a private digital library that responds to a writer's desire for one's publications be read while filling a reader's desire to read items which are no longer available. It was launched by Tomita Michio, a free-lance journalist, in 1997. This Japanese version of Project Gutenberg offers free access to digitized literature in the public domain, not only items which are no longer copyrighted after 50 years from the author's death but also items still under copyright restrictions (with the author's permission). Selection of titles for inclusion, input, proofreading, and making files, all these tasks depend on volunteers. Thus far the project has digitized more than 1,200 titles as of the end of 2000. The list includes not only works by Japanese authors but also translations of foreign writers as well as English translations of Japanese authors. In addition to literary works, it also includes law.

Although the Aozora Bunko deals only with digital books, its approaches are quite humane and user-friendly. By clicking letters by author and title indexes in Japanese fifty syllables, one will get a library card which contains not only bibliographic information but also an introduction to the au-



thor as well as a summary of the work. For downloading documents, users can choose preferred files in three different types: zip text, HTML, and Expanded Book (software for bookmaking invented by Voyager). Text files are of two kinds: one with kana reading along with Chinese characters, and the other without kana. The list has less restrictive “fair use,” which deserves special merit. With the exception of certain copyrighted titles, one can even use most for commercial purposes. Furthermore, one can reproduce or redistribute downloaded files, either free or non-free. In general, those titles with copyright protection are placed in the author’s designated server space and can be linked from a library card at the Aozora Bunko. Corrections and updates to the list are frequently publicized through its bulletin board named *soramoyo* (weather) and *mizutamari* (puddles). Thus Aozora Bunko functions not only as a listing of digitized books but also as communication space on the Internet, and this should not be overlooked.

Japanese E-texts List

(<http://jcmac5.jc.meisei-u.ac.jp/etext-i.htm>)

The Japanese E-texts List has been developed by Shibata Masao at Meisei University for his own personal academic use and has included items both free of charge and commercial, including CD-ROMs and comprehensive listings of works in Japanese literature. Here one may find items not found in the above mentioned Aozora Bunko. Although it lacks a search engine, it has various indexes that follow the periodic division of Japanese history; up to the Edo period, titles are listed in chronological order of their release, while the titles after the Meiji period are listed by the authors’ year of birth. Furthermore, it has an author index, which is arranged by Japanese syllables as well as by the dates of the authors’ birth and death. The ingenuity

of these indexes is helpful for viewing the entire picture of the history of Japanese literature. One can also obtain information about authors by entering the author index directly. As the list is updated frequently, one can obtain the most current information on new listings and corrections. For similar types of listings, one might use the Japanese Literature Text File by Okashima Akihiro at Fukui University (<http://kuzan.f-edu.fukui-u.ac.jp/bungaku.htm>), which has useful web information on Japanese literature with a brief review. In addition, the Japanese Literature Text File (<http://www.konan-wu.ac.jp/~kikuchi/linkd.html>) by Kikuchi Shin’ichi at Konan Women’s University offers URL addresses, which is a useful feature.

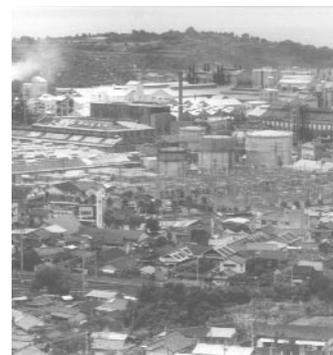
Japanese Text Initiative

(<http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/japanese/>)

A joint project developed by the University of Virginia and the University of Pittsburgh, the Japanese Text Initiative is an archive of digitized titles in Japanese literature ranging from *Man’yōshū* (Ten Thousands of Leaves) to Yokomitsu Riichi’s *Kikai* (Machine) with both text and image marked using SGML (Standard Generalized Markup Language). Though limited in the number of inclusions (40 titles as of the end of 2000), the Initiative deserves special merit for its bilingual search function in both Japanese and English, since it aims to include non-native speakers of Japanese. Because the founding project at the University of Virginia Library Electronic Text Center was launched to support academic purposes as a counterpart to commercial electronic texts, the Initiative digitizes only titles to be offered free of charge on the Internet. It is known for its accuracy of bibliographic information and completeness of data input. It also includes many illustrations and other visual references drawn from special collections and manuscripts. Furthermore, the uniqueness of the

Initiative is a parallel text of *Ogura Hyakunin Isshu* (One Hundred Poems by One Hundred Poets), which is worthwhile for teaching. The Initiative recently received the Digital Archives Award by Digital Frontier Kyoto for its contribution in preserving cultural tradition in a digital archive, with cutting-edge technology useful for users both academic and non-academic.

It is a boon to readers to be able to obtain books wherever and whenever one desires as far as one has access to the Internet. However, this must be a threat for those in the publishing industry and for parties dependent on copyright; hence copyright issues exist, made complicated by different copyright laws in a global age. As this deeply affects our lives, it will be challenging to resolve these complex copyright issues in this digital century. The future of online e-texts that emerges from the gap between the principles of democracy—that intellectual heritage is public domain—and the idea of copyright is still uncertain, and yet deserves our special attention.





Reischauer Institute News Notes

Research and Publication in the Harvard Japanese Studies Community

Studies on Japan forthcoming this spring from the Harvard University Asia Center Publications Office include:

Curtis J. Milhaupt, J. Mark Ramseyer, and Michael K. Young, eds., *Japanese Law in Context: Readings in Society, the Economy, and Politics*.

The *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies* publishes articles and book reviews on a wide range of topics concerning the humanities in East Asia. Issue 61.1 (June 2001) will include the following article on Japan:

“Grappling with Chinese Writing as a Material Language: Ogyū Sorai’s *Yakubunsentei*” by Emmanuel Pastreich

Annual subscription rates (two issues) are \$30 for individuals and \$45 for institutions. Send inquiries to *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*, 2 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA. FAX: (617) 495-7798

From other publishers, some recent monographs produced by Harvard faculty and Reischauer Associates in Research include:

Dudley Andrew and Carole Cavanaugh, eds. *Sansho Dayu* (The British Film Institute, 2000)

Richard Minear, editor and translator. Kurihara Sadako. *When We Say ‘Hiroshima’* (Center for Japanese Studies, University of Michigan, 1999)

Richard Minear. *Dr. Seuss Goes To War: The World War II Editorial Cartoons of Theodor Seuss Geisel* (The New Press, 1999)

Richard Minear, editor and translator. Ienaga Saburo. *Japan’s Past, Japan’s*

Future: One Historian’s Odyssey (Rowman & Littlefield, 2001)

Mary Evelyn Tucker, ed. (with Duncan Williams) *Buddhism and Ecology: The Interconnection of Dharma and Deed* (Harvard Center for the Study of World Religions and Harvard University Press, 1997)

Mary Evelyn Tucker, ed. (with John Berthrong) *Confucianism and Ecology: The Interaction of Heaven, Earth, and Humans* (Harvard Center for the Study of World Religions and Harvard University Press, 1998)

Mary Evelyn Tucker, ed. (with Christopher Chapple) *Hinduism and Ecology: The Intersection of Earth, Sky, and Water* (Harvard Center for the Study of World Religions and Harvard University Press, 2000)

Ezra Vogel. *Is Japan Still Number One?* (Malaysia: Pelanduk, 2000) (Japanese Edition: *Jyapan aazu nanbaawan: Sorekara* (Tachi))

Dennis Washburn and Carole Cavanaugh, eds. *Word and Image in Japanese Cinema* (Cambridge University Press, 2001)



Special Events

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS
Harvard Graduate Conference for Japanese Studies: The Society for Japanese Studies at Harvard, in conjunction with the Reischauer Institute, is now soliciting papers for the 2001 (fifth annual) Harvard Graduate Student Conference for Japanese Studies, to be held on Saturday, March 17, 2001. Graduate students are invited to present their research at this multi-disciplinary conference. Last year, thirty-two graduate students from eleven universities presented papers on a wide range of topics.

If you are interested in presenting a paper, please send us a one-page abstract. Individual papers and full panels are welcome. Please include contact information and institutional affiliation. Presentations will be limited to 20 minutes.

DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACTS: 1 February 2001

Please send abstracts and inquiries to:
Harvard Graduate Student Conference for Japanese Studies

Reischauer Institute, Room 319
Coolidge Hall
Harvard University

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

FAX (617) 496-8083 (Attn: Graduate Student Conf.)

E-mail: rgates@fas.harvard.edu (Rusty Gates) or astanley@fas.harvard.edu (Amy Stanley)

website <http://hcs.harvard.edu/~sjsh>

RECENT SPECIAL EVENTS On October 13, 2000, the sixth annual Edwin O. Reischauer/Kodansha Commemorative Symposium took place at the Reischauer/Kodansha House in Belmont, Massachusetts. After welcoming remarks by Prof. Andrew Gordon and introduction of guests from Kodansha and The Japan Forum, Professor John Rosenfield (Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Professor of Oriental Art, *Emeritus*)



gave the symposium talk on the photography of Daido Moriyama: "Japanese Art and 'The Scorching Drought of Modern Vulgarly'" Mr. Hiroyuki Tadokoro, Vice President and Executive Director of Kodansha in Japan, followed with brief remarks and then presented the Noma-Reischauer Prizes for best student essays to this year's winners, Aya Murata (graduate student) and Alistair Isaac (undergraduate). Also in attendance were Mr. Jiro Onoda and Ms. Tomoe Sumi from Kodansha, New York, Mr. Nobukazu Takashima and Mr. Yukio Itoh from The Japan Forum, members of the Reischauer Institute Committee, Visiting Scholars and Associates, Postdoctoral Fellows, and Staff. The Noma-Reischauer awards were established by Kodansha

in October 1995 to honor the memory of the late Prof. Reischauer, who began to teach at Harvard in 1938.



From the Editor

A NOTE ON FUKUOKA UNESCO'S SURVEYS OF JAPANESE STUDIES AROUND THE WORLD

(with Dr. Liang Pan, RI Postdoctoral Fellow 2000-2001)

The international governmental organization UNESCO was founded as part of the United Nations, but it always worked closely with independent NGOs. In the early stages of its evolution in the late 1940s in Japan (as also in some other countries, including the US) UNESCO thus affiliated with a large number of autonomous local voluntary associations. Such groups decided locally on the types of activities in which they wished to participate. (For example,



top left: Kodansha awards ceremony

bottom left: Prof. John Rosenfield

below: Participants at the Reischauer/Kodansha House in Belmont





by the early 1950s many Japanese local UNESCO associations had a somewhat leftist, peace-oriented agenda, although this was eventually successfully discouraged by the Japanese government!

Today in Japan, the UNESCO movement remains multilayered. It is represented in three different ways: by Japanese representatives at the international UN-affiliated UNESCO body (headquartered in Paris); by the Japanese government's own internal UNESCO liaison office (located within the Monbushō in Tokyo); and by a network, distributed over most of the prefectures, of over a hundred local UNESCO associations, which typically function as cultural salons with an internationalist flavor.

Fukuoka UNESCO is one of the local branches in the third category, a branch which happens to have displayed uniquely independent and energetic qualities. It was founded in 1948 and was led between 1952 and 1968 by the dynamic Dr. Bunroku Arakawa, a prominent president of Kyushu University. The organization successfully obtained substantial pa-

trons, including regional industrialists. With this unusually strong backing, for the past three decades Fukuoka UNESCO has been able to distinguish itself internationally for its sponsorship of numerous conferences and publications. Many of these activities have pursued the theme of Japanese culture's place in global civilization.

Within this work, two facets have been of special interest for observing the state of Japanese studies in the world.

First, Fukuoka UNESCO has provided a large amount of survey research (exceeded only by the Japan Foundation's reports) about the status of academic Japanese studies internationally. Its researchers began listing overseas Japan studies institutions in 1976; they have updated this work with publications in 1980, 1984, 1989, 1994 and 1999. (See bibliography on the RI homepage at <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~rijs/jpn-studiesrefs.html>)

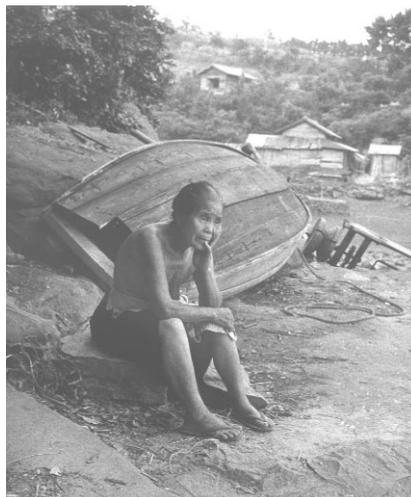
Second, the status of Japan studies in the world has been one of the recur-

ring themes of presentations at various conferences sponsored since the 1970s. Much of the material has been published in certain volumes of the serial *Fukuoka Unesco*. Issue No. 7 (1972) recorded initial discussions about problems of Japanese studies in foreign countries. Issue No. 22 (1987) recorded presentations about Japanese studies in the US, China, Australia, Europe and Korea. And issue No. 29 (1993) included extensive reporting about new trends in Japanese studies, featuring Korea, Singapore, India, Australia, Turkey, Europe, Poland, Russia, Mexico, the US, Italy, and others.

As internationalization evolves in Japan, Fukuoka UNESCO's contributions will become more valuable than ever.

On the history of the organization, see Fukuoka Yunesuko Kyōkai (Fukuoka UNESCO Association). *Fukuoka Yunesuko kyōkai 50 nen no ayumi* (Fukuoka: Fukuoka Yunesuko Kyōkai, 1997).

—Galen Amstutz



The small images on these pages are from Timothy George, *Minamata: Pollution and the Struggle for Democracy in Postwar Japan* (Harvard University Press, 2000)



Stone mural at Yasuda Life Insurance headquarters (Osaka) by Prof. Toshihiro Katayama (Professor *Emeritus*, former Director of the Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts at Harvard)

Address ideas and correspondence about *TSUSHIN* to Dr. Galen Amstutz, Institute Coordinator, at the Reischauer Institute address, or via e-mail to gamstutz@fas.harvard.edu. Most of the content of *TSUSHIN* is available on the Reischauer Institute's Internet website: <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~rijs>.

The Reischauer Institute would like to thank the following persons who have specially contributed recently:

- Naomi Fujikawa, Translator/Editor
- Yumiko Ishii, Translator/Editor
- Kenji Ito, Translator/Editor
- Mikiko Nishimura, Translator/Editor
- Yuka Sakamoto, Translator/Editor
- Ryōichi Nishiyama, Editor

The Institute offers its sincere thanks to all those individuals and institutions who have submitted articles and information featured in this issue.

Production

Layout: Galen Amstutz ガレン・アマスタッツ

Original Design: Bradley K. Edmister ブラッドリー・エドミスター

TSUSHIN uses QuarkXPress 3.31J, Adobe Photoshop 3.0, and Adobe Illustrator 6.0.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
EDWIN O. REISCHAUER INSTITUTE OF
JAPANESE STUDIES
1737 Cambridge Street, Room 319
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138
Telephone: (617) 495-3220
Fax: (617) 496-8083
Internet Website: www.fas.harvard.edu/~rijs

The Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies

Japan Events: Spring 2001

February 2	<u>NAOKI KAMIMURA</u> Hiroshima City University (co-sponsored with the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations) <i>"Japanese Civil Society, Local Government, and U.S.-Japan Security Relations in the 1990s: U.S. Bases in Okinawa, Nuclear Ship Visits, and Nuclear Disarmament Initiatives"</i>
February 9	<u>RACHEL DiNITTO</u> Harvard University <i>"Taishō = 1980? Rereading Uchida Hyakken Through Suzuki Seijun's Cinematic Lens"</i>
February 16	<u>JOANNE BERNARDI</u> University of Rochester <i>"Food Bytes: Chowing Down in Japanese Cinema"</i>
February 23	<u>SUSAN NAPIER</u> University of Texas <i>"Through a Glass Darkly: Anime as Culture and Subculture"</i>
March 2	<u>BRIAN RUPPERT</u> University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign <i>"Buddha Relics in Early Medieval Japanese Society"</i>
March 9	<u>FRANZISKA SERAPHIM</u> Duke University <i>"Negotiating the Postwar: Politics and War Memory in Japan, 1945-1995"</i>
March 16	<u>OKPYO MOON</u> Academy of Korean Studies <i>"The 'Vertical Model' Challenged: Dynamics of Voluntary Associations in Japan"</i>
April 6	<u>PAUL ANDERER</u> Columbia University <i>"'Modern Japan' and its Discontents: Film, Fiction, and Criticism Before and After the Earthquake of 1923"</i>
April 12 (Thursday)	<u>YUMIKO TANAKA</u> 4:15 PM Peabody Museum Japan International Cooperation Agency (co-sponsored with the Department of Anthropology) <i>"Japan's Development Policy in Action: Reconceptualizing Women's Participation"</i>
April 13	<u>DAVID HOWELL</u> 2 PM Robinson Hall Princeton University (co-sponsored with the Department of History) <i>"Status and Livelihood in Nineteenth Century Japan"</i>
April 13	<u>THOMAS LAMARRE</u> McGill University <i>"The Politics of Time: Tanizaki, Cinema, Modernism"</i>
April 20	<u>ESPERANZA RAMIREZ-CHRISTENSEN</u> University of Michigan <i>"'Genji is I:' Producing the Communal Subject in Medieval Poetic Pedagogy"</i>
April 27	<u>MICHAEL AUSLIN</u> Yale University <i>"Negotiating With Imperialism: Japan and the Unequal Treaties, 1858-1872"</i>
May 4	<u>MASAYOSHI SHIBATANI</u> Kobe University, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University <i>"A New Look at the Grammar of Causation"</i>

Except as noted events are held on Fridays, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m., Seminar Room 2, Coolidge Hall, 1737 Cambridge Street, Cambridge MA 02138