As this difficult year draws to a close, I find it difficult to develop any single train of thought into a column for Tsushin readers. Allow me instead to post a handful of year-end notions for your consideration in early 2002.

One upbeat news item from Japan offered personal pleasure to several of us here at the Institute. An alumna of Harvard College, once employed as my research assistant with the aid of a small grant from the Reischauer Institute, is now the proud mother of a baby girl. The mother, the former Owada Masako, is now the Japanese Crown Princess. The Institute faculty and staff join in sending best wishes to the parents and the infant princess.

We also wonder whether her child, Princess Aiko, might someday occupy a place on the throne as the first female monarch in Japan in several centuries, as well as the first child of a Harvard graduate to hold this position. It would certainly make sense on both practical and political grounds to revise the Imperial Household Law to make this possible—practically speaking, there is little alternative at present; and politically speaking, ideas of gender equality are as commonplace in Japan as in many other places.

There is, to be sure, plenty of time to consider the matter. In the meantime, I find myself more intrigued by the question of just what meaning, or range of meanings, the monarchy holds for people in Japan today. Certainly it functions most importantly in a cultural sphere, in contrast to its central political role under the Meiji constitution. But do we take common statements that the throne is scarcely relevant or influential at face value? Do we read the celebrity treatment accorded by popular magazines to the Prince, Princess and new child to likewise indicate a diminished importance to the institution? Or do we see the monarchy as exerting an ongoing disciplining force, more latent than overt, more subtle than direct, but nonetheless profound? This was the argument made by Norma Field in her eloquent work of a decade ago, In the Realm of a Dying Emperor. It is also the thrust of Harry Harootunian’s recent rather cranky essay critiquing Herb Bix’s biography of Emperor Hirohito in Critical Asian Studies (December, 2001). I have no certain answer to these questions, although I confess to some doubt that the postwar reconfiguration of the imperial institution was quite as central to the achievement of social order, discipline, economic success, and
global power, as Field and Harootunian argue. In any case, this is a matter that deserves continued consideration.

Some very different questions about empire and emperor were explored in a conference examining legal issues surrounding Japan’s annexation of Korea in 1910, co-sponsored this past November by the Reischauer Institute (with Harvard’s Asia Center and Korea Institute as well as the Korea Foundation). From the outset, the aspiration of some participants to use the meeting (and two previous rounds at the University of Hawaii and in Tokyo) for a dialogue that would produce the “truth” on the matter of the legality of the annexation, struck other participants as a hopeless wish. But all of us hoped that a gathering of scholars from Korea, Japan, the United States, and Europe, of varied backgrounds and persuasions, might produce some shared understandings of the process and impact of the imperialist era of Korean-Japanese history. What emerged instead was a relatively polite agreement to continue to disagree. None of the Japanese or American participants, it was encouraging to see, fell back on the old line that colonial rule was developmental for the nation, would appear in light of narratives of the nation even beyond perspectives of “side” or the other, that goes mired in a perspective from one national “side” or the other, that goes beyond narratives of the nation even as it recognizes the force of ideas of the nation, would appear in light of this experience to remain nearly impossible to achieve—if nonetheless worth striving for.

The force of the past recently appeared in the form of a news note closer to my own research as well. The Asahi Shinbun satellite edition of December 19 reported on page one that the union and management of Sanyo Electronics had reached an unprecedented agreement to implement a program of work sharing, as a way to protect as many jobs as possible in a forbidding economic climate. There are multiple ways to interpret this initiative. On one level there is nothing new or “Japanese” about it; the American labor movement from early in the twentieth century saw job sharing as one strategy to pursue in order to protect the livelihood of union members. At the same time, in the face of widespread prescriptions or predictions that Japanese companies should, or inevitably will, abandon commitments to protect employment as they “restructure” themselves, the agreement is a sign that some unions and company managers are reluctant to take such steps, and willing to make creative effort to spread risk or share pain among members of a corporate-centered community.

I look forward to another busy year of Institute-sponsored conferences, workshops, talks, and publications. And look forward with perhaps greater eagerness to a year on research leave in Japan from the summer of 2002. Professor Susan Pharr will serve as acting director during that year, for which I am most grateful. I should also like to thank the Institute staff members for their excellent work in support of our expanding program of activities.

I would be interested in readers’ thoughts (in Japanese or in English). We may post them on our website.
less dropped and the number of young people has declined. The trend is expected to continue for some years to come.

The new trend during the 80s in higher education in Sweden was to establish new economics degrees programs which combine economic studies with one year’s orientation courses in Japanese language and culture. Such a program was first established at Linköpings University in the middle part of Sweden. A little later, in the 1990s, a similar program was set up at the Göteborg School of Business, Göteborg University. At the Stockholm School of Economics, the European Institute of Japanese Studies was established in the 1980s as the first Japanese research institute where scholars from the fields of economics and social sciences were gathered.

At the present time there are three universities in Sweden which offer three-year programs of Japanese language instruction: Göteborg, Stockholm, and Lund. From the standpoint of student numbers, Lund’s is the smallest in scale. Although there are minor differences in curriculum, for the most part similarities in course design allow the students to move from one university to another. Meanwhile, short introductory courses in Japanese language exist in various institutions of higher education.

In the three main university programs mentioned above, linguistic education is combined with units in history, society or culture, and the ratio is about seventy-five percent language study and about twenty-five percent lectures in Japan-related subject matter. In terms of time commitment, language occupies about ten hours per week and history, etc. lectures about two hours. History and similar subjects are largely matters of self-study, and students are usually required to write short papers. In order to obtain the university degree, if Japanese language is the major, Japanese is to be studied for two and one-half years, followed by a half year in another subject field. However, if there is no major in Japanese language, students can stop after one or two semesters, or whenever they wish. With three years of language study and one year of study in (an)other field(s), a student can take a master’s degree. As a rule, the majority of students who survive into the third semester of language study will continue for the full three years and will achieve the master’s degree.

During the three year study period almost all of the students go to Japan for language study. The periods of stay range from some months to a year, depending upon the conditions of the universities engaged in student exchange and the scholarship programs. Many students choose the study of Japanese because they want to go to Japan, but the problem afterwards is the possibilities of their finding employment. Their possibilities are augmented when they combine Japanese language studies with other specialized subjects such as economics and computer technology.

During the three years, the students must learn not only Japanese but also the methods of writing academic papers and academic training. In particular the master’s thesis is a preparatory step for entry into postgraduate studies, and an important indicator of the academic disposition of the young researchers aspiring to graduate school.

A postgraduate program was established in the 1970s at Stockholm University, and until the 1990s it was the only Swedish university with such a graduate school. At Göteborg a postgraduate program was newly established in 1992. Accompanying this, the number of graduate students approximately doubled, and in Sweden over ten graduate students now exert themselves on doctoral dissertations. Research areas encompass a wide range, including literature, history, religion, politics, history of thought, and women’s issues.

Japanese studies in Sweden has showed since the 1970s a strong regional studies tendency. Originally language and literature were supposed to be the base forming a single-unit department within the faculty of the Humanities. However, the number actually writing on language or linguistics was few, and this was a tendency not confined to Japanese departments but rather the same in many other language departments throughout the country. As in the case of Chinese as well, all graduate students or researchers working on Japan-related subjects using Japanese language have belonged to the Japanese department. In order to encourage research in language and linguistics a special fund was established, but because the object was languages in active use in Europe, there was no relation to the study of Japanese.

In recent years, the government has changed its policy and has strongly demanded that a postgraduate program be completed in the regulation four years. In this context persons who do not have financial support for the four year period have been unable to enter graduate school. Fundamentally, graduate students cannot enroll unless they are working and have salaries as ‘postgraduate students’ (doktorandtjänster). But because the number of graduate students employable each year in the faculty of the Humanities itself is limited for budgetary reasons, it is foreseeable that throughout Sweden the number of graduate students working on Japan will decline. Still, in comparison to Norway the standards of selection in Sweden cannot be said to be more stringent.

The effect of these reforms is already clear in all the faculties of the Humanities. Not only is the number of graduate students in decline, but Ph.D. dissertations which are only 150 pages long (instead of the former standard of 300 or 400 pages) have increased and will undoubtedly be the standard in the future. Such a short dissertation will, rather than being itself a direct research accomplishment, serve as a yardstick for judging how well the student will be able in the future to perform in academic research; and it will present a standard of evaluation for how well the student has assimilated academic methodology. How this reform will influence the level of research on Japan in Sweden will become a future issue.

The 1990s were also an era of cooperative research that transcended the boundaries of personal networks and disciplinary fields. For example, in the area of translation, there was a four-year project among a number of language departments (Finnish, French, Polish, Russian, English, German, Italian, Japanese, etc.) in various universities. Cooperative research took place: researchers and graduate students using a database
have recently been paralleled, various additional changes will be introduced. In evaluating how to make university education more rational or more effective, is this not a good example? And in this connection—the transition from the university’s being something intended for a minority elite to something belonging to the majority of the people— the real feeling of people working in the universities today is that the image of the scholars as laboring closed up within ivory towers is an ancient story, which now belongs to the past.

The Petzold Scrolls

John Rosenfield, Professor Emeritus Harvard University

One of the great, unheralded resources of the Harvard-Yenching Library is a collection of over three hundred and fifty Japanese and Chinese scrolls acquired in 1951 from the estate of Bruno Petzold (1873-1949). Born in Breslau, Germany, Petzold came to Japan in 1910 as foreign correspondent of the Kölnische Zeitung, but upon the outbreak of World War I, he turned to teaching German language and literature at the prestigious Daiichi Kōtōgakkō. He was greatly attracted to Japanese customs and especially to Tendai Buddhism, and he plunged into the serious study of that creed under the tutelage of leading Japanese prelates and academic scholars. In fact, Petzold was so zealous a student that he was awarded a series of Tendai ecclesiastical ranks, culminating in 1948 with Sōjō, the top of the clerical hierarchy.

In English and German he published widely on the history of the Tendai school, on the Nichiren sect, and on Buddhism in general. He compiled a research library of over ten thousand volumes, which he managed to preserve through the fire-bombings of World War II. Upon his death his son Arnulf sold his Chinese and Japanese books, including rare imprints of the seventeenth century, to the Harvard-Yenching Library (the scrolls came with the books, almost as an afterthought). Western-language material went to the Commonwealth National Library in Canberra, Australia, and to the Kokugakuin University in Tokyo.

At Harvard Petzold’s books were quickly integrated into the holdings of the Yenching Library. The scrolls, which offered greater challenges to the staff, were carefully wrapped and stored away uncatalogued. Two years ago, James Cheng, the new Librarian, and Kuniko Yamada McVey, in charge of the Japanese collections, uncovered the scrolls and arranged for their conservation and repair. Last summer a team of faculty and library staff made a preliminary survey of the material, with a view eventually to prepare a definitive catalogue.

About seventy-five percent of the scrolls are Japanese, the remainder Chinese, and they comprise a resource for teaching and research of unimaginable richness. Reflecting Petzold’s preoccupation with Tendai Buddhism, they contain portraits of Tendai patriarchs, calligraphies by living prelates from Enryaku-ji and Kan’ei-ji, and illustrations of such theological doctrines as the six stages of reincarnation (rikūdō zu). Given the breadth of Petzold’s interests, however, the scrolls reflect the full spectrum not only of Japanese Buddhism (including Shingon, Zen, Nichiren, and Pure Land schools) but also of Shintō, Shingaku, and other folk religions. Petzold did not search for artistic masterpieces. While many scrolls are handsome and of interest for their designs, they are of primary value as tangible, singular expressions of living faiths, ideal subjects for undergraduate and graduate teaching.

Because of the high numbers and great diversity of subjects, several years will be required to photograph and catalogue the scrolls completely and make them available on line. In the meanwhile they are stored away in the Rare Book section of the Yenching Library.
With the advancement of digital image compression technology, the current digitization movement has been extending into broader areas of storage and retrieval of cultural assets in digital image archive formats. This movement intends to pass cultural inheritances to the next generation by digitizing invaluable cultural artifacts, along with rare and important research materials, into high-quality image databases. With the explosive growth of the Internet, the digital image archive movement has been increasingly active in recent years throughout Japan. Many libraries and museums house enormous numbers of artifacts, but one often finds such valuable materials neglected and forgotten, lying silently covered with dust in the corners of storage areas. Retrieval of such materials is usually not simple due to space problems. Digital archives, then, which are relatively free from restrictions of time and space, can become viable alternatives for both the owners and users of such cultural materials, especially antique maps. Thus I would like to draw your attention to the growing practice of digitizing antique maps.

The National Diet Library (NDL) houses the Japanese holdings of the Dai Nihon enkai yochi zenzu, which is today formed of shahon made in the Meiji era and donated by the Meteorological Agency. It exhibits forty-three sheets of the large-scale map as high quality digital images. Due to their visual nature, maps are especially suitable for digital image databases. Users can enjoy viewing digitized maps as many times as they want without touching physical surfaces, and digital image archives are thus free from damage or deterioration. If maps are not used but just being stored, they may be meaningless. Digitized geographical information can open the sources for a variety of capabilities and utilization. Developed as part of the Rare Book Image Database Project at the NDL, the Dai Nihon enkai yochi zenzu has several varieties of search functions and image displays, such as cross-referencing within the Project and detailed annotations. In addition to the list of sheets of the large-scale map, it contains a comprehensive geographical name index for old place names, current place names by municipal levels, and natural place names. One may find the place name list useful because it displays the whole contents at a time, which are arranged by the Japanese fifty syllables, while natural place names are organized by categories such as mountains, rivers, islands, lakes, and capes. One can also jump to the whole map divided into three sections by clicking images consisting of combined maps, full-sized, and enlargement of partial map images.

**Dai Nihon enkai yochi zenzu**

(Complete Survey of the Japanese Coast) (National Diet Library)

The Dai Nihon enkai yochi zenzu (Complete Survey of the Japanese Coast), the first geographical survey maps of Japan, were made by Tadatika Ino (1745-1818), and are known as “Ino Maps” in general. They consist of three hand-produced sets in three scales: a large-scale set (1:26,000, originally consisting of 214 sheets), a medium-scale set (1:216,000, originally consisting of 64 sheets), and a small-scale set (1:432,000, originally consisting of three sheets). Many sheets of the large-scale map (the most detailed) have been destroyed in fires, and only about sixty survive in Japan. Fortunately, however, 206 sheets (later verified as 207) of the Ino large-scale map were discovered at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. last year. Coincidentally it was the bicentennial anniversary of the date when Ino Tadatada began surveying all of Japan. Currently, a homecoming exhibition is under development, and meanwhile one can view parts of this Ino map through digital archives.

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**Premodern Antique Map and Drawing Map Collection (University of Tokushima Library)**
http://www.lib.tokushima-u.ac.jp/~archive/index.html

The Premodern Antique Map and Drawing Map Collection at the University of Tokushima Library features 200 items related to old maps in their premodern rare book collection. The collection includes not only maps of Tokushima but also of Edo, Kyoto, various provinces, and the world, as well as pictorial maps of clans, provinces, counties, villages, and rivers. The digital archive also includes the collection of the Hachisuka Family, the former daimyō of Nagasaki.

**Old Maps of Nagasaki (International Research Center for Japanese Studies)**
http://www.nichibun.ac.jp/graphicsversion/dbase/nagasakiie.htm

The Old Maps of Nagasaki project developed at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken) includes 221 color photographic images whose originals are in the collection of the Nagasaki Municipal Museum. Because of this project so-called “museum items” are now revived as vivid JPEG images and can be easily accessible anywhere and anytime. One can obtain access free of charge (for research use only), though prior registration is required. Functional features of this image database are similar to those of the Database of Early Photographs at Nichibunken, which was introduced in this column in the previous issue of Tsushin. However, it lacks truncation search functions, and as yet no old map image databases developed at any other institutions have such capability. The database has an excellent system structure for a digital image archive, including well-organized and balanced layouts as well as capabilities for browsing, lists, and bibliographies, with a variety of search methods specifically designed for ease of use. In addition, the user’s search history is displayed on the top of the screen. The database has the most functional and comprehensive search capabilities among the old map image archives introduced here. Especially helpful, a free key word search can be entered in both Japanese and English because captions are described in English as well.
The Ashida Antique Map Collection at the Meiji University Library consists of approximately 2,500 items of geographical material, such as maps of Japan, China, Korea, and the world, and topography in the Edo period, collected by Koreto Ashida (1877-1960), a pioneer of Japanese topography. Covering the early period of Edo through the Showa era, over half of the collection is premodern. Regional maps are predominant (over ninety percent), and manuscript maps make up thirty percent of the total. Notable as a compiler of the Dai-Nihon Chishi-Taikei (Japan Topographic Encyclopedia, 40 volumes) (Tokyo: Yūzankaku, 1929-1933), Ashida reflected his scholarship and aesthetics in his collection, which has not only research value but also artistic value as well. Even today Meiji University is continuing an annual budget allocation to maintain and develop their unique collection of old maps. Although it does not have a free key word search, the search keys are organized by both region and chronology, and one can easily retrieve search results by simply clicking the code classified by region and chronology. The database has two types of images: high resolution and medium resolution. It is often said that one needs a wide range of knowledge from sociology and art history through religion to comprehend old maps, because they reflect the creators’ aesthetics, worldviews, and values (Hiroshi Takeda). One of the features to be mentioned about this archive is the comprehensive annotations of background information and bibliographical references. In addition, for those interested in viewpoints and research questions about the collection, reports by the Ashida Antique Map Collection Committee (http://www.lib.meiji.ac.jp/ashida/articles/report-2000/preface.html) might be useful for further study.

**Edo Streets Digital Exhibition (University of Tokyo)**
http://www.lib.u-tokyo.ac.jp/enjikai/enjikai96/index.html

Portable maps made by woodblock printing, which indicated the locations of residential mansions for daimyō and warrior classes, enjoyed their heyday during the Edo period. They were used as practical tools in the everyday lives of people in old Edo. This type of printed maps, called kiriezu, or patch-work maps, are often misleading due to deformation or deletion of detail and are therefore not suitable to serve as a source for accurate geographical data. They do not correspond to current maps of Tokyo. Yet, maps are, in the first place, picture and drawing. The colorful woodblock maps, such as the Owariya version of the patch-work maps, are aesthetic enough for contemporary people to appreciate as a sort of art due to their unique color and abstract design. It is no coincidence that current audiences pay special attention to such maps. The Edo Streets Digital Exhibition developed at the University of Tokyo includes colorful patch-work maps published from the early Edo period through the early Meiji era. Because this digital image archive was originally developed as catalogues for the named exhibition, it has comprehensive commentary on each map. However, it lacks search functions and has only one image resolution. Due to the fact that maps offer unlimited sources of information, and as Edo studies are receiving special attention as a research area in recent years, it would be desirable if this image archive could be transformed into an image database with a variety of search functions and capabilities.

**Walking in Edo-Tokyo with Antique Map (APP Company)**
http://www.app-beya.com/

A CD-ROM production by Keishi Nakagawa, a contemporary graphic designer and illustrator, aiming to view the world of Edo through the Owariya Edo Street Maps, is now available on the market. The uniqueness of this CD-ROM is that one can compare places on the old Edo map and the current Tokyo map by combining old maps and current scientific maps on a computer screen. This epoch-making offline resource provides the pleasure of not only viewing maps but also walking on actual streets on the map to understand geographical information and life in the Edo period. Due to its aspects of game and entertainment, contemporary users who have grown up in a culture with pervasive electronic images will find this CD-ROM satisfying, above and beyond the interesting contents. Viewing back and forth between Edo and Tokyo, which is an unattainable feature through a printed map, it demonstrates descriptive methods and functions achieved only through digital media. Including comparisons with the Owariya Edo Street Maps, Hiroshige’s Edo woodblock prints, landmarks in Edo, and explanation of social conditions and city planning in the Edo period, the CD-ROM is an indispensable tool for exploring the old city. It might be worthwhile to reconstruct and reexperience the premodern world through new technology in the twenty-first century. Perhaps one could gain a greater sense of intimacy towards the protagonists in Edo literature and be able to understand the Edo culture more personally.

**Old Northern Maps Cyber Exhibition (Hokkaido University)**
http://libserv2.lib.hokudai.ac.jp/125/map.html

Due to the importance of maps for national defense, maps were forbidden for foreigners to possess or export in the Edo period. As represented by the Siebold Incident, maps have not been free from political situations and social environments. Hokkaido, formerly called Ezo, had remained unknown for a long time. Even the Matsumae clan who ruled this region did not have an accurate geographical understanding of their territory. Because of Russia’s ambition toward the Ezoichi territory, which grew conspicuous in the late eighteenth centu-
During those days when land survey technology was primitive, maps were often made based on hearsay and guess or assumption. Antique maps, therefore, have been often perceived as reflections of the author’s worldviews. The Asia in World Antique Map project at Osaka University consists of approximately one hundred images of maps published from the seventeenth century through the nineteenth century, covering North East Asia, including Japan, China, Korea, and Siberia. This image archive is invaluable for obtaining the Western geographical views toward Asia and is useful for tracing historical changes. Although it lacks a search engine, the database has a user-friendly search screen. One can retrieve a medium-sized map with bibliographic information by clicking authors and names of maps on a list organized chronologically on the right page, and can directly jump to a full-sized image in a JPEG file. It is interesting that Hokkaido is not included in any maps from the first up to the eighty-fourth included in this database. Also, Japan, Manchuria, and the Kurile Isles made by John Bartholomew, the third generation of the Bartholomews, a well-known family of geographers, shows an accurate map of Japan and Sakhalin, whereas it shows an inferior map of the Korean Peninsula. The Western geographical perception toward East Asia seems to be vague even in the late nineteenth century.

In conclusion, through digital archive activities over the Internet that make valuable rare book materials available for virtual public viewing, old research materials which had been “dead storage” are now being demystified and revived. Such important and valuable materials are now available for everyone and have become approachable in our everyday life. The principle of archiving that embraces “historical heritage and information as common property for all people” can be achieved when such materials are delivered universally to the general public. It has been occasionally said that archival activities in Japan are somewhat behind. Yet, perhaps the IT (Information Technology) revolution can facilitate an expansion of genuine archival activities in Japan rooted in the ordinary citizen’s needs.

(I would like to express my gratitude toward Mr. Yoshiaki Kita at the Office of the Information Systems at Nagasaki University, who provided me with an inspiration for this topic.)
Research and Publication in the Harvard Japanese Studies Community

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


Aviad Raz, Emotions at Work: Normative Control, Organizations, and Culture in Japan and America.


Christine Yano, Tears of Longing: Nostalgia and the Nation in Japanese Popular Song.

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The Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies publishes articles and book reviews on a wide range of topics concerning the humanities in East Asia.

The editors welcome manuscripts on Japan. Authors who are interested in having their work considered should submit two copies with everything (text, block quotations, and notes) double-spaced and notes placed at the end. On matters of style, please consult back issues of HJAS or write to the Editors for a style sheet.

For manuscripts that are accepted, final drafts may be prepared with either Mac or PC programs. No unsolicited book reviews will be accepted.

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

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

Thomas Conlan. In Little Need of Divine Intervention (Cornell East Asia Series, 2001)


Akira Iriye. Heiwa no gurøbaruka e mukete (Globalization and World Peace) (Tokyo: NHK Press, 2001)


Joan Piggot, ed. Capital and Countryside in Japan, 500-1200 (Cornell University Center for East Asian Studies, 2002)


John Solt, ed. An Episodic Festschrift for Howard Hibbett:

Volume 6: “Laughs to Banish Sleep” (Seisuisho, 1623) by Anrakuan Sakuden, introduced and (selections) translated by H. Mack Horton (Hollywood, CA: highmoonoon, 2001)

Volume 7: “District to the North” (Hokusho, dance text first performed in 1818) by Shokusanjin, introduced and translated by Frank Hoff (Hollywood, CA: highmoonoon, 2001)

Volume 8: “Biographies of Limp Dicks in Seclusion” (Naemara in’itsu den, 1768) by Hiraga Gennai, introduced and (excerpt) translated by Lawrence E. Marceau (Hollywood, CA: highmoonoon, 2001)

Elizabeth ten Grotenhuis, ed. Along the Silk Road (Washington: Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, 2002)


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 2002 (sixth annual)
Harvard Graduate Student Conference for Japanese Studies, to be held on Saturday, March 16, 2002. Graduate students are invited to present their research at this multi-disciplinary conference. Last year, twenty-three graduate students from twelve 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 fifteen to twenty minutes.

**DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACTS: 1 February 2002**

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: eodwyer@fas.harvard.edu (Emer O’Dwyer) or dawley@fas.harvard.edu (Evan Dawley)
website http://hcs.harvard.edu/~sjsh

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**A Conference on “Centers and Peripheries in Heian Japan”** will be held at the Barker Center of Harvard University on June 11-13, 2002. The focus of this conference is on the first three centuries of the Heian period (794-1086) In studies of these and other aspects of the period, the theme of “center and periphery” will be used as a way to find common ground for inquiries of various fields.

Anyone is welcome to attend, although pre-registration is requested. To register, send your name, address (department or home), and e-mail contact along with a payment of $25 by May 10, 2002 to:

Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies
Attention: Centers and Peripheries in Heian Japan Conference
319 Coolidge Hall
1737 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

This fee includes abstracts of all the papers, continental breakfasts and lunches for three days as well as a dinner party on June 13, the final day of the conference.

Please direct general inquiries to Stacie Matsumoto at matsumot@fas.harvard.edu or via mail at Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University, 2 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA.

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**RECENT SPECIAL EVENTS**

On October 18, 2001, the seventh 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, Professor Helen Hardacre, Reischauer Institute Professor of Japanese Religions and Society, gave the symposium talk on “Lighting the Darkness Festival: The Kurayami Matsuri in Transition.” The talk presented research from her sabbatical leave in 2000-01 and was accompanied by videography of the festival and shrine which she took while in Japan.

Mr. Hiroyuki Tadokoro, Director of the Japan Forum, followed with poignant remarks in the aftermath of September 11, and then presented the undergraduate Noma-Reischauer Prize to Mr. David Marx for his essay, “Going Ape: 'A Bathing Ape' Street-Wear and the Culture of Fashion for Japanese Youth in the 1990s.” Mr. Marx expressed his gratitude to
Kodansha not only for this prize but also for a previous internship with the company in Tokyo, and briefly described his research. The Noma-Reischauer graduate prize went to Ms. Toshiko Igarashi, who was unable to be present, for her paper, “Where are We Going?: the Process of Change in Japanese Corporate Governance.”

Also in attendance were Mr. Jiro Onoda, General Manager, and Ms. Tomoe Sumi, Assistant Editor, of Kodansha, New York, and the Consul General of Japan in Boston, Tadamichi Yamamoto, members of the Reischauer Institute faculty, staff, visiting scholars, and postdoctoral fellows, as well as Peter Grilli and Rico Mochizuki of the Japan Society of Boston.

The symposium was accompanied by an exhibit by East Asian scholar and photographer Gwendolyn Stewart—five portraits of Edwin Reischauer at home in the 1970s, taken in the very living room in which the symposium was held. Mr. Mark Cyr, landscape Gardner and manager of the Reischauer/Kodansha House, pointed out that the saplings visible through the window in the photographs were now sturdy trees on the House’s front lawn.

From the Editor

HEROIC SCHOLARSHIP! CHARLES BOXER, A UNIQUE LIFE

Academic work is for the most part mundane and middle-class, particularly in a globalizing university world increasingly oriented to quasi-corporate managerialism. Historical moments have occurred, however, when the lives of people who might be called scholars have been intensely adventurous. In Japanese studies, one thinks of the Europeans who approached Japan in the sixteenth century, or even of the late nineteenth century travelers who approached Nippon as a mysterious and unmodernized land. And even only a short time ago, living through the recent turn of the century, we have had Charles R. Boxer (1904-2000), soldier, historian, teacher, book collector, traveller, bon vivant, and spy: possibly (as one reviewer referred to him) “the last of the breed.” He has become the subject of an unusual biography by Dauril Alden (a professor in Portuguese and Brazilian studies at the University of Washington), entitled Charles R. Boxer: An Uncommon Life (Lisbon: Fundaçao Oriente, 2001; 616 pages).

Born in an aristocratic family with a paternal tradition of military service, Boxer studied at Sandhurst (the traditional English prep school for future officers). Out of personal interest he began to absorb himself in languages, especially Dutch and Portuguese, and showed remarkable youthful interests in Asian history and imperial history, the collection of rare printed materials for research, and serious historical writing. He was assigned by the British military to Japan during 1930-33, where he learned Japanese, experimented with arts such as kendō, and collected books and antiques.

Posted to the East again to Hong Kong in 1937, he carried out military intelligence work, traveled in China, and made a first marriage in 1939. But he also became acquainted with an American writer, Emily Hahn, with whom he began a love affair in 1940 which resulted in a child. But Hong Kong was standing in the path of Japanese army movements into Southeast Asia, and despite its defensive preparations the British colony quickly fell in late 1941. During the brief fighting Boxer was seriously wounded by a bullet. Confined as a prisoner of war, he was nursed and supported by Hahn, who remained in the city as civilian under conditions of great difficulty until September 1942 when she and the baby were repatriated from Hong Kong.

Boxer remained in the POW camp. He was respected by the Japanese officers because of his linguistic and scholarly knowledge and was able to assist other prisoners. However, in 1943 he was caught in a crackdown due to his participation in prison resistance activities. Afterwards, until the end of the war, he endured harsh punishments, including periods of solitary confinement and, just before the defeat of Japan, near starvation on the limited prison rations.

In 1945 he was reunited with Hahn, who had become famous as a writer in the USA during the war years. In the next year he returned to Japan, where he was welcomed by Japanese friends and was able to recover much of the personal research library which had been stolen from him in Hong Kong by the Japanese army. Returning to England on the assumption that the English military would reassign him to the Orient, Boxer found instead a hesitancy (he was physically handicapped due to his war wound). At about the same time, however, he received an unforeseen invitation to occupy a prestigious chair in Portuguese...
studies (the Camoens Professorship) at the University of London.

Thus Boxer left the military and entered the world of formal academics. He served as Camoens Professor continuously between 1953 and 1967, and thereafter practiced as an itinerant scholar and lecturer, especially in the USA, until 1979. He expanded his grand intellectual reach, growing from a regional historian to a global one who dealt with the Portuguese and Dutch empires. His famous book _The Christian Century in Japan, 1549-1650_ was only the first of a cluster of scholarly monographs which broke new ground in historical description and ensured his permanent reputation.

By the time Boxer stopped writing, he had authored over 330 books and articles and had taught and spoken around the world. (This despite the fact that he never learned to use a typewriter and was dependent on professional typists the whole time!)

Few academics may be in a position to—or may need to!—emulate the career of such a one as Charles Boxer. Yet, like all exceptional experience, and perhaps notably when set against the ordinary run of school routines in any society, his biography is likely to remain a source of fascination.

—Galen Amstutz
### Japan Forum/ Events:  Spring 2002

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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