

# DIJ NEWSLETTER

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30

Information from the German Institute for Japanese Studies

## Gender, Race and Culture in Wartime Ideologies

by Andrea Germer

**W**hat role did the ideas and ideologies of gender, race and culture play in the German and Japanese history of World War II? How did these ideologies interrelate? And how did they find their actual expression? The first whole day workshop in the new premises of the DIJ in Yotsuya (organisation: Andrea Germer, DIJ, and Ulrike Wöhr, Hiroshima City University), which took place on 9 December 2006, dealt with these questions of modern history, in particular with the war history of both countries, in a comparative approach. Each of these categories—gender, race and culture—is in itself already constituted by complex and wide-ranging conceptual circumstances. Furthermore, the relationship between these categories is characterized by manifold overlapping as well as mutual interpenetration and constitution. Thus, cultural and gender specific attributions, for instance, are central to race ideologies; likewise, concepts of gender always encompass cultural elements; and culture, when understood in the sense of fixed “cultures” beset by tendencies of hierarchical demarcation, constitutes, as Lila Abu-Lughod claimed, a follow-up concept of “race”.

Historical Japanese studies of the last two decades has dedicated itself comprehensively to the history and prehistory of the relations between Germany and Japan during World War II and seminal findings have been presented on both the political-military as well as on several cultural aspects of these relations. However, publications on this topic so far have tended to depict a world in which the actors were exclusively male. Neither the role of women and the significance of the propaganda-marked images of men and women has been considered as a central theme, nor has the category of gender been considered to be relevant for the history of nationalism and war. The specific differences with regard to

ethnic and racist ideologies, too, have gained little attention. This shortcoming is in stark contrast to both the wealth of research findings available for both countries on the history of women and even the gender history of men during the wars, and the far-reaching theoretical reflections on the interrelations between gender and nationalism, elaborated through gender studies over the last twenty years.

After 1945, women in Germany and Japan have often been stylised by historical science into mere “victims” of fascism and the war. It was feminist gender studies that first raised the question of the responsibility of women and of women as “perpetrators”. The question of whether women were primarily victims or perpetrators has also triggered heated debates among feminist historians in both countries. In Germany, these debates (joined by historians from the US) reflect above all the feminist controversy about “equality” and “difference”. In Japan, these debates (with contributions by Zainichi Korean historians) deal primarily with the relation of “gender” to “nation” and “ethnicity”. Meanwhile, in the course of these debates, the victim-perpetrator paradigm per se has been called into question.

The DIJ workshop dealt with the origins and the background of gender ascriptions and their significance for the politico-social system in both countries respectively. In the women’s or gender history on German-Japanese relations before and during the war, it is above all the influence and model of German institutions (e.g., national women’s associations) and German legislation (e.g., eugenic laws) that play a major role for the situation in Japan. Thus, the streamlining of all women’s organizations in Germany under the Nazi regime served as the model in Japan for the centralization of women’s organizations into the Dai Nippon Fujinkai, the Greater Japan

Women’s Association. Moreover, writings aimed at a Japanese readership by German women living in Japan at that time, as well as discussion of German gender-role models featured in Japanese women’s magazines—both of which were examined by Ulrike Wöhr—highlight influences on a cultural level. In addition, these texts also reveal cultural discourse strategies that draw upon modes of reception of an idealized Western “Other” since the Meiji period. On the other hand, Noriyo Hayakawa (Meiji Daigaku) demonstrated how Japanese women in Manchuria took up a position of cultural superiority towards their Chinese servants, acting and directing their disciplinary strategies towards an Eastern “Other” imagined to be in need of cultural development.

The predominant positions in German and Japanese historiography on the role of women during the war were presented in the contributions by Jill Stephenson (University of Edinburgh) and Andrea Germer, who expounded the main problems of these interpretations. Thus, Stephenson questioned the

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Picture 1, left: Photograph of the Frankfurt Fashion Institute (founded in 1933), one of four such Institutes that served the propaganda concept of “German fashion”. Picture 2, right: The elegant and functional overalls were reproduced in the Japanese magazine Fujin Gahō (1940, 11) and interpreted as a part of the “Movement for the Beautification of Factories”. This German ideal of fashionable and highly productive women workers in the armaments industry was propagated in Japanese magazines to be the model for the organisation of factory work in Japan. (Photo, left: Max Göllner, Archiv Frankfurter Modeamt Historisches Museum Frankfurt am Main; Photos, right: Ochanomizu Toshokan, Tokyo)

inactivity of German women, repeatedly postulated in many research works, by drawing attention to a non-critical reception in these works of official employment statistics that apparently did not include the many kinds of unpaid jobs in family businesses, for example, and Germer differentiated the all-encompassing significance of motherhood at that time, postulated in the research work on Japan.

The workshop focused on the representations and, in particular, on visual strategies in the mediation of ideological messages. After the term ‘pictorial turn’ started to circulate in the US around the beginning of the 1990s, historical studies of visual culture have now become accepted in the German science of history too, as was shown by last year’s 46th Deutsche Historikertag [German Historian’s Conference], held in Constance (2006) under the motto “Geschichtsbilder”. Visual history, however, refers to more than just the science of images in art history or the history of the visual media. It rather encompasses the practice of visual self representation, the representation and appropriation of the world, as well as the visual mediality of experience and history (Gerhard Paul: Visual History. Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2006).

In the workshop, the contributions by Kei Chiba (Chiba Daigaku), Martha Caspers (Historical Museum, Frankfurt), Akihisa Kawabata (Waseda Daigaku) and Andrea Germer (DIJ) concentrated on the historical medium of the image, with which ideolog-

ical messages in Germany and Japan were conveyed, culturally mediated and transferred between the two countries.

As an example of such transfer, Caspers presented national-socialist fashion photography, which had been reproduced in Japanese women magazines and contributed in both countries



to the image of a modern, advanced regime culture (see pictures 1 and 2).

In his study, Kawata pointed to the different uses of visual identification symbols in Japan and Germany, dominated in the case of Japan by symbolic objects such as the Japanese sword (*Nihontō*), and in the case of Germany by portraits of Hitler as part of a personality or leadership cult.

Chiba’s lecture dealt with the visual metaphorical representation of Japan as the mother of Asia within the ideology of the “Greater East Asia Co-Prosperty Sphere” (see picture 3). Chiba warned against the political instrumentalisation of motherhood representations and ideologies, drawing attention to recent tendencies in politics to use motherhood symbols. The Koizumi Cabinet, in its discussions to find an alternative to the Yasukuni

Picture 3: Bas-relief by Hinago Jitsuzō on a monument built in Miyazaki-city in 1940 that symbolises the “Eight Corners of the World under One Roof” (hakkō ichiu). The woman with the mirror can be understood to depict the sun goddess Amaterasu Omikami and represents Japan as the mother of the three children representing (from left to right) China, Manchuria and Japan as indicated by their clothes.

(Photo: Mitama Takashi: *Aru tō no monogatari: Yomigaeru Hinago Jitsuzō no sekai.* Miyazaki, 2002)



Pictures of “Dolls from the Co-prosperity Sphere” depict Japanese ohinasama dolls in a prominent size and position (picture 4, above) and dolls from other East-Asian countries on the following pages (picture 5, below). While claiming the superiority of Japanese cultural products in text and composition, the cultural connection and heritage of toys of the “Greater East Asia Co-Proprosperity Sphere” is emphasized. The pictorials suggest an image of cultural diversity and harmony effectively hiding the ongoing violent subjugation and exploitation of the colonies. (Photos: Nippon Fujin, 1, 5, March)



Shrine, had mentioned the sculpture “Mother with Dead Son”, a symbol of motherhood by Käthe Kollwitz, on display in Berlin’s Neue Wache. In the case of the Japanese state, Chiba argues, choosing a figure of the like would mean preventing a sincere investigation into Japan’s wartime past.

Germer, in her contribution, compared the visual representation of female gender roles in the organs of national women’s associations in Germany and Japan in the 1940s. She contrasted the interrelation of racist and gender ideologies in German representations of motherhood with the comparatively diverse and gender-egalitarian representations of Japanese role models, as well as with the representation of Japan’s role as a cultural pioneer as seen in seemingly harmless images (see picture 4, 5) from the “Greater East Asia Co-Proprosperity Sphere”. Here pictures blur the reality of the forceful colonization of East Asia. In this visual narration, culture does not serve as a successor but as a substitute concept of “race”, because hierarchies are not justified by race ideologies but instead are culturally mediated.

The recent investigation into a visual politico-cultural history could in the future also initiate a change of perspective in the study of German-Japanese relations, in the course of which the category of “gender”, the role of women in the German-Japanese transfer of culture, as well as the structural parallels and differences between the two countries during World War II and its pre-war background will be considered in more detail than they have been until now.

For more detail on the workshop program, please visit our Homepage at: [http://www.dijtokyo.org/?page=event\\_detail.php&p\\_id=466](http://www.dijtokyo.org/?page=event_detail.php&p_id=466).

## CURRENT RESEARCH

### PhD projects

**Human Rights Education in Japan according to the *United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education 1995–2004: Design and Implementation of the National Plan of Action for Human Rights Education and Didactic Approaches***

**A** sound knowledge about human rights and an understanding of accordant codes of practice are of crucial importance in implementing these rights

as well as securing them. Prominent target groups for human rights education are, on the one hand, persons with competences relevant to the protection of human rights, such as health professionals or police officers, and, on the other hand, persons in particular need of protection, such as patients or minors. The agenda of the *UN Decade for Human Rights Education* appealed to the members of the international community to investigate domestic conditions of human rights, create human rights related educational opportunities on a larger societal scale, offer both vocational training and continuing education for particular target groups, as well as solutions to deal with specific human rights related issues. Japan joined the *UN Decade*: Major domestic policies comprise, for instance, the publication of white papers on the state of human rights education and the issuance of human rights related laws. Inter- and intra-prefectural networks were established to facilitate information exchange and to coordinate measures specific to human rights education; the concept of Education for Integration (*dōwa kyōiku*) was related to that of Human Rights Education (*jin-ken kyōiku*). In addition, the conditions of formal education were evaluated to develop teaching/learning strategies significant to human rights education.

In her PhD project Bettina C. Rabe attempts to describe the main features of human rights related domestic policies during the *UN Decade*, and to analyse teaching/learning contents of a defined sample of junior high school textbooks. Criteria for qualitative content analysis will have to be constructed in accordance with national requirements as well as with international standards. Since we are now just beginning to develop criteria and rules for benchmarking didactic approaches to human rights education on an international level, this research will contribute to the framing of meaningful evaluative patterns from the vantage point of qualitative analysis.

#### Documents of the Bakumatsu period (1853–1868). *Kawaraban* in Edo

Media historical discourses, particularly concerning the pre-Meiji period, are still rare in western Japanese studies. Against this backdrop, Sabine Haensgen's PhD project tries to create an awareness of the existence of commercial, yet unauthorised, news pamphlets in Japan, written for mass consumption before westernised newspapers appeared. This project focuses on *kawaraban*, (insufficiently translated as "tile prints" in German and "commer-

cial newsheets" in English), published during their peak of production between 1853 and 1868 in Edo.

The vast range of contents covered and their multifarious appearances cause a broad spectrum of diverse printings, while differences between them and distinctions to other genres often cannot be made explicit. Therefore a categorisation of subject matters and stylistic features is indispensable in formulating a definition as precise as possible. A media analysis will be done in order to examine contents, structures, aesthetic forms as well as the different functions of *kawaraban*. This analysis will be qualitative and the examined samples will serve as the basis for a general concept. Besides the immediate aspects of the leaflets, contextual elements such as institutional conditions, *kawaraban*-related persons, as well as similar or comparable media that influenced the production and distribution will also be examined.

## DIJ EVENTS

### Visit by Federal Minister of Education and Research Dr. Annette Schavan

(October 29, 2006)

On 29 October, the Federal Minister of Education and Research Dr. Annette Schavan visited the DIJ in its new quarters where she was briefed on the research focus "Challenges of Demographic Change." Dr Schavan was accompanied by the German ambassador Hans-Joachim Daerr and a delega-

tion of lawmakers, government officials and representatives of Germany's major organisations of science and research.

## DIJ PUBLICATIONS



Junko Ando, Irmela Hijiya-Kirschner, Matthias Hoop: *Japanische Literatur im Spiegel deutscher Rezensionen* [Japanese literature as it is mirrored in German reviews] (German Institute for Japanese Studies Bibliographical Series, vol. 9). Munich: ludicum, 2006. ISBN 978-3-89129-401-7, 882 pp., hardcover, € 119,-

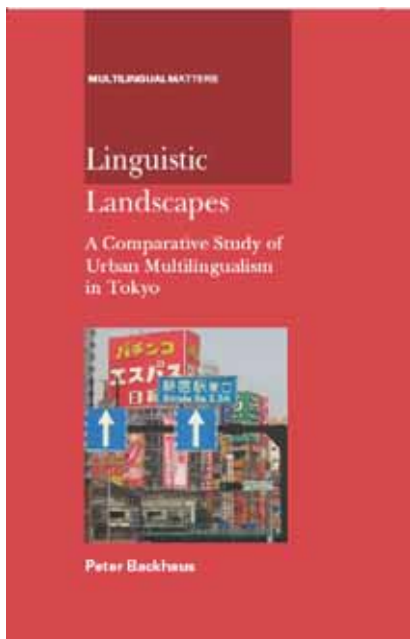
This volume compiles book reviews in full text on translated Japanese literature, modern and pre-modern, which appeared in twelve national daily and weekly newspapers in German speak-



ing countries over the last decades. The compilation aims at providing a basis of material to evaluate the reception of Japanese literature in those print media with widest circulation and opinion shaping function.

The bibliography, thus, provides material for a wide spectrum of research work. It offers basis for studies in literary sociology as well as in cultural sociology or in the academic study of newspapers. It could also serve for studies of intercultural literary reception or of cultural encounters. The imagery would have a useful reservoir of material at hand to elucidate the image of Japan as it is mirrored in the literary reception in specific historical eras, or covering several decades from a diachronic perspective.

Last but not least everybody, be it academicians, journalists or any other curious reader, will find in it a collection of representative reviews on particular authors or individual books; a collection that can be used for a range of different purposes.



**Peter Backhaus:** *Linguistic Landscapes: A Comparative Study of Urban Multilingualism in Tokyo*. Clevedon: Multilingual Matters, 2007. ISBN 1-85359-947-6 (hbk); 1-85359-946-8 (pbk), 160 pp., £ 49.95 / € 19.95

The subject matter of *Linguistic Landscapes* is language on signs. The book develops an analytical framework for examining written language in public space and applies this framework to a sample of 2444 signs recorded in 28 survey areas in central Tokyo. A closer analysis of the data shows that Japan's

much-quoted linguistic homogeneity faces increasing pressure in a globalizing world.

**CONTENTS:** Foreword by Bernard Spolsky • 1. Introduction • 2. Semiotic background and terminology • 3. Previous approaches to the linguistic landscape • 4. Summary • 5. Case study: Signs of multilingualism in Tokyo • 6. Conclusions.



**Florian Coulmas (ed.):** *Language Regimes in Transformation. Future Prospects for German and Japanese in Science, Economy and Politics*. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2007. ISBN 978-3-11-019158-5, 216 pp., € 98,-

Over the past half-century international relations have intensified. Economic relations, commercial exchange, scientific cooperation, university partnerships, student exchange programmes have increased steadily. At the same time, however, interest in foreign languages has been stagnant if not dwindling, eclipsed by the overwhelming importance of English. A significant driving force of globalization, English has been instrumental in the commercialisation and marketisation of the world's languages. As a result, English is becoming the only foreign language learnt and taught.

This is an issue that concerns not only the shaping of international relations, but the future of a number of fully developed languages such as German and Japanese. At this time, both languages belong to the select group of the world's languages that are suitable for scientific communication and, more generally, can be used in all communication domains. However, it

is not clear that German and Japanese can sustain their full functional potential, if their own speakers are using them in certain domains with lesser frequency. The diverging prerogatives of borderless communication in a single language, on one hand, and maintaining highly cultivated all-purpose languages, on the other, are obvious; whether there are any feasible answers to the question of how to reconcile them, however, is not.

In a precise, cross-disciplinary and international way, this volume documents the impact—particularly in science and technology—of the massive expansion of English as the delivery medium in higher education, as well as the increasing conceptualisation and organisation of the scientific and economic domains of public life according to categories and systems derived from English. Since these issues concern not just sociologists of language who study the changing functional domain allocation of languages, this volume brings together experts from a variety of fields, including sociolinguistics, pedagogy, philosophy and political science. This breadth of perspective helped to reveal the multifaceted nature of the ongoing adjustment of language regimes to today's demand for international communication, the permeability of national borders, the fate of minorities, immigration and the consequent pluralization of the social fabric.

It is less than clear whether English as the international lingua franca of science and economic transactions should or shouldn't be welcomed. This book is meant as a contribution to the ongoing debate scrutinizing and carefully weighing arguments from both points of view.

**CONTENTS:** T. Katsuragi: On language policy in the age of globalization with good governance • K. Ehlich: Thrifty monolingualism and luxuriating plurilingualism? • N. Gottlieb: Challenges for language policy in today's Japan • U. Ammon: Is the promotion of languages such as German and Japanese abroad still appropriate today? • T. Carroll: Japanese and German language education in the UK: problems, parallels, and prospects • F. Inoue: Changing economic values of German and Japanese • P. Heinrich: The debate on English as an official language in Japan • J. Maher: Remains of the day: language orphans and the decline of German as a medical lingua franca in Japan • F. Coulmas: The case for choice – language preferences in Japanese academic publishing • E. Hohenstein: Tokio or Tokyo? Dschudo or Judo? On writing foreign names • K.



Hara: Effects of globalization on minority languages in Europe – focusing on Celtic languages.



Matthias Koch, Sebastian Conrad (eds.): *Johannes Justus Rein. Briefe eines deutschen Geographen aus Japan 1873–1875* [Letters from Japan by a German Geographer: Johannes Justus Rein, 1873–1875] (German Institute for Japanese Studies Monograph Series, vol. 40). Munich: Iudicium, 2006. ISBN 978-3-89129-851-0, 423 pp., hardcover, € 52,-

The explorer Johannes Justus Rein (1835–1918) conducted a research expedition on behalf of the Prussian Ministry of Commerce between 1873 and 1875 and travelled for about twenty months freely as nobody before him throughout Japan. Rein visited an area encompassing almost three dozen of the modern 47 Japanese prefectures and undertook in situ field surveys about traditional industries and handicrafts.

In fact, Rein explored not only traditional industries and handicrafts (paper, leather, ceramics, silk, lacquer, iron, copper, bronze, textiles, wood products), but planned from the very beginning to go far beyond his mission in its narrow sense to write a comprehensive book about the geography of Japan on the basis of his expedition and complementary studies.

Rein obtained a broad picture of the newly unified Japanese Empire, which found itself politically, economically, and socially at a major crossroad due to the pursued modernization and upheavals after the dissolution of the domains and the establishment of prefectures (*haihan*

*chiken*). Rein explored the main islands Honshû, Kyûshû, and Shikoku, and several smaller islands. A steamship journey to the then minimally developed northern main island Ezo (Hokkaidô) was planned originally, but in the end could not be realized.

After his return, Rein belonged to the first generation of professors at geographical institutes which the German government had ordered to be newly established at all Prussian universities in the 1870s. Rein gained the first professorship in geography at the University of Marburg (1876–1883) and after that he was appointed to succeed Ferdinand von Richthofen as ordinarius of geography at the University of Bonn (1883–1910). Rein published the results of his research expedition in the two-volume masterwork *Japan nach Reisen und Studien im Auftrage der Königlich Preussischen Regierung dargestellt* (1881, 1886) which belongs to the pioneer works of Japanese studies in Europe. Rein became also well-known to a larger readership in the United Kingdom, the United States of America and beyond because his masterpiece was translated into English (1884, 1889) shortly after its publication in Germany.

The letters Rein sent from Japan to his wife and children more than 130 years ago contribute to the history of German-Japanese relations and the history of geography. They provide vivid insights into the life of a Prussian family father and explorer in a turbulent period both for Germany, after its unification in 1871, and Japan, after the Meiji Restoration of 1868, when either nation considered itself to be a latecomer on the world stage of imperialism.

CONTENTS: Vorwort von Irmela Hijjya-Kirschner • Danksagung • Summary • 要約 • Zusammenfassung • Einleitung • Johannes Justus Rein – eine biographische Skizze • Reins Japan-Reise im Auftrag des preußischen Handelsministeriums • Rein als Geographieprofessor in Marburg und Bonn • Rein als Geograph im Zeitalter des Kolonialismus und Imperialismus • Zwischen Richthofens Geomorphologie und Regionaler Geographie und Ratzels Anthropogeographie und Politischer Geographie • Reins Stellung in der deutschen Geographie • Rein als Vorläufer der Japanwissenschaft • Japan und die Weltgeographie • Rein und der Übergang zur modernen Geographie in Japan • Verzeichnis der Lehrveranstaltungen Reins in Marburg • Verzeichnis der Lehrveranstaltungen Reins in Bonn • Schriftenverzeichnis von Johannes Justus Rein • Literaturverzeichnis • Die Briefe von Johannes Justus Rein aus Japan an seine Frau

Elise, 1873–1875 • Anhang (Abkürzungen • Bildnachweise • Index • Japan-Karten).



Andreas Moerke, Anja Walke (eds.): *Japans Zukunftsindustrien* [Japan's future industries]. Berlin, Heidelberg, New York: Springer, 2006. ISBN 12-3-540-29806-1, 375 pp., € 59.95

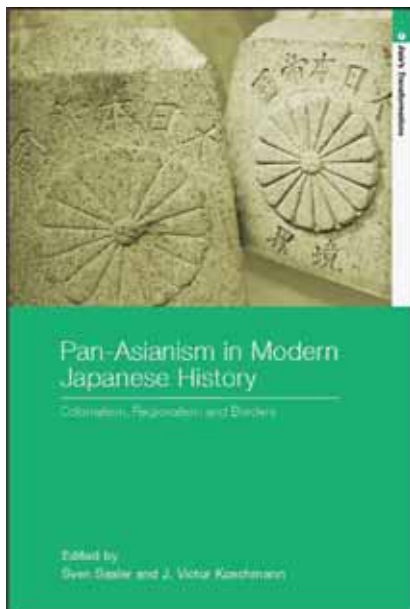
What course has Japan set for its future? In which future fields will Japanese companies take part and in what role – and which developments has Japan obviously missed out on? This book examines Japan's position in industries and technologies that are of major importance for economic development in the future.

The book focuses on the basic conditions as well as a range of future industries and technologies from many different fields: Life Science (e.g., bio technology, medical technology), Miniaturization and Automation (e.g., nano technology, robotics), Information and Communication (e.g., mobile solutions, computer entertainment), Transport (e.g., fuel cell technology, intelligent transport systems) and Services (e.g., finance innovations, fashion).

Japan's future industries is a compendium for all who want to get an overview of the current trends in Japanese business.

CONTRIBUTIONS: **Grundlagen:** W. Pascha: Gesamtwirtschaftliche Megatrends und die Aussicht auf dynamische Zukunftsindustrien in Japan • K. Cuhls: Identifikation von Zukunftstechnologien in Japan • A. Nabor: Finanzierung von Zukunftstechnologien in Japan; **Mensch und Gesundheit:** A.

Walke: Life Sciences und Biotechnologie in Japan • J. Mahlich: Die japanische Pharmaindustrie • T. Goydke: Der Medizintechnikmarkt in Japan; **Miniaturisierung und Automatisierung**; I. Wiczorek: Der Nanotechnologiemarkt in Japan • J. Maurer: Japans Chipindustrie • P. Gudorf: Der Wachstumsmarkt für Robotertechnologie in Japan; **Information und Kommunikation**: A. Müller, M. Seibert: Mobile Solutions in Japan • C. Winkler: Die japanische Videospieleindustrie; **Transport**: H. Kunimi: Brennstoffzellentechnologie und Brennstoffzellenfahrzeuge in Japan • A. Moerke: Intelligente Transportsysteme (ITS) • S. Caspary: Die japanische Luftfahrtindustrie; **Services**: M. Schulz: Bankenkonsolidierung und Finanzinnovation in Japan • S. Pick: Die japanische Modeindustrie • H. Meyer-Ohle: Veränderungen im japanischen Distributionssystem.



Sven Saaler, J. Victor Koschmann (eds.): *Pan-Asianism in Modern Japanese History. Colonialism, Regionalism and Borders*. London, New York: Routledge, 2007. ISBN 978-0-415-37215-2 (hbk); 978-0-415-37216-9 (pbk), 304 pp., \$ 150,- / \$ 39.95

Regionalism has played an increasingly important role in the changing international relations of East Asia in recent decades, with early signs of integration and growing regional cooperation. This volume, the result of a DIJ conference in 2002 and edited by former DIJ research associate Sven Saaler and J. Victor Koschmann from Cornell University, analyses various historical approaches to the construction of a regional order and a regional identity in East Asia. It explores the ideology of

Pan-Asianism as a predecessor of contemporary Asian regionalism, which served as the basis for efforts at regional integration in East Asia, but also as a tool for legitimizing Japanese colonial rule. In all cases, the mobilization of the Asian peoples occurred through a collective regional identity established from cohesive cultural factors such as language, religion, geography and race. In discussing Asian identity, the book succeeds in bringing historical perspective to bear on approaches to regional cooperation and integration, as well as analysing various utilizations and manifestations of the pan-Asian ideology.

The concept of a “pan”-movement originated within the framework of European history and international relations. However, since the end of the nineteenth century, terms such as “Asian solidarity” (*Ajia rentai*), “Raising Asia” (*kô-A*), “Asianism” (*Ajia-shigi* or *Ajia-shugû*), “Pan-Asianism” (*Han-Ajia-shugi* or *Zen-Ajia-shugi*) and “Asian Monroe-ism” (*Ajia Monrô-shugi*) have had a wide circulation in Japanese discussions of foreign policy-making as well as in the discourses leading to the construction of modern identities in East Asia. Pan-Asianism developed in the discursive space between already established national identities on the one hand and possibilities for transnational cooperation on the other. It appeared in numerous forms, as the variety of terms in use demonstrates, and it was also instrumentalized for different purposes within international politics. In all its historical manifestations, Pan-Asianism emphasized above all the need for Asian unity, mostly vis-à-vis the encroachment of Western colonialism and imperialism, and at the same time led to an emphasis of indigenous traditions. While Pan-Asianism was originally directed against Western influence and colonialism, it also functioned as a tool for legitimizing Japan’s claim for hegemony in East Asia and Japanese colonial rule, i.e., as a way for Japan to deal with the emerging nationalisms of other Asian nations.

The contributions in this volume, covering the history of Pan-Asianism in Japan from the 1880s to the present, introduce, for the first time in a Western language, Japanese Pan-Asianism as an important facet of modern East Asian identity as well as a major force in the history of international relations in East Asia.

CONTRIBUTIONS: S. Saaler: Pan-Asianism in modern Japanese history: overcoming the nation, creating a region, forging an empire; **Part I: Creat-**

**ing a regional identity: ideal and reality**: K. Miwa: Pan-Asianism in modern Japan: nationalism, regionalism and universalism • M. Kuroki: The Asianism of the Kôa-kai and the Ajia Kyôkai: reconsidering the ambiguity of Asianism • L. Narangoa: Universal values and Pan-Asianism: the vision of Ômotokyô • Y. Katô: Pan-Asianism and national reorganization: Japanese perceptions of China and the United States, 1914–19; **Part II: Regionalism, nationalism and ethnocentrism**: C. W. A. Szpilman: Between Pan-Asianism and nationalism: Mitsukawa Kametarô and his campaign to reform Japan and liberate Asia • D. Stegewerns: Forgotten leaders of the interwar debate on regional integration: introducing Sugimori Kôjirô • M. A. Schneider: Were women Pan-Asianists the worst? Internationalism and Pan-Asianism in the careers of Inoue Hideko and Inoue Masaji; **Part III: Creating a regional hegemony: Japan’s quest for a “new order”**: R. H. Brown: Visions of a virtuous manifest destiny: Yasuoka Masahiro and Japan’s Kingly Way • J. N. Kim: The temporality of empire: the imperial cosmopolitanism of Miki Kiyoshi and Tanabe Hajime • K. M. Doak: The concept of ethnic nationality and its role in Pan-Asianism in Imperial Japan; **Part IV: Pan-Asianism adjusted: wartime to postwar**: J. V. Koschmann: Constructing destiny: Rôyama Masamichi and Asian regionalism in wartime Japan • E. Oguma: The postwar intellectuals’ view of “Asia” • K. Dennehy: Overcoming colonialism at Bandung, 1955 • R. Hatsuse: Pan-Asianism in international relations: prewar, postwar, and present.

## WORKING PAPER

06/9 Andrea Germer: *Staat und Nation: Zum Verhältnis von Feminismus und Nationalstaat in Japan, 1918–1945* [State and Nation: On the Relationship of Feminism and the Nation-state in Japan, 1918–1945]

Historical research on nationalism in Japan has shown how different concepts of an integrative political state and a genealogical ethnic nation competed since the Meiji period. Initially, concepts of cultural and ethnic nationalism served for populist attacks against the political state in modern Japan; by the 1920s, however, they were also utilized by the state to serve functions of identification with and



justification of imperial Japan. In this paper, Andrea Germer analyzes how some feminists since the Taishō period have directed their demands towards the Japanese political state (as a welfare state) and how others expounded anti-statist views and claimed the ethno-cultural nation as the backup for their feminist agenda. In the 1930s and 1940s Japan, the convolution of ethno-national rhetoric with welfare state's gendered politics and the partial integration of women into political offices were two important strategic elements that explain the subsequent cooptation of different groups of feminists by the wartime government.

## CONFERENCE REPORTS

### International Symposium

**"The Dynamics of Civil Societies in a Multicultural World"**

(Tokyo, 25–26 November 2006)

On November 25 and 26, 2006, Keio University hosted an international symposium on "The Dynamics of Civil Societies in a Multicultural World." This symposium was part of the larger research project "Designing toward the Ordering of Political Society in a Multi-Cultural and Pluri-Generational World," which assesses the role that civil society plays in politics. Gabriele Vogt of the DIJ took part in this symposium as a commentator on the panel "Making Civil Society Work". The papers in this panel were given by Rieko Kage (Kobe University), Robert Pekkanen (University of Washington), and Kim Reiman (Georgia State University).

## BOOK REVIEW

Yokoyama Yoshinori: *Amerika to kurabenai Nihon. Sekaihatsu no ,sen-shin kadai' o jiriki kaiketsu suru* [America no longer a yardstick for Japan. Solving a 'seniority problem' by our own efforts]. Tokyo: Firstpress, 2006, 186 pp., ¥ 1,300 (ISBN 978-4903241173)

横山禎徳『アメリカと比べない日本』、ファーストプレス

Ever since the end of World War II, the United States was for Japan the measure of all things. This was not just because the Americans vanquished the East Asian upstart, but because the termination of this great war marked the beginning of American predominance. Military power, economic clout, science and technology, diplomacy—in all fields where nations compete, the US was ahead of the pack by a large measure throughout the second half of the 20th century, even though its leading position was obscured for some time by a nuclear standoff with the Soviet Union. The Japanese reacted to this situation by playing the catch-up game and emulating their former foe. They have been quite successful at this.

In the book under review here, Yoshinori Yokoyama, a retired business consultant who lives in France and Japan, analyses the present state of Japan's resurrection from the ashes of defeat to become what he calls "a non-hegemonic big power." That Japan—notwithstanding the sluggish "lost decade" that wasn't really lost but saw much restructuring—is an economic giant is common knowledge; that its military is formidable too, less so. Japan is also one of the most highly educated countries in the world, a prerequisite for success as a knowledge-based economy. In research and development, Japan has steadily improved its position to become a world leader in patent registrations in many fields. In some fields, such as supercomputers, Japan is the sole competitor of the US, the EU having dropped out of the race.

Different nations, argues Yokoyama, have different strengths. On balance Japan has used its assets well during the last half century. One of the most impressive indicators of its accomplishments is its healthy and ageing population which has transformed, more quickly than in any other country, into a hyperaged society. And this is what the title of Yokoyama's book refers to. Clearly, gains in life expectancy are the result of a successful social system. However, population ageing also brings in its wake a host of problems that need to be addressed if the well-being of society is to be sustained. Japan has surpassed other industrial nations on this measure, especially the United States, which can no longer therefore serve as a yardstick for finding solutions.

Japan—and this is the upshot of Yokoyama's discussion—must remember its own strengths and make an effort to reinvent itself in order to counter the collective longevity risk. To this end, a new scientific discipline should be developed which he calls "social

system design." Although still rudimentary, the sketch of the integrative system's theoretic approach he has in mind, presented in the final chapter of his book, offers an alternative view to the piecemeal social reforms undertaken by the Japanese government, which cannot avert the coming ills of the hyperaged society. Ageing, Yokoyama argues, both creates the necessity and provides the opportunity for Japan to free itself from the lure of the American way of life. Self-reliance is indispensable for drafting a blueprint for the future.

This is a fresh voice in a debate that has only just begun.

(Florian Coulmas)

Shigeru Kajiwara: *Rōkaiwa* [Old Age Conversation]. Tokyo: Tōyō Keizai Shinpōsha, 2006, 199 pp., ¥ 1,200 (ISBN 4-492-04253-92)

梶原しげる『老会話』、東洋経済新報社

Noriko Shibata: *Shippairei kara manabu kaigoshoku no tame no komyunikēshon jutsu* [Communication techniques for care professionals: Learning from bad examples]. Tokyo: Chūō Hōki, 2006, 185 pp., ¥ 1,800 (ISBN 4-8058-2668-1)

柴田範子『失敗例から学ぶ介護職のためのコミュニケーション術』、中央法規

The two books under review have in common that they deal with communication with elderly people in Japan. The title of Shigeru Kajiwara's book *Rōkaiwa* can be paraphrased as "old age communication". The term was coined by the author in analogy with *eikaiwa*, English conversation lessons, which have enjoyed great popularity in Japan in recent years. However, in view of Japan's rapidly ageing population Kajiwara claims that the *eikaiwa* age has come to a close. We are now in the age of *rōkaiwa*, a term he defines as "technique to make conversation with elderly people smooth" (p. 8). Emphasizing that almost no popular literature on the topic has been available in Japan so far, Kajiwara understands his book to be an introductory textbook on how to successfully communicate with elderly people, both in domestic and business contexts.

The book consists of three main chapters each focussing on a different domain of linguistic interaction. Chapter 1 deals with the family context and the question of how communication with older family members can be improved. The focus of chapter 2 is on the communicative behaviour towards acquainted and non-acquainted elderly





people that one meets in public. Chapter 3 covers the business sector, thereby providing various examples of how a good command of *rōkaiwa* may be linked to economic success. The three chapters are identical in format, each featuring between 10 and 15 example case studies and a brief summary of do's and don'ts at the end of each example.

The observations are based on Kajiwara's field work in local clubs for elderly people, voluntary organizations, self-help groups and caring institutions, amongst others. In addition, he frequented businesses and shops targeting the older strata of the population, the so-called "silver market." An important location with regard to this last point is the Jizōdōri shopping mall around Sugamo station in northern Tokyo, which is also known as *obāchan no machi* ("granny's town"). The author gives various examples of successful *rōkaiwa* observed in this quarter, including the staff's rephrasing of English-based menu vocabulary in the Sugamo branch of a larger fast food chain. In contrast to the rest of Japan, drinks come in *ko*, *chū* and *dai* size here rather than in *esu* (S), *emu* (M) and *eru* (L).

The scope of Noriko Shibata's book is communication with elderly people in the care sector. Underlining the importance of good communication for the physical and mental well-being of the care receiver, the aim of her book is to help avoid communication problems between caring staff and those in need of care. The book is subdivided into ten chapters dealing with differing care activities. They include greetings, eating and drinking, washing and bathing, recreation activities and communication with the care receiver's family. Each chapter contains between five and ten examples in which a communication problem is depicted, followed by a brief analysis of what went wrong and a *koko ga pointo* ("How to")-section that makes suggestions how the problem could be avoided or resolved.

Some of the questions addressed are as follows: How can a resident of an old people's home be convinced to get

bathed when he refuses to do so? How should staff members answer repeated complaints by a resident that she was given smaller portions for lunch than everyone else? How can one react to people who refuse to take part in recreation activities ("Let's make some origami tulips!") because they feel they are being treated like little children? And how can demented long-term residents who suddenly claim they will now go home be persuaded to stay? Shibata, who has first-hand experience from over ten years of working in the care sector herself, refrains from giving oversimplified answers to these questions. She emphasizes that it is important to be well-informed about the care receiver's physical and mental state and try to see the situation from his or her perspective. She also points out that over-friendliness is detrimental to successful care communication and that the relationship between care giver and care receiver cannot and should not be like a relationship between close friends.

In combination, the two books provide a diversified picture of Japan's elderly that suggests two things: One, being old in Japan these days is not necessarily associated with decrepitude and dependency, though—as a matter of fact—this is part of the story as well, and two, that communication with elderly people is becoming a topic of growing public interest.

(Peter Backhaus)

## OTHER MATTERS / OUTLOOK

### Personnel News

**Ursula Flache**, who has managed the DIJ library since 2003, left the DIJ on 31 December 2006. Alongside working in the library, she was a study group member at the Kokuritsu Rekishi Minzoku Hakubutsukan (National Museum of National History) in Sakura. Together with Claus Harmer, she was re-

sponsible for the creation of the Website "Virtual Exhibition and Catalogue of the Bandō Collection" (<http://bando.dijtokyo.org>). As part of the initiative "Germany in Japan 2005/2006", these pages present the special collection of the DIJ Library to a wide audience for the first time.

**Dr. Maren Godzik** joined the DIJ in November 2006 as a research fellow. Previously, she was a research fellow at the Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies (Department for Japanese Studies) at the University of Bonn. Maren Godzik studied Japanese Studies, Sociology and Oriental Art History at the Universities of Bonn and Kumamoto and at the Tokyo University of Fine Arts and Music. She completed her doctoral thesis on women avant-garde artists of the 1950s and 1960s in 2005.

At the DIJ Maren Godzik will contribute to the institute's research project "Challenges of Demographic Change" with a study on present and future problems concerning homes and housing and concepts and measures of solutions.

**Dr. Annette Schad-Seifert**, Research Fellow at the German Institute for Japanese Studies (Social Sciences) since March 1, 2005, left the Institute on November 30, 2006. She has taken up the position as Professor in the Department for Modern Japanese Studies at the Heinrich-Heine-University in Düsseldorf. Since November 2006, Dr. Schad-Seifert is a member of the elected executive board of the German Association for Social Science Research on Japan.

### DIJ Forum

Christian Kirchner, Professor, Humboldt-University in Berlin: "Comparative Corporate Governance in Japan, China, the USA and elsewhere" (March 15, 2007).

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