

** Sino-Japanese News **

International Sino-Japanese Conference in Beijing. From March 4-7, 1991, the Chinese Association for the Study of the History of Sino-Japanese Relations played host to an international conference in Beijing. The theme of this year's conference was "East Asian Culture and Modernization." In addition to the above association, it was sponsored by Renmin ribao (The People's Daily) and the Chinese Association for Asian-African Development and Exchange, with money from JAL and another Japanese company. There were fourteen Japanese present, of whom two were tebie daibiao 特别代表 (special representatives) or, in plain English, non-academic political invitees; five Koreans, the appearance of one of whom was largely political; and three of us from the United States: myself, Patricia Graham (Hobart and William Smith Colleges), and Tam Yue-him (Macalester College and the Chinese University of Hong Kong). In addition, one came from Hong Kong and one represented Taiwan, although he lives in the United States. There were also well over 100 Chinese in attendance.

After a number of welcoming speeches of little consequence, the foreign visitors were taken en masse to a specially arranged meeting in Zhongnanhai with Premier Li Peng. It was a low point that is hard for this participant to describe. What possible input Li Peng could have for the conference remains a mystery, although television and newspaper reportage (squeezed in among countless, sterile articles and segments on Lei Feng's continuing legacy) of the meeting with the Premier leads one to think that it was he who got the most out of the meeting. A video of the entire conference, including our hand-shaking and question-and-answers ceremonies with Li Peng, was later to be prepared and distributed at a cost of \$200; no one of whom I am aware opted to purchase it.

A rough schedule of the papers presented follows, although it should be noted that a 265-page conference volume was prepared in advance with many more articles in it.

March 4, 1991

Opening welcoming speeches: Yang Zhengguang 楊正光, chairman of the Chinese Association for the Study of the History of Sino-Japanese Relations; Sun Shangqing 孫尚清, vice-chairman of same; Okita Saburō 大来佐武郎, chairman of the policy study group of the Ministry of Home Affairs and former Foreign Minister; Shin T'ae-huan 申泰煥, chairman of the Society for the Advancement of Korean Culture and former head of the National Unification Council; and Nagai Michio 永井道雄, president of International House of Japan and former Education Minister. These were followed by a session, chaired by Zhang Yunfang 張雲方 of the main sponsoring association, of speeches by: Miyazaki Takeshi 宮崎勇, director of research for the Daiwa Company; Ji

Xianlin 季羨林, professor, Beijing University; Nagai Michio; and Zhou Yiliang 周一郎, professor, Beijing University.

During the afternoon while the foreign guests were treated to an audience with Li Peng, the Chinese participants divided into three groups for "free discussion." The topics and chairs are as follows: (1) "East Asian Culture and Modernization," Dong Fanyu 董璠興 and Lou Yulie 樓宇烈; (2) "East Asian Culture in Japan," Yu Xintun 俞辛棒 and Xia Yingyuan 夏元元; and (3) "East Asian Culture in China," Yan Shaotang 嚴紹臺 and Gao Lin 高林.

March 5, 1991

Theme One: The Overall Issue of East Asian Culture and Modernization.

Session One, chaired by Takeuchi Minoru 竹内実, Ritsumeikan University, and Wang Xiaoqiu 王晓秋, Beijing University. Papers by: Dong Fanyu, Zhengfa University, on East Asian culture and the modernization of Japanese legal culture; Kim Yǒngho 金泳鎬, Kyōngbuk 慶北 University, on economics and modernization; Shin T'ae-huan, on Confucian culture and modernization in East Asia; Lou Yulie, Beijing University, on historical responses to modernization in East Asia; Tang Zhongnan 湯重南, World History Institute of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), on the the function of traditional East Asian culture in the modernization process; and Kurawasa Yukihiro 倉沢行洋, Kōbe University, on East and West in world historical perspective.

Session Two, chaired Zhou Qiqian 周啓乾, head of the Japan Research Institute of the Tianjin Academy of Social Sciences. Papers by: Song Yuelin 宋越倫, head of the Japan Research Institute of the Chinese Cultural University of Taiwan, on East Asian culture and modernization as seen from the perspective of the Japanese renaissance; Joshua Fogel, on a critique of modernization theory as applied to East Asia; Takeuchi Minoru, on East Asian culture and the acquisition of Chinese characters; and Tian Huan 田桓, CASS, on Confucianism in East Asian culture and Sino-Japanese modernization.

Theme Two: East Asian Culture in Japan.

Session One, chaired by Wang Jinlin 王金林, Tianjin Academy of Social Sciences, and Inada Masahiro 稲田雅洋, Aichi Kyōiku University. Papers by: Nakashita Masaharu 中下正治, Tōyō University, on Japanese and the modernization process; Tam Yue-him 譚汝謙, on Ōta Kōzō 太田耕造 and his pan-Asianism; Makino Atsushi 牧野篤, National Educational Research Association of Japan, on questions concerning postwar Japanese pedagogy; Xia Yingyuan, on the role of Japanese Confucianism in the modernization process (a marvelous piece centering on the journal

Shibun 斯文 and the writers for it); and Chen Hui 陳暉, Japan Research Institute, CASS, on the influence of traditional East Asian culture on Japanese modernization.

Session Two, chaired by Li Weizhou 李威周, director of the Japan Research Center, Qingdao University, and Nakashita Masaharu. Papers by: Yan Shaotang, Beijing University, on cultural conflict in the early years of Japanese modernization; Ida Masahiro, on the Popular Rights Movement in Japan and traditional East Asian thought; Mizuno Akira 水野明, Aichi Gakuin University, on Fukuzawa Yukichi idea of dat-su-A 脱亜; Togawa Yoshirō 户川芳郎, Tokyo University and presently director of the Beijing Center for Japanese Studies; Chiba Sen'ichi 千葉宣一, Obihiro Chikusan University, on the influence of evolutionary theory on the modernization of Japanese literature; and Liu Rong 劉榮, Dongbei Normal University, on the influence of traditional culture on commerce and modernization.

March 6, 1991

Session Three, chaired by Song Yuelin and Joshua Fogel. Papers by: Pak Ch'un-ho 朴椿浩, Koryō University, on law and modernization; Chen Kekun 陳可焜, editor of the Hong Kong Economic Press Association, on the distinctive role of Hong Kong in the modernization of East Asia; and Zhang Jinsong 張勁松, Liaoning University, on traditional elements in the formation of Japanese modernization ideas.

Theme Three: East Asian Culture in China.

Session Three (continued), chaired by Zhao Jianmin 趙建民, Fudan University. Papers by: Luo Rongqu 羅榮渠, Beijing University, topic misplaced; Lü Naicheng 呂乃澄, China's modernization and traditional culture; Liu Yang 劉洋, Jiaotong University in Shanghai, on traditional Chinese culture and the road toward modernization; and Cheng Baotian 成宝田, Beijing Foreign Languages Normal College, on the same subject.

Theme Four: East Asian Culture Amid the Various Nations of East Asia.

Session Three (continued), chaired by Zhao Wendou 趙文斗 and Togawa Yoshirō. Papers by: Shin Sung-un 辛承雲, Koryō University, given in Korean and lost on this participant; Liu Tianchun 劉天純, CASS, on foreign culture and "Japanization"; Zhao Jianmin, on traditional Chinese culture in the Japanese modernization process; Wang Jinlin, on the international qualities of East Asian and Japanese cultures; Li Weizhou, on contemporary choices made by Japan with respect to East Asian culture; Wang Xiaoqiu, on Li Hongzhang and Mori Arinori with respect to East versus West in the modernization of China and Japan, respectively; Zhou Qiqian, on Japan and the cultures of East and West; and several other much shorter speeches.

As with many conferences, perhaps more than most, the most interesting intellectual, scholarly exchanges took place outside of sessions, over meals or drinks, and generally not during the conference proper. The topic of modernization hardly lends itself as a theme to make for a stimulating conference. The one element that emerged--and it is far from a new idea, to be sure--that was genuinely interesting was the recurrent importance of "traditional" (read: Confucian) themes in the modernizing process, sometimes as elemental to that process and sometimes in response to it. Professor Xia Yingyuan's paper was typical of the best of this sort of work. On the whole, however, the deadly boring topic of the conference itself was only largely, not entirely, to blame for the lack of interest. I have copies of most of the papers and would be happy to provide copies for those interested at, let us say, \$1 per each, to cover copying and mailing costs.

New Sino-Japanese Study Associations in China. As a result of contacts made at the above-mentioned conference and through conversations with Tam Yue-him in Beijing, it now seems that there are eighteen associations for the study of Sino-Japanese relations in China. Among the more recent are two I would like to mentioned here. One is at Hangzhou University where an international conference on the spread of Chinese culture through Korea, Japan, and Vietnam is now being planned. This piece of information came from Professor Wang Baonian 王宝年, vice-director of the Japanese Cultural Research Center there. The other is in Urumchi, Xianjiang; its chairman is Yang Kun 楊昆, and vice-chairman is Abulikemu Aji 阿不力克木·阿吉 (president of Xinjiang Normal University).

New Chinese Journal of Japanese Studies. The Center for Japanese Studies at Beijing University inaugurated a new journal in 1989, entitled Ribenxue 日本学 (Japanology). Published annually, thus far two issues have appear of 359 and 296 pages, respectively. While a number of the articles are reprinted from other publications, some difficult to come by, this appears to be an important new outlet for Japanese research coming out of China. The essays are not focused around a specific discipline or time period, and because of the youth of Japanese studies in China, most tend to be Sino-Japanese in nature. The second issue mentions the inauguration of our publication and its mention of the Rokkō shuppan series of books by Chinese scholars writing in Japanese: "Higashi Ajia no naka no Nihon rekishi" 東アジアのなかの日本歴史 (Japanese History in East Asia). See the "Reviews" section of this issue of SJS below for a description of the contents of these first two issues.

Bob Borgen Receives Important Prize. Each year the James Henry Breasted Prize is awarded by the American Historical Association for the best book in English in any field of history prior to 1000 A.D. The regional sub-fields are rotated on a four-year cycle, and in 1990 books in East and South Asian history were eligible. The winner for 1990 was Robert Borgen, University of California, Davis, for his Sugawara no Michizane and the Early Heian Court (Cambridge, Mass.: Council on East Asian Studies, Harvard University, 1986), xv, 430 pp. The selection committee's citation reads:

At first glance, this book appears to be a biography, a narrative of the life and historical import of a prominent political figure and cult-hero of Heian Japan. On closer examination, it proves to be a highly ambitious effort to survey the entire cultural, intellectual, and literary landscape of ninth-century Japan as reflected in the life of one critical figure of that period. The author goes to exceptional lengths to provide a context; he draws into his story the local people and events affecting the life and times of Michizane, along with the political and literary traditions imported from T'ang China that similarly informed elite culture in Heian Japan. Eclectically inspired and exceptionally well-written, this book is highly readable; its fluid translations of Michizane's poetry will add a particular appeal to the broad audience for whom the book will be an attractive introduction to early Japan."

Hearty congratulations from the entire editorial staff at SJS!

Sino-Japanese Conference Volume. In issue I.1 of SJS (p. 3), we noted the several conferences held at International House in Tokyo, the first of which has now been published in both Chinese and Japanese editions. The Japanese edition appeared in Kikan Chūgoku kenkyū 季刊中国研究 9 (Autumn 1987); and 10 (Winter 1988). The Chinese edition, entitled Zhong-Ri xiandaihua, 21 shiji zhanwang 中日现代化, 21世纪展望 (Sino-Japanese Modernization, Perspectives on the 21st Century), has just appeared, edited by Li Tingjiang 李廷江 and Kokubun Ryōsei 国分良成 and published by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (Beijing, 1990).

Modern Sino-Japanese Relations Prize. The Mid-Atlantic Region of the AAS is continuing to present its award for scholarly works on Sino-Japanese relations (defined broadly but with emphasis on the period around the first Sino-Japanese War). The competition circu-

lates among books, articles, and unpublished Ph.D. dissertations. The 1991 prize will be in the article category, must be published between July 1, 1988 and June 30, 1991, and must be in English, although the author may be from any country. If interested in submitting an article for consideration, please send a copy to each of the three members of the Review and Selection Committee, postmarked no later than July 1, 1991: David Pong (Committee Chair), Dept. of History, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716; Richard Smethurst, Dept. of History, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260; and Oderic Wou, Dept. of History, Conklin Hall, Rutgers University, Newark, NJ 07102. Further information can be obtained from Professor Pong.