

REVIEW

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Wang Yong 王勇, ed. Zhong-Ri Hanji jiaoliu shi lun 中日漢籍交流史論 [Essays on the History of the Interactions among Literary Chinese Texts in China and Japan] (Hangzhou: Yangzhou daxue chubanshe, 1992), 408 pp.

This collection of erudite essays covers a wide array of time periods and texts within the general confines of the topic, and the essays are, as a rule, tied extremely closely to specific texts. There are nine pieces by Japanese, one by a scholar from Taiwan, and the remaining eighteen essays by mainland Chinese. The volume begins with a substantial introduction by Professor Wang Yong, entitled "A Bird's Eye View of Studies of Kanseki," on the importance of Kanbun, Kanji, and hence the "Kanji bunka ken" 漢字文化圈 in which he argues that the multidirectional flows of culture within East Asia were greatly facilitated by the shared literary Chinese language. This statement in no way is meant to privilege China, though, as Professor Wang states clearly (p. 2): "Kanseki [texts written in literary Chinese] may have originated in China, but they are by no means the sole property of China. Kanseki is therefore a concept that transcends nationality." Indeed, he goes on to note that Koreans and Vietnamese, although not Japanese, even used literary Chinese as a medium in which to compose novels, a trend that never got very far in China.

The volume is divided into four sections of roughly equal length: studies of the flow of Chinese Kanseki to Japan; studies of Japanese Kanseki and their flow to China, studies of lost Chinese and Japanese Kanseki, and studies in Sino-Japanese cultural comparisons. A sampling of titles follows, eight in all (two from each of the four sections in the order given above):

1. Aoki Gorō 青木五郎 , "The Shiji 史記 [Records of the Grand Historian] in Japan"

2. Ma Xingguo 馬興國 , "The Transmission of Liaozhai zhiyi 聊齋志異 [Strange Stories from a Chinese Studio] to Japan and Its Influence There"

3. Wang Yong, "A Historical Analysis of the Coming to China of Japanese Kanseki in the Tang and Song Periods"

4. Tu Chengxian 屠承先 , "Ogyū Sorai's Bendō 辨道 [Discriminating the Way] and Sino-Japanese Cultural Interactions"

5. Chen Donghui 陳東輝 , "The Koitsu sōsho 古逸叢書 [Collection of Ancient Lost Works] Edited in Japan and Its Documentary Value"

6. Naitō Chiharu 内藤千治 , "The Origins of Huang Kan's 皇侃 Lunyu yishu 論語義疏 [Commentary on the Analects (of Confucius)]"

7. Yamaguchi Hiroshi 山口博 , "The Influence of Tang ci on Japanese Literature"

8. Li Guoqing 李國慶 , "Chinese Woodblock Engravers in Japan"