

* * Sino-Japanese News * *

Sino-Japanese Research Group in Hangzhou. Through a Chinese intermediary, we have made contact with the Institute of Japanese Culture (Ribei wenhua yanjiusuo 日本文化研究所) of Hangzhou University. Prior to 1994 it was known as the Japan Cultural Research Center (Ribei wenhua yanjiu zhongxin 日本文化研究中心). It is presently under the leadership of Professor Wang Yong 王勇, a specialist on early Sino-Japanese cultural relations. They concentrate on high cultural interactions of all periods, having held conferences and study groups on such topic as Kanseki 漢籍 (traditional texts written in literary Chinese) in Japan, the cultural ties between Jiangnan and Japan, and China and various Japanese poetic genres. The most recent conference (March 1995) was on the second of these themes, and there are summaries of the 49 presentations in the newsletter of the Institute, Ri wen yan tongxun 日文研通訊 (March 1995). This was billed as an international conference, although only Chinese and Japanese made presentations. A introduction to an earlier product of the Institute can be seen below.

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From the Ridiculous to the Offensive to the Non-existent: An Update. In SJS 6.2 (p. 14), Daqing Yang described an article from a relatively new popular magazine in Japan, Marco Polo, about Manchuria. As the New York Times reported on January 31, 1995, Bungei shunjū 文芸春秋, the publisher of Marco Polo, was closing down the magazine. The reason was an article published to coincide with the fiftieth anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp, an article which denied the Holocaust. The article, obviously, so offended every breathing, thinking person who knew about it, that Bungei shunjū decided to do the honorable thing, zasshi seppuku 雜誌切腹. No word yet on how such a piece could have gotten into Marco Polo in the first place.

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Next Year in Hawaii. It was decided at the annual meeting of the Sino-Japanese Studies Group in March at the AAS meetings that when we meet next year in Hawaii we should pick one or more texts as the centerpiece for discussion. To that end, I would like people to suggest readings in the Sino-Japanese field which they think would interest enough people to getting a discussion going. We had a lively discussion last year in Boston over Douglas Reynolds's book, China, 1898-1912: The Xinzheng Revolution and Japan. Please send article or book suggestion to me at your earliest convenience.

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Errata to Sino-Japanese Studies, VII.1

p. 4, l. 1: the words "field" and "numerous" should be reversed

p. 7, para. 2, line 4: "Austrailia" should be "Australia"