Several Recent Works in Sino-Japanese Studies


Joshua A. Fogel

Two of these volumes (Suleski and Wixted) are important new reference works in the field of Sino-Japanese studies. A third is a collection of essays on contemporary Sino-Japanese relations by nine Japanese social scientists, and the fourth is the Chinese translation of a series of bibliographic essays on topics in modern Sino-Japanese relations. Wixted’s large volume is the sort of “handbook” every respectable scholar of Chinese affairs, especially historians and other humanists, should have at his or her desk at all times. It supersedes all previous texts of this sort—such as Yan Shaodang 殷绍棠, *Riben de Zhongguoxuejia 日本的中国学家* (Beijing: Zhongguo shehui kexue chubanshe, 1980)—and has the added bonus of being written in English. It thus deals with issues of particular importance for those of us working in the roman alphabet. Even for Sinologists who know Japanese well, this work is a must, because it provides the kind of information that can take many long hours of unremunerated labor: reading of Japanese names, Japanese *Festschrift* information, and the like. For those who have a less than thorough training in Japanese and Japanese Sinology, this work may be even more important, because it can be used as an all-purpose crutch. Those adept at using Japanese secondary materials will still find much of value in this book; those who are not so adept but conscientious will save themselves weeks of work; those who are neither no longer have any excuses.

The main body of the work is a listing of Japanese authors of works concerning China and East Asia generally. Then, if any of the following exist, they are coded and
listed: bibliographies of the author's writings, memorial notices, Festschriften, editions of
collected works, Western-language books or articles about the author, and translations of
the author's work into a Western language. There is as well much other information
loaded into these entries and many cross-references within it. In all there are 1,644
entries. In addition there is an appendix of 85 books of collected articles about China by
various Japanese scholars, and eight indices with a wide assortment of aides to scholars
puzzled over readings of Japanese personal names, publishers, journals, and the like.

Suleski has long been been interested in modern Manchuria, at least since working
on his dissertation, “Manchuria under Chang Tso-lin” [University of Michigan, 1974].
This bibliography with annotations contains entries on 421 books, articles, and theses in
Chinese, Japanese, and English. It is arranged in a fashion much like the two “Japanese
Studies of China” bibliographies (Fairbank and Bannô; Kamachi, Fairbank, and Ichiko),
with general chapter topics, sub-topics, and individual entries numbered accordingly. The
five chapters include: general works, basic collections of material, civil affairs, military
affairs, and diplomatic events. No work of this sort is ever “complete,” for a “complete”
annotated bibliography on this topic would run into many volumes. For a single-volume
work that confronts the most important themes, that is not afraid to be critical of others’
work, and that more than touches base in the three most important languages used to
write on Manchuria, this volume is exemplary. It could easily be used with success for
advanced undergraduates as well as graduate students.

I would quibble with the use of the term “modernization” in the title, not because
Suleski uses it inappropriately or adopts this or that definition of the term. In the first
three paragraphs of his introduction, Suleski explains immediately that he is using
“modernization” because Manchuria dramatically changed “with almost blinding force” (p.
xi) in an extremely short period of time. He wisely does not try to apply a variety of out-
dated and largely discredited social science modernization theories to substantiate his
argument. My cavil is with the associations others will inevitably draw to those theories.
Manchuria has already been raped and pillaged enough. Incidentally, Suleski is one of the
few Ph. D.’s who has successfully managed to remain active in the field without holding
down a regular teaching position in East Asian studies. He has published a number of
articles and regularly reviews books for JAS and other journals. He has lived in Tokyo for
a fair number of years and served as head of the Asiatic Society of Japan.

The collection of essays on Sino-Japanese relations edited by Kojima Tomoyuki
provides rich fare for anyone interested in the contemporary fate of those bilateral ties.
Let me introduce the contents of volume:

Kojima Tomoyuki, “Nit-Chû kankei no ‘atarashii hatten dankai’: kyôsôteki kyôson no
tani ni” 中日関係の“新段階” : 競争的共存のために [“A New Stage” in Sino-
Japanese Relations: On Behalf of Competitive Co-existence].

Besshi Yukio 別枝行夫, “Nit-Chû no kokkô seijôka, Bunka dai kakumei no eikyô”
日中の国交正常化、文化大革命の影響 [Normalization of Sino-Japanese
Diplomatic Relations, the Influence of the Cultural Revolution].


Kotake Kazuaki 小竹一彰: “Ten’anmon jiken to Nit-Chû gaikô, gendaika no kagami to shite no Nihon” 天安門事件と日中外交、現代化の鏡としての日本 [The Tian’anmen Incident and Sino-Japanese Foreign Relations, Japan as a Mirror for Modernization].

Hattori Kenji 服部健治: “Nit-Chû keizai kôryû no kinmitsuka, chôkiteki antei o motomete” 日中経済交流の緊密化：長期的安定を求めて [The Tightening of Sino-Japanese Economic Intercourse, in Pursuit of Long-Term Stability].


Tajima Junko 田嶋淳子: “Shûgakusei mondai to Nit-Chû bunka masatsu, jinteki kôryû no hen’yô” 就学生問題と日中文化摩擦、人的交流の変容 [Problems of Schoolchildren and Sino-Japanese Cultural Friction: The Transformation of Personal Intercourse].


*SJS* played a catalytic role in the preparation of the fourth volume under review. In issue II.1 (December 1989), pp. 2-3, we announced the publication of the Japanese original upon which this translation is based. Professor Zhou Qiqian of the Tianjin Academy of Social Sciences saw the announcement and contacted his friend, Professor Yamane Yukio, general editor of the original, and began discussion for a Chinese translation. Interestingly, the Chinese edition was prepared in the P.R.C. but published in Taiwan. Interested readers can find a summary of the volume’s contents in the earlier *SJS*. 

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