Several serial publications have found their way to us from China and deserve at least a brief introduction. They provide two interesting, albeit quite different, windows onto Sino-Japanese studies in China. We reported earlier on the initial issues of the journal Ribenxue (see SJS IV.2, 71-75), and just when it appeared as though no further issues would be forthcoming, three have been published in the last year. What follows, then, will point to the more interesting pieces published therein. Issue 4 (1995) fills 411 pages and contains 29 articles, six by Japanese scholars and one by a professor from International Christian University whose name I was unable to decipher. Topics covered include: “Social Interactions among Japanese, and How They Differ from Chinese,” by Wang Shunhong; “The Comparative Formation in the Japanese Language,” by Han Yuping; “On Japanese Novels of the Meiji Period and Chinese Novels of the May Fourth Period,” by Yu Rongsheng; “On the Formation of the Yamato State as Seen from the Previous Kofun Era,” by Shen Ren’an; “On the Tanuma [Okitsugu] Era,” by Wang Xiaowen; “Dutch Learning: The Embryo for Modern Scientific Culture in Japan,” by Li Tingju; “Shimoda Utako and Chinese Women’s Education in the Late Qing,” by Zhou Yichuan; “Poetry Exchanges between Chinese and Japanese Men of Letters in the Late Qing Era,” by Wang Xiaoqiu; “On Japan Studies in India and Egypt,” by Pu Hongxin. In addition to the article cited above, there are eight additional pieces on the Japanese language; the Japanese authors include the everpresent Katô Shûichi and Umehara Kaoru. There is even a mention on the very last page of this issue of Ribenxue of the notice made in SJS of earlier issues of their journal.

Issue 5, which appeared one month after issue 4, fills a mere 388 pages and contains 33 articles: two by North Americans, twelve by Japanese, and the rest by Chinese. The first thirteen articles run the gamut from Wang Xiaoqiu on the nineteenth-century Chinese visitor to Japan, Luo Sen, to Pu Hongxin on Japanese-Korean trade in the Meiji era, to Tao Demin on the influence of the Sacred Edict of the Ming-Qing period on Japan, to Marion Levy, Jr. comparing the situation in modern Japan...
and modern China, to Shang Huipeng 尚会鹏 comparing the underclasses of Japan and India. This is then followed by an extended series of essays from an international symposium on problems of internationalization and the Japanese. This issue also, interestingly, contains a fair number of pieces on contemporary Japan, including such topics as labor issues and the labor movement in Japan of the 1980s, educational reforms, and East Asian culture in the 21st century (by Ikeda Daisaku). There is a lengthy review by Chen Wentao 陈文寿 of a Japanese historical dictionary published by Fudan University and reviewed by Tao Demin in the pages of SJS several years ago. Much to our surprise as well, this issue carries a Chinese translation of the review by Peter Zarrow published in SJS of the comparative volume on the Chinese and Japanese imperial institutions which appeared in the Rokkō shuppan series.

Issue 6 covers 325 pages and seventeen articles (six by Japanese and one Sino-Japanese co-authored piece). The essays in this issue tend to be long and more substantial than in previous issues. Shen Ren'an's opening piece on the “Characteristics of the Bakuhan System” is general and unfootnoted. It is followed by a shorter but more document-based study by Wu Yin 武寅, “On Japanese Administrative Lineages of the Early Meiji Period.” After a translated piece by Tōyama Shigeki 近山茂樹 on the emperor system at the time of the Meiji Restoration, Hu Jiping 胡继平 looks at the imperial institution since the end of the Second World War. There is an essay by Li Yu 李玉 on how Japanese industry educates human talent and a translated piece by Mori Mikio 森三村三郎 with the unassuming title, “Chinese Culture and Japanese Culture: an Investigation from the Perspective of Religious Sociology.” One particularly interesting study was jointly authored by Morimoto Takako 森本隆子 and Liu Jianhui 刘建辉, “Modern Japanese Literature and Shanghai.” It looks at the unique place of Shanghai in modern Japanese fiction, examining such authors as Yokomitsu Riichi 横光利一 and the influence on him of Akutagawa Ryūnosuke 芥川龙之助, Kaneko Mitsuharu 金子光晴, Maedakô Hiroichirô 前田河广一郎, and others.

Readers interested in Ribenxue should write to the Center for Japanese Studies at Beijing University for their own or their university’s library. Issue 4 is listed as 14.50 yuan, issue 5 at 14 yuan, and issue 6 as 12.50 yuan. Postage will probably run several times that.

Zhong-Ri wenhua loncong has a somewhat different feel. It is published bilingually in Chinese and Japanese with a roughly equal distribution between the two languages. The inaugural issue of 1991 begins with messages from the presidents of the two sponsoring universities, followed by twelve highly scholarly articles. Several of the Chinese authors even write in Japanese, and all articles are usually followed by brief summaries in the other language. I found particularly impressive the piece by Kojima Shinji 小岛晋治, “Changing Japanese Views of China, from the Late Bakumatsu Period through the Early Meiji.” This is followed by an equally interesting study by Wang Yong 王勇, director of the Center for Japanese Cultural Studies at Hangzhou University, entitled “The Prehistory to the Chinese Study of Japan: Views of Japan, Knowledge of Japan, Understanding of Japan from the Five Dynasties through the Song Era.” In addition to several articles on language, there are also essays on the Japanese imperial
institution, the birth of the Meiji government's bureaucracy of state, and the Longhua Temple in Taizhou and the founding of the Tendai sect of Buddhism in Japan.

The 1992 issue looks just as impressive, also twelve articles and equally distributed between Chinese and Japanese authors. There is a piece by He Zhongli 何忠礼 on the thought of Wang Ge 王革 and its impact in Japan, by Tu Chengxian 屠承先 on the influence of traditional Chinese culture on Andō Shōeki 安藤昌益, by Chen Donghui 陈东辉 on Zhang Yuanji 张元济 and Sino-Japanese cultural interchange, and by Yokokura Yoshio 横仓节夫 on social movements in contemporary Japan. I found Wang Yong's piece on Xie Liuyi's 谢六逸 Riben wenxue shi 日本文学史 (published in 1929) especially interesting. The issues for 1993 and 1994 are no less important with articles on a wide variety of topics in Sino-Japanese studies.

The Hangzhou Center has also been issuing a newsletter, Riwenyan tongxun 日文研通讯, since June 1994, and eight issues have been forthcoming thus far. Several of these are quite substantial, running seventy or more pages, and again in both Chinese and Japanese. Issue number 4 (March 1995), for example, emerged from a conference on "Jiangnan and Japan" and included abstracts of 43 papers from that conference. Issue number 5 (also March 1995) ran the exact same material in Japanese.