

## EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the twelfth volume of the *Japan Studies Review* (JSR), an annual peer-reviewed journal sponsored by the joint efforts of the Institute for Asian Studies at Florida International University and the Southern Japan Seminar. JSR continues to be both an outlet for publications related to Southern Japan Seminar events and a journal that encourages submissions from a wide range of scholars in the field.

Appearing in this issue are four articles dealing with a variety of topics on Japan, including the acceptance of tattoos in Japanese culture and identity, xenophobic literature of a nineteenth century treaty port, the political implications of an explicitly anti-Chinese manga book, and the cultural impact of the U.S. presence in Okinawa and the Ryukyu Islands.

The first article, "Meanings of Tattoos in the Context of Identity-Construction: A Study of Japanese Students in Canada" by Mieko Yamada, looks at the social acceptance of tattoos in youth culture and Japanese identity. It explores the polarity of perspectives on tattoos against the backdrop of Japanese cultural values and Western influences.

Following this, "Curiosities of the Five Nations: Nansōan Shōhaku's *Yokohama Tales*" by Todd S. Munson, explores the political interpretation of a nineteenth century travel guide written in Japan's first treaty port of Yokohama. Munson argues that the work represents a popular voice of xenophobic resentment in an era of Western imperialism in Asia.

The third article, "China in Japanese Manga: A Not So Funny Controversy?" by Kinko Ito and Charles Musgrove, looks at a 2005 bestselling book of *kyōyō*, or academic, manga that portrays the Chinese government and people as immoral and scheming. Ito and Musgrove examine the implications of the book in the political context of contemporary Sino-Japanese relations.

The fourth article, "American Cultural Policy toward Okinawa 1945-1950s" by Chizuru Saeki looks at the cultural impact of the American occupation of Okinawa and the Ryukyu Islands. Through an analysis of various U.S. government publications, Saeki presents the many reasons why a military presence remained in Okinawa and the Ryukyu Islands long after the end of the U.S. Occupation of the Japanese mainland.

This issue also features four essays. The first essay, "The Fine Art of Imperialism: Japan's Participation in International Expositions of the Nineteenth Century" is written by Martha Chaiklin. This piece examines the changing role of Japanese exhibitions at World's Fairs and other

expositions to prove Japan's importance in the international community. This essay argues that Japan used domestic and overseas exhibitions to demonstrate its economic development and cultural refinement as equal to that of the Western nations.

The second essay, "U.S.-Japan Collegiate Student Exchanges: Challenges and Opportunities" written by Kiyoshi Kawahito, explores the underdevelopment of study abroad programs for foreign students in Japan and the United States. On the Japanese side, factors limiting growth include the bias of institutional bureaucracy, insufficiency of courses offered in English, and the incompatibility of the academic calendar. In the United States, the issues include the lack of on-campus English as a Second Language programs, inadequate financial aid, and an under-emphasis on non-Western language and culture courses.

The third essay, "Bounded Thought: Area Studies and the Fluidity of Academic Disciplines" by Robin Kietlinski, discusses the disciplinary changes and challenges to area studies. Kietlinski argues that area studies programs historically have overemphasized geographic boundaries, while paying less attention to disciplinary limits and concerns. Kietlinski presents an analysis of Masao Miyoshi and H.D. Harootunian's edited volume, *Learning Places: The Afterlives of Area Studies* to explore the debate surrounding the nature and future of area studies programs.

The final essay is a research note written by Marilyn Helms, Ray Jones, and Margaret Takeda, entitled "Learning from Hurricane Katrina: Complexity and Urgency in the Holistic Management Model." The essay examines the American government's mistakes and miscommunication following Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The authors compare the lessons from the Katrina aftermath with the Kobe earthquake in 1995, the subject of their previous research published in *Japan Studies Review*, vol. 11. This essay uses the reference citations style, rather than footnotes.

Additionally, the volume contains seven book reviews of recent publications on Japanese studies. Susan L. Burns' work on the intellectual trend known as *kokugaku* in the early years of the Meiji era is reviewed by Daniel A. Métraux of Mary Baldwin College. Mark Driscoll's translation of two short novels by Yuasa Katsuei that reflect upon life in Korea during Japanese colonialism is reviewed by Leslie Williams of Clemson University. Jilly Traganou's analysis of the Tōkaidō Road of the Tokugawa and Meiji eras is reviewed by Laura Nenzi of Florida International University. Two perspectives on Sawa Kurotani's anthropological fieldwork on Japanese-American housewives are offered by Don R.

McCreary of the University of Georgia and Patricia Pringle of Japan-America Communications, LLC. Finally, Cathy N. Davidson's travel reflections upon nature and the thirty-six famous woodblock prints of Mount Fuji is reviewed by Patricia D. Winfield of Meredith College.

Please note: Japanese names are cited with surname first except for citations of works published in English.

Steven Heine

**Re: Submissions, Subscriptions, and Comments**

Submissions for publication, whether articles, essays, or book reviews, should be made in both hard copy and electronic formats, preferably Word for Windows on a disk or CD (please inquire about other formats). The editor and members of the editorial board will referee all submissions.

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All comments and feedback on the publications appearing in *Japan Studies Review* are welcome.

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