

## EDITORS' INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the twenty-fourth volume of the *Japan Studies Review* (JSR), an annual peer-reviewed journal sponsored by the Asian Studies Program at Florida International University. JSR remains an outlet for publications related to Southern Japan Seminar events and encourages submissions from a wide range of scholars in the field. The 2020 issue contains scholarly works on cross-disciplinary perspectives in contemporary and traditional Japanese studies.

Four articles are included in this volume. The first article is a study by B. Bryan Barber on Japan foreign policy titled, "Strategizing Asia: Japan's Values-Based Diplomacy Amid Great Powers' Competing Visions for Broader Asia," disclosing the challenges that Japan is facing in the twenty-first century while approaching broader Asia with a values-based diplomacy and the opposing frameworks by other great political powers. The next article, "How Many Bodies Does it Take to Make a Buddha? Dividing the Trikāya Among Founders of Japanese Buddhism" by Victor Forte, compares the sectarian perspectives of major premodern Japanese Buddhism founders (Kūkai, Shinran, and Dōgen) to the philosophy of the late Indian Mahāyāna *Trikāya* notion of the three bodies of the Buddha.

The third article is "Behind the Shoji Screen: Sex Trafficking of Japanese Citizens" by Rachel Serena Levine, which exposes the detrimental societal issues of Japanese sex trafficking victims and the consequences of Japan's cultural and governmental views on the exploitation of women. The last article, "The Infiltrated Self in Murakami Haruki's 'TV People'" by Masaki Mori, provides a literary study based on the 1989 short story by Murakami Haruki, exploring the influence of technology on humans and its sociocultural implications on the self.

This issue also includes two essays. George Wrisley, in "The Role of Compassion in Actualizing Dōgen's Zen," provides a comprehensive philosophical analysis of the Buddhist teachings of thirteenth-century Japanese Zen Master Dōgen based on the bodhisattva ideal in Mahayana Buddhism. Daniel Métraux, in "How Journalists' Bias Can Distort the Truth: A Case Study of Japan's Military Seizure of Korea in 1904–1905," explores the historical discrepancies regarding the reports on the Japanese seizure of Korea during the Russo-Japanese War from the Western lens of six Americans and one Canadian journalist.

There are four book reviews dealing with a variety of topics. Jacqueline I. Stone's *Right Thoughts at the Last Moment: Buddhism and Deathbed Practices in Early Medieval Japan* is reviewed by Elaine Lai; Kan Kimura's *The Burden of the Past: Problems of Historical Perception in Japan-Korea Relations* (trans. Marie Speed) is reviewed by Jason Morgan; Bryan D. Lowe's *Ritualized Writing: Buddhist Practice and Scriptural Cultures in Ancient Japan* is reviewed by Justin Peter McDonnell; and Steven Heine's *Readings of Dōgen's Treasury of the True Dharma Eye* is reviewed by Jundo Cohen.

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

Submissions for publication, whether articles, essays, translations or book reviews, should be made in electronic formats, preferably Word for Windows via email attachment (please inquire about other formats). The editor and members of the editorial board will referee all submissions.

Annual subscriptions are \$45.00 (US). Please send a check or money order payable to *Florida International University* to:

c/o Steven Heine, Professor of Religious Studies and History  
Director of the Asian Studies Program  
Florida International University  
Modesto A. Maidique Campus, SIPA 505  
Miami, FL 33199

The FIU Asian Studies Program office number is 305-348-1914. Submissions for publication should be sent to [asian@fiu.edu](mailto:asian@fiu.edu).

Visit our website at <http://asian.fiu.edu/jsr>. PDF versions of past volumes are available online. All comments and feedback on the publications appearing in *Japan Studies Review* are welcome.

ISSN: 1550-0713