

INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN HUMANITIES

STAFF AND SEMINARS

April 2011–March 2012

Academic Staff

Department of Humanities

Professors

- FUJII, Masato, Ph.D. (U. of Helsinki), *Indology/Vedic Studies*
KAGOTANI, Naoto, D.Econ. (Osaka City U.), *Economic History of Modern Japan*
MIZUNO, Naoki, D.Litt. (Kyoto U.), *Political and Social History of Korea under Japanese Rule*
OURA, Yasusuke, Ph.D. (U. of Paris-VII), *Literary Theory*
TAKEZAWA, Yasuko, Ph.D. (U. of Washington), *Anthropology/American Studies*
TANAKA, Masakazu, Ph.D. (U. of London), *Social Anthropology/Gender and Sexuality*
TOMINAGA, Shigeki, D.Litt. (Kyoto U.), *Sociology of Knowledge*
YAMAMURO, Shinichi, LL.D. (Kyoto U.), *History of Japanese Political Thought*
YOKOYAMA, Toshio, D.Phil. (U. of Oxford), *Premodern Japanese Cultural History*

Associate Professors

- ISHII, Miho, Ph.D. (Kyoto U.), *Social Anthropology*
ITO, Junji, D.Litt. (Kyoto U.), *History of Transcaucasia*
IWAKI, Takuji, Ph.D. (Kansai U.), *Early Modern Japanese History*
KATO, Kazuto, D.Sc. (Kyoto U.), *Biology and Life Science in Present-day Society*
KOSEKI, Takashi, *Social History of Victorian Britain and Ireland*
OHJI, Kenta, *Historical and Political Thought in Early Modern Europe*
OKADA, Akeo, D.Litt. (Osaka U.), *Musicology*
TAKAGI, Hiroshi, Ph.D. (Hokkaido U.), *Modern Japanese Cultural History*
TAKASHINA, Erika, Ph.D. (U. of Tokyo), *Modern Japanese Arts and the West*
TSUIKI, Kosuke, Ph.D. (U. of Paris-VIII), *Psychoanalysis*

Assistant Professors

- KAJIHARA, Mieko, Ph.D. (Harvard U.), *Sanskrit and Indian Studies, Vedic Rituals*
KIKUCHI, Akira, D.Litt. (Osaka U.), *History of Modern Japanese Ethnography*
KOIKE, Ikuko, Ph.D. (Kyoto U.), *Cultural Anthropology*
KUBO, Akihiro, Ph.D. (U. of Paris-III), *Literary Theories*
KUROIWA, Yasuhiro, D. Litt. (Kyoto U.), *History of Modern Japanese Culture and Society*
KUSAKA, Wataru, *Political Science and Philippine Studies*

FUJII, Toshiyuki, *German Literature*, M. HES. (Kyoto U.)
TANAKA, Yuriko, *History of Modern Medicine and Philosophy of the Body*

Department of Oriental Studies

Professors

ASAHARA, Tatsuro, *History of Ancient China*
FUNAYAMA, Toru, *Scholastic Tradition and Practice in Indian and Chinese Buddhism*
INABA, Minoru, *History of Early Islamic Expansion to the East*
INAMI, Ryoichi, *Cultural History of the Qing Period*
IWAI, Shigeki, D.Litt. (Kyoto U.), *History of Chinese Institutions*
KIN, Bunkyo, *Chinese Literature*
MORI, Tokihiko, D.Litt. (Kyoto U.), *Cotton Industry in Modern China*
MUGITANI, Kunio, *History of Chinese Thought*
OKAMURA, Hidenori, D.Litt. (Kyoto U.), *Archaeological Study of Ancient China*
TAKATA, Tokio, Ph.D. (E.H.E.S.S.), D. Litt. (Kyoto U.), *History of the Chinese Language*
TOMIYA, Itaru, D.Litt. (Kyoto U.), *Legal History of China*

Associate Professors

IKEDA, Takumi, *Sino-Tibetan Dialectology*
ISHIKAWA, Yoshihiro, D.Litt. (Kyoto U.), *History of the Chinese Communist Party*
KOGACHI, Ryuichi, Ph.D. (U. of Tokyo), *History of Commentary on Classics in China*
MIYAKE, Kiyoshi, D.Litt. (Kyoto U.), *History of the Qin and Han Dynasties*
MURAKAMI, Ei, M. Litt. (U. of Tokyo), *Socio-Economic History of Modern China*
WITTERN, Christian, Ph.D. (Goettingen U.), *A Knowledgebase for Buddhist Studies—With a Focus on Chan-Buddhism*
YAGI, Takeshi, D.Litt. (Kyoto U.), *Medieval and Early-Modern History of Korea*
YASUOKA, Koichi, D.Eng. (Kyoto U.), *Character Encoding Methods*

Assistant Professors

ANDO, Fusae
FUJII, Noriyuki, *History of the Bureaucratic System in Ancient and Medieval China*
FURUMATSU, Takashi, *History of Early Modern China*
KIM, Jihyun, D.Litt. (Kyoto U.), *History of Chinese Religions, Daoism*
MIYA, Noriko, D.Litt. (Kyoto U.), *Politics and Culture during the Mongol Period*
MORIOKA, Tomohiko, Ph.D. (JAIST), *Multilingual Computing*
MUKAI, Yusuke, *Archaeological Study of Medieval China*
ONODERA, Shiro, Ph.D. (U. of Tokyo), *History of Modern China*
TAKAI, Takane, *History of Chinese Furniture*
YAMAZAKI, Takeshi, *Socio-Political History of Late Imperial China*

Visiting Professors

JACQUET, Benoit, D.Eng. (Kyoto U.), Ph.D.Arch. (U. of Paris-VIII) *History and Theory of Modern and Contemporary Japanese Architecture* (Aug. 2008–)
PENNY, Benjamin, Ph.D. (Australian National U.), *Chinese Studies* (Jan.–Apr. 2011)
SPECTOR, Céline, Ph.D. (U. of Paris X-Nanterre), *Philosophy* (Apr.–Jul. 2011)
HADOLT, Bernhard, Ph.D. (U. of Vienna), *Medical Anthropology* (Jul.–Oct. 2011)

- CHEN, Songzhang, D.Litt (Hunan Normal U.), *Ancient Chinese Philology* (Oct. 2011–Jan. 2012.)
- VITA, Silvio, D.Litt. (Istituto Universitario Orientale, Napoli), *History of Ideas, Chinese and Japanese Buddhism* (Jul. 2007–)
- YUAN, Guangquan, Ph.D. (Kobe U.), *Modern Chinese History* (Oct. 2007–)
- ZHU, Yanshi, Ph.D. (Kokugakuin U.), *Chinese Archaeology* (Jan.–Jul. 2011)
- KU, Lingyuan, L.D. (Fudan U.), *Culture, Civilization and International Politics; Sino-Japan Relations* (Jul. 2011–Jan. 2012)
- VOGELSANG, Kai, Ph.D. (U. of Hamburg), *Chinese Studies* (Jan. 2012–)

Research Seminars

Department of Humanities

STUDIES ON MODERN ANCIENT CAPITALS

(coordinated by H. TAKAGI, April 2006–March 2012)

The “Modern Ancient Capitals Workshop” comprises historians, architects, art historians, and landscape architects who convene to examine the modern history of Japan’s “Ancient Capitals,” which include not only Kyoto, but also Nara, Shuri, Ise, and former castle towns such as Kanazawa, Sendai, and Hirosaki. “Ancient Capital” is itself a modern term, originating in the *Ancient Capitals Preservation Law* of 1966, which has recently been expanded to include Kanazawa and Otsu.

One purpose of the research group is to investigate the tensions that arise between this image as Ancient Capital and political and economic realities. In Kyoto, for instance, its image as the centre of native Japanese culture has often conflicted with attempts by the government and commercial and industrial interests to remake the city into a centre for manufacturing and industry, as happened during the 1895 celebrations of the anniversary of Heian-kyō and the enthronement ceremony in 1915, the primary purpose of which were, in fact, regional (economic) development.

This workshop attempts to further interdisciplinary research on “Ancient Capitals” from the early modern period through to the present. In the future, we intend to expand our scope to include the study of “Ancient Capitals” in both China and Korea.

BEYOND CULTURAL BORDERS IN MODERN JAPAN: DOCUMENTS FROM THE BEGINNINGS OF THE GLOBAL AGE

(coordinated by S. VITA, April 2009–March 2012)

This three-year project will provide a place for discussion on texts documenting cultural contacts between Japan and the outside world during the modern age. This period witnesses the early phase of a globalization process that will lead to what some scholars have called the “synchronization” of time. From this approach and with the perspective of the cultural historian an overall mise-au-point of this material will be attempted in order to see how mutual images in Japan, Asia and Europe were constructed among intellectuals and in society at large. A second objective of the project will be the building of a network of specialists sharing

an interest on this aspect of modernity in Japan, on the basis of previous research in the field and an eye to future integrated projects with other institutions.

LINGUISTIC ANALYSES OF *SHIKIDÔ* GUIDES—FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF PRE-MODERN JAPANESE CIVILISATION

(coordinated by T. YOKOYAMA, April 2009–March 2012)

This group studies the intermediary roles of language, both oral and written, that seem to have been instrumental in sustaining the sophisticated as well as non-stagnant human relations in the courtesans' corner of Osaka in the late 17th century—the small intricate world for varieties of 'accomplished ladies' and their guests of diverse calibres. The main source of this study is *Shikodô Showake Naniwa Dora* (Miscellaneous instructions for the gallant boy of Naniwa in the way of love affairs) by Yûsuian Mutei (pseud. Osaka, 1680). This group's attempt to produce a faithful translation of the original in modern plain Kansai dialects is driven by each member's keen interest in civilising the current crude languages of specialists, particularly in science and technology, for the sophistication of the global society, which is shrinking as another intricate world with its members interconnected by ever-proliferating 'new media.' The group includes scholars in a broad range of disciplines such as literature, linguistics, performing arts, history, zoology, molecular biology and informatics.

REPRESENTATIONS OF DIFFERENCES IN JAPAN AND ASIA

(coordinated by Y. TAKEZAWA, April 2010–March 2015)

Our project examines representations of race in Japan and Asian by taking an interdisciplinary approach that bridges the humanities and natural science.

Recent genetic studies have uncovered that race does not have any biological reality. Nevertheless, this concept persistently reproduces race as a social reality in various arenas such as medical treatments, social systems and aesthetics. What continues to generate such social reality of race? The project sheds light on the mechanism of racial representations as a key to understand such persistence.

In contrast to the abundant literature on visual representations of race, especially in Europe and the United States, non-visual representations of "invisible races," such as "Burakumin" or Koreans in Japan, and their counterparts in Asia have received little attention in race studies. This project primarily focuses on racial representations of these "invisible races."

TRANS-DISCIPLINARY STUDIES OF ORGANIZING TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCES AND MEMORIES—FROM NARRATIVES TO MONUMENTS

(coordinated by M. TANAKA, April 2010–March 2015)

Trauma was caused by instances of childhood abuse, domestic violence, schoolyard bullying, acts of violence, wartime experiences, crime, accidents, or natural disasters. In this study, trauma is viewed in the larger sense of "pain" and "suffering." This five-year-long project pursues how people have responded to this suffering, and whether they were eventually able to overcome their trauma, a process known as "organizing."

Although trauma generally falls under the field of psychology and psychiatry, the process of “organizing” goes beyond this field. By examining trauma from various other angles, our purpose is to show a new vision of social studies.

Medical terms such as “trauma” and PTSD have long since made their way into the common tongue. The popularization of psychology and psychiatric terminology shows how our everyday world has been medicalized. Thus, reflecting upon trauma in such an environment will contribute to a better understanding of contemporary Japanese society.

THE ENLIGHTENMENTS AND THE FRENCH REVOLUTION (I): A STUDY ON THE YEAR 1793

(coordinated by S. TOMINAGA, April 2010–March 2012)

Widely developed in the 18th century Europe, diverse trends of the Enlightenment encountered a decisive crisis with the French Revolution. In this seminar, we shall examine the reciprocal interference between theoretical elaborations and political actions during the Revolution, with a special focus on the *Montagnards*’—e.g., Robespierre, Saint-Just, Billaud-Varenne—political discourses in the period of *Terror*. How and why the movements of the Enlightenment converged into the ideas of these revolutionaries? How in turn the experiment of the Revolution transformed the philosophy of the Enlightenment? And what sorts of questions are left to us from this historical experience of the French Revolution? Neither accusing the Enlightenment of engendering the Revolution as a violent rupture in the European history, nor justifying the Revolution by the ideas of the Enlightenment, this research aims to explore political dimensions contained in philosophy.

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDY ON THE FIRST WORLD WAR

(coordinated by S. YAMAMURO and A. OKADA, April 2010–March 2013)

The First World War marks the end of the long 19th century as well as the beginning of the contemporary history. We are still living in the post-World-War I era, which is characterized by the total mobilization, the globalization of the war, the threat of technologization, and so on. The aim of research project is to examine the historical impact of the First World War as a worldwide and intercultural phenomenon, with special emphasis on its influence in non-European world and the fields of culture/arts, and on its interconnections with the Second World War. In addition to having about 20 workshops in a year, we have already held several open lectures and published booklet series.

THEORIES OF LITERATURE AND ARTS IN JAPAN

(coordinated by Y. OURA, April 2011–March 2014)

Our concerns fall into the following two questions: 1) What are the literary and/or artistic theories which have been taught in Japan (especially in universities)? 2) If there are any “vernacular” theories of this kind in Japan, what can they be?

The first question is, in large part, that of the “importation” in Japan of Anglo-American, German or French theories since the Meiji period. The second one will lead us to sound the

Japanese tradition in literature and arts from classics to modern works, in order to discover some theoretical elements on poetry, narrative, drama, performing arts, etc., and examine them in comparison with Western theories. This seminar is meant to be a large collaboration between specialists in Western studies and those in Japanese studies.

UNCTION AND CORONATION

(coordinated by M. FUJII, April 2011–March 2014)

This seminar succeeds to the seminar “Kingship and Ritual” (April 2005–March 2011). While the preceding seminar dealt with kingship and its related rituals in general, this seminar focuses on unction as a central ritual act of coronation and initiation in ancient India and other areas. The seminar aims to investigate the basic form and variants of unction, together with its evolution, transmission, and contact with other cultures through the cultural historical approach. As unction prevails in vast areas and ages, the research will cover unction performed in various rituals such as the royal coronation in Vedic India, Hindu initiation in medieval India, Buddhist initiation in India, China and Japan, and further the imperial coronation in medieval Japan.

Department of Oriental Studies

A HISTORICAL LANDSCAPE OF CHANGJIANG VALLEY SOCIETY

(coordinated by T. MORI, April 2008–March 2012)

In this seminar, we intend to study the Changjiang valley society from the historical perspective. The Changjiang valley is 2,500km-long from Shanghai to Chongqing, and has been the center of Chinese economy, culture, and sometimes politics from the period of Song dynasty. We are going to gather the specialists in politics, economy, culture, and society, research the formation process of this vast society multiply and generally.

STUDY ON CORPUS OF ANCIENT CHINESE

(coordinated by K. YASUOKA, April 2008–March 2012)

In this research, we will construct corpus of the ancient Chinese texts using 訓読-texts written in Japan. In other words, we will re-construct 訓読-method, which was nothing but a method to transcribe ancient Chinese texts into Japanese texts (読み下し文), into an analyzing method of ancient Chinese texts on computers. Also we will clarify the difference between ancient Chinese and modern Chinese comparing their corpuses.

STUDIES ON THE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF CULTURAL INTERACTIONS IN THE NORTHERN FRONTIER OF SOUTH ASIA

(coordinated by M. INABA, April 2009–March 2012)

The Indian Subcontinent is separated from Central Asia and West Asia by the lofty mountains of Himalaya, Karakorum, and Hindukush, whose northern and southern sides are designated by the term “Northern frontier of South Asia”. Various kinds of people and objects

have moved across those mountains in history, producing diverse and significant cultural phenomena. As F. Turner and O. Lattimore have discussed, the frontier is to be surveyed not only as a geographical boundary (or boundaries) but also as a political, social, and cultural process. Such a process would have evolved and been transformed not rapidly but gradually. This research seminar views, therefore, the history of the area in the rather long term to survey the structure and transformation of such a frontier society, with special attention to notions such as cultural transmission, cultural contact, and cultural transformation.

SOURCES OF ANCIENT CHINESE HISTORY

(coordinated by T. ASAHARA, April 2010–March 2013)

This is an introductory seminar for interested members who wish to study ancient Chinese history, especially of the pre-Qin period. By reading basic articles or historical sources, participating members will be able to develop their understanding and increase their knowledge on the topic. They are also expected to help each other to this end.

STONE INSCRIPTIONS IN THE NORTHERN DYNASTIES (II)

(coordinated by R. INAMI, April 2010–March 2015)

In this seminar, we will analyze the rubbings of inscriptions in the Northern Dynasties, which our Institute possesses. At first, we check Chinese characters on the rubbings precisely, and then comment on it based on a traditional method. About missing parts, we refer to precedent studies. The rubbings of inscriptions will be digitalized and on-loaded to the following website:

http://kanji.zinbun.kyoto-u.ac.jp/db-machine/imgsrv/takuhon/t__menu.html

DEEP STRUCTURE OF THE MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY CHINESE CULTURES

(coordinated by Y. ISHIKAWA, April 2010–March 2014)

In recent years, the cultural situation in China has attracted greater attention around the globe with the rise of China's international economic and strategic status. We know, however, that the various fields of China's contemporary culture, i.e. art, literature, idea etc. involve many traces and memories of history. Some of them, for instance, collective memories of the Cultural Revolution and the pro-democratic movement in 1989, undoubtedly constitute Chinese culture in depth, although they have been long buried officially. These examples indicate that deep structure of the contemporary Chinese cultures should be understood in connection with the historical aspects of modern China. In this research seminar, we shall investigate various aspects of the modern and contemporary Chinese cultures, which includes such as the spread and acceptance of new ideas of Western origin in the 20th century China as well as the formation of the political culture of the Chinese Communist Party, mainly from the historical perspective. Considering historical elements in culture would also be very helpful in discussing Chinese culture in a global context.

INFORMATION EXCHANGE IN INTER-REGIONAL RELATIONS OF EAST ASIA
(coordinated by S. IWAI, April 2010–March 2013)

The East Asian in the sixteenth century experienced a great transformation in its society and economy, mainly caused by increase in silver production and activities of the European voyagers. Although the Ming empire endeavoured to maintain the tribute system and the prohibition of overseas trade, there appeared signs of upheaval in China-centred order caused by the private traders and inhabitants in peripheral zone eager for commercial activities.

The strong oppressive policy by the Ming government forced some maritime merchants to commit piracy. The Mongols who had not been allowed to tribute or to trade chose to plunder instead and brought pressure on the Chinese government and the Emperor. At the same time, peoples of various ethnics outside the official rule formed communities seeking profits and collided repeatedly with the authorities. The early modern states in the East Asia emerged out of these crises.

In this period, the need to get knowledge about external areas was raised and there appeared some variable writings highly precise and rich in information. In 1550's and 1560's Zheng Ruozeng born in Jiangnan area compiled volumes about Japan, the pirates, the military tactics and technology. Our project focusing on the writings Zheng Ruozeng and the others of that time explicates the circulation and the accumulation of knowledge of the outer region and investigates into the features of the inter-regional exchange of materials and information.

A STUDY OF THE TANG DAOISM
(coordinated by K. MUGITANI, April 2010–March 2013)

This study aims to research the doctrine of the Tang Daoism which was formed under the strong influence of Buddhism. At first, We study Wang Xuanlan's "Xuanzhulu" which is one of the typical Buddhistic articles by preparing its translation with annotations. We also plan to make annotated translations of several similar doctrinal articles in Tang dynasty.

A STUDY OF EARLY BUDDHIST TEMPLES IN EAST ASIA
(coordinated by H. OKAMURA, April 2010–March 2013)

The Yungang Caves, located near the city of Datong in Shanxi province in China, are a group of Buddhist cave-temples excavated in the latter half of the fifth century by the Northern Wei dynasty. Between 1938 and 1944, following on from investigations of the Xiangtangshan Caves in Hebei province and the Longmen Caves in Henan province, the Research Institute of Oriental Culture, the predecessor of the Institute for Research in Humanities, Kyoto University, carried out investigations of the Yungang Caves and neighboring sites. A report of these investigations was published in the form of the voluminous *Yunkang* (1951–1956) in 16 volumes and 32 fascicules by Mizuno Seiichi and Nagahiro Toshio.

This research seminar set about researching on the visual materials and field notes collected from such investigations with the goal of systematically digitizing and actively promoting the further use of these research resources, and making them available to the public.

STUDY ON SHUSHU: SCIENCE AND DIVINATION IN CHINA

(coordinated by T. TAKEDA, April 2010–March 2015)

Natural science in East Asia formed a unique field of study called the study of shushu, which is composed of natural science and divinations derived from Yijing. Though the study of shushu is a field peculiar to East Asia, if one want to evaluate the essence of the scientific culture of East Asia properly, it seems indispensable to grasp its structure and historical development.

The aim of our study group is to reveal the outline of the study of shushu and its theoretical structure. In order to examine this problem from various point of viewpoints, our workshop is consisted of researchers in various fields, such as astronomy, medicine, botany, philosophy, religion, linguistics, art, folklore and so on. We read the *Wuxing Dayi* (The General Principles of the Five Phases) in turns and the member and the guest speaker give presentation on new topics.

PUBLICATION OF THE DICTIONARY ON HAN WOODEN SLIPS

(coordinated by I. TOMIYA, April 2010–March 2015)

The purpose of our research is to edit and publish the dictionary on the vocabulary in Han wooden slips excavated from Ju Yan and Dong Huang district in Inner Mongolia.

The publisher has been decided and we have to publish it by the end of 2013. The dictionary including all of technical terms of the administration in the Han Dynasty should make a huge contribution to the research of Chinese ancient history.

REGIONALIZATION OF BUDDHISM: NEW PERSPECTIVES AND POSSIBILITIES

(coordinated by T. FUNAYAMA, April 2011–March 2013)

No one can deny that Buddhism has exerted a considerable influence in East Asian history. In this study group, we do not limit “Buddhist history” to doctrinal studies or historical studies. Instead, we focus on the role played by “regions” within Buddhism and other Asian religions as a means to holistically and dynamically grasp Buddhism as a single cultural system. Regions each have their own regional characteristics and flavors. We take this as our basis for exploring the interactions between different regions. The relations between regions such as India and China or China, the Korean peninsula, and Japan, are surely important, but we also contend that it is necessary to explore micro-regions, such as those within the Chinese interior. Our focus on regionalization allows us to assess problems such as the so-called “Sinification” of Buddhism in China and the “Japanization” of Buddhism in Japan, as well as the interaction, conflict, and assimilation between other religions such as Confucianism, Daoism, Shintō and Hinduism.

A STUDY ON ZAJU DRAMA IN YUAN DYNASTY

(coordinated by B. KIN, April 2011–March 2014)

This year we examined *Gengzhi Zhangqian tishaqi* in *Yuankan Zaju Sanshizhong*. We translated it into Japanese and made its notes and lexicon. We also arranged notes and

translations of *Guhang Xinkan Guanmu Diben Li-Taibai Bian Yelang* and *Xinbian Guanmu Jinwengong Huoshao Jiezitui* which led to the publication of *Studies on Zaju drama in Yuan dynasty 2: Bian Yelang and Jiezitui* (Kyukoshoin, May 2011) with their bibliographical introductions and indices.

A STUDY OF THE MEDIEVAL CHINESE MANUSCRIPTS
(coordinated by T. TAKATA, April 2011–March 2014)

This study is a continuation in substance of the last research seminar “A Study of the Chinese Manuscripts Discovered in Dunhuang and Chinese Turkestan”. In addition to the Dunhuang manuscripts and the like, the new seminar will give attention also to the old Chinese manuscripts kept in Japan and attempts of comparative study between these two materials will be made as well. A collection of the articles of the members is to be published every year as an annual report.

Joint Research Center

A PLATFORM FOR CREATING NEW WISDOM ON LIFE
(coordinated by T. KOBAYASHI, July 2010–March 2013)

The study of biology has been transforming since the 1970s, from research associated with a natural philosophical flavor that took place in closed laboratories into life science research with concrete influences on the broad general area between life and death in people's daily lives. In facing such structural changes to science, it is necessary to re-evaluate life science research in society, and to comprehend it as a new type of “knowledge” to which society's perspective has been added as a kind of “wisdom”. Our study group has designated this new perception of life science research involving such societal views and perceptions as “life knowledge”. To create a platform for this life knowledge, scientists, sociologists, anthropologists, philosophers and historians will work together to provide further insights.

THE MULTILAYERED CONTACTS AMONG GLOBALIZING INTELLECTUAL THOUGHT AND RELIGIONS WITH REGARD TO THE POSSIBILITY OF THE HUMANITIES
(coordinated by N. OKUYAMA, July 2010–March 2013)

As contemporary society moves towards globalization, what characteristics define the distribution and consumption of intellectual thought and religions? In this project, we approach this question from the viewpoint of multilayered contacts through various cultures. The goal is to analyze and speculate not just on the present day, but also to look at this question in the span of the past 150 years. As one such theme, we take up religion and evolution theory, in order to investigate their spread aspects across various branches of the humanities. Within this framework, the topic of religion has inherited an awareness of the problems as laid out in “The Humanities in Contact Zones of Various Cultures,” the core project led by the International Center of Humanities under Kyoto University's Institute for Research in Humanities. Thus, by identifying such contact zones of various cultures, we go on to discuss

the acculturation processes in each territory of religions such as Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam. The argument of social and biological evolution is seen as one example of modern thought. From its propagation across Asia, we can locate evolution theory as an example of contact between traditional societies and modern thought. Mostly from a humanities perspective, this topic investigates the relationships between evolution theory and religion, as well as the influence of evolution theory on societies and cultures.

WHAT INFORMATION CAN BE EXTRACTED FROM KANBUN TEXTS WITH COMPUTATIONAL METHODS?—A CONTRIBUTION TO FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH IN DIGITAL HUMANITIES

(coordinated by N. YAMAZAKI, July 2010–March 2013)

This research project attempts to use a number of different information processing techniques to contribute to the machine readable analysis of texts written with Chinese characters. The techniques proposed include but are not limited to processing of structured text, processing of the results of morphological and structural analysis of Japanese, data mining using n-gram techniques, classification and distance calculation of textual relationships, networked structure extraction and visualization.

EUROPEAN CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY AND POLITICS

(coordinated by Y. ICHIDA, April 2011–March 2014)

This research project aims at rethinking the relations between European contemporary philosophy and politics. A variety of intellectual currents, also known as *postmodernism* or *post-structuralism*, emerged in France around 1968, in parallel with the awakening of the “New Left: Althusser, Foucault, Deleuze or Derrida were central figures of these currents. Since the 1990s, when the communist bloc collapsed in Eastern Europe and the EU appeared on the scene in Western Europe, the heirs of these currents have been engaged in formulating renewed reflections on politics, notably by the works of Negri, Badiou or Rancière. What is “political”, properly so called, in their philosophy? How could we understand this political turn in contemporary intellectual history? If we ask more generally: in which term has “politics” been defined, and what kind of practical or theoretical relations has it been supposed to entertain with “Philosophy” after 1968? By asking these questions, we seek to make a critical intervention on political reflexions in our time.

Center for Informatics in East Asian Studies

47 Higashiogura-cho, Kitashirakawa, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606–8265 JAPAN

<http://www.kita.zinbun.kyoto-u.ac.jp/>

The Center for Informatics in East Asian Studies (CIEAS) was established in April 2009 by a reorganization of the former Documentation and Information Center for Chinese Studies. The overall mission of the CIEAS is to carry out information science research on East Asian languages and to make accessible to researchers historical East Asian materials through new media. A variety of databases, including Old Chinese Book Catalog in Japanese Libraries,

are being constructed. The Annual Bibliography of Oriental Studies, which has long been published in book form, is now also available through WWW.

International Center for Humanities Studies (ICHUS)

<http://www.zinbun.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~contactzone/>

This Center was established in 2006 to promote and strengthen the international scholarly networks in the field of Humanities and Social Sciences. It organizes international symposia, workshops and seminars. The current main project (2010–2015) is concerned with traumatic experiences and memories. The Center maintains close links with Italian School of East Asian Studies and École française d'Extrême Orient (EFEO).

Research Center for Modern and Contemporary China (RCMCC)

<http://www.zinbun.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~rcmcc/index.htm>

The Research Center for Modern and Contemporary China (RCMCC) was established in April 2007 by an arrangement between Kyoto University and the National Institutes for the Humanities (NIHU), which is part of the Inter-University Research Institute Corporations. The main mission of the RCMCC is to do research on the fundamental structure of modern and contemporary China from the point of view of humanities. Research activities of the RCMCC consist of two research groups: Research Group 1 “Deep Structure of the Modern and Contemporary Chinese Culture”; Research Group 2 “Social Foundation of the Modern and Contemporary Chinese Politics”. Moreover, the RCMCC, as one of the 6 research bases which was selected by the NIHU program “Contemporary Chinese Area Studies”, conducts joint research in association with other five research bases.