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Area Studies’ Database
Growing the Giant Area Studies’ Database Tree

What is necessary to grasp the states of affairs and tendencies of the world? Responding to this question has challenged mankind since individuals began to be concerned about others and thus the wider world rather than only themselves. In replying to the question, researchers in various academic fields use reference materials—such as statistical data, archives, and field notes—and develop inquiry methods. The following four objectives should be added to the existing methods of analysis, output, and data collection.

The first is to capture the transborder movements. Nowadays, people, goods, and information move across state borders. Consequently, information should be structured in such a way as to capture this movement. This objective requires going beyond the framework of state-based classification systems; however, the pattern and details of official documents and statistical materials differ between countries, which makes linking them difficult. It is thus necessary to devise means to connect and display data on the full range of transborder movements.

The second is to make use of the information that is obtained from non-textual data, such as drawings, pictures, architectural plans, and musical pieces, and to capture diverse ways of living and thinking. The processing of this type of data for mechanical information searches that disclose human movement is the great objective, the attainment of which will permit a surer grasp of the contemporary world.

The third is to ensure that modes of life and thought emerge from a varied, great mass of information. With the development of the Internet and telecommunication, it became possible to access easily a large amount of data. However, if it takes a very long time to process this information, its analysis may prove quite daunting. It is thus necessary to process unstructured masses of data in short time frames so as to grasp, even roughly, the tendency of studied objects.

The fourth is to organize databases in such a way that they are accessible to the members of local societies, who are the subjects of research. The clear separation of those who are surveyed and those who survey is no longer valid, since the interests and perceptions of outside observers affect the portrayal of a society. Databases serving both scientific and local interest and that further the cooperation of researchers and local populations must be designed.
The Center for Integrated Area Studies (CIAS) of Kyoto University is tackling these issues, while the members of the Area Informatics Project meticulously build databases according to their research interests. This is a time consuming process; however, it continues and has the goal of attaining the four objectives described above.

The following databases have been created (including experimental ones) and are publicly available at CIAS:

- Databases that are designed to be useful for general users and researchers are one category. The database of disaster management in Sumatra has already been employed in disaster prevention education and disaster tourism in Indonesia. The database of the mobility of Buddhist monks among temples in mainland Southeast Asia is under development in cooperation with Buddhist groups and researchers in Thailand. Databases of political parties and elections in former socialist states are in preparation.

- The collection and digitalization of valuable materials in local languages that had not been systematically assembled or arranged form a second group. A database of articles in the Malay Islamic magazine Qalam includes material in both original (Arabic) script and transcribed (Romanized) script; it is utilized in the education program of the National Library of Malaysia, in cooperation with the Institute of language and Literature (DBP) of Malaysia. A database of British parliamentary papers is tied to the originals of these documents that are held by the CIAS. Other examples are databases of the “Turkestan collection,” the Thai “Three Seals Law,” and Northeastern Thai Buddhist scriptures.

- Databases that arrange the research materials collected and accumulated by individual researchers are the third type. Field notes databases share the collected research data and the experiences and thinking of such researchers. The database of the Yoneo Ishii collection mainly centers on the research materials of the late emeritus professor Yoneo Ishii. The architectural material of Funo Shūji is a pioneering field database that integrates books and other materials.

- Databases that incorporate unconventional forms of information, usually absent from scientific research but reflect everyday action and thought, such as, movies, posters, architectural schemes, or musical compositions, make up another distinct group. Databases of Indian, Thai, and Malaysian movies display films as “narratives” so as to permit the retrieval of information. The Manchukuo Poster Database and the
Prewar East Asian Postcards Database explore methods to retrieve visually and to analyze information. Another example is the Asian Urban Environmental and Cultural Heritage Database.

- Databases of the contemporary history of East Asia, such as the Twentieth Century Chronological Database, China’s “Foreigner” Demographic Database, and those of the Municipal Government Bulletin of the Beijing Special Municipality, the Shanghai Municipal Police, the China archives, and periodical articles of the Academy of Sciences and Humanities of the Mongolian People’s Republic, make up the final group.

The Area informatics project has made available the following systems and tools for the creation of databases, their unification, and the visualization of data contained in them:

- An area studies common resource database that allows the unified search for data in individual databases.
- “My database,” which allows the creation of a simple database without specific knowledge or technical skill in database-making.
- The analytical tool of the HuMap that allows the superposition of temporal information on a map, and HuTime that allows the chronological superposition of spatial information. Other tools are historical place name lists, date conversion between calendars, and topographical map sharing.
- “Topic Map” or topical maps that associate data according to keywords and allow the general visualization of a group of documents. Topical maps are available for the subject headings of the Japan Library Association and the National Diet Library, the multilingual thesaurus of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (AGROVOC), the bibliographical collection of the world’s ethnical communities and cultures (HRAF), and the multilingual version of the Japanese comics “Hana yori dango.”

Turning over the pages of this booklet allows us to perceive, in part, the activities of the CIAS and reminds us that everybody is welcome to access the databases of their fields and areas of interest.
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1. Aceh Tsunami Mobile Museum

http://disaster.net.cias.kyoto-u.ac.jp/Aceh/

The Aceh Tsunami Mobile Museum (ATMM) database shows on a map the damage and annual change due to reconstruction and rehabilitation after the Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami of December 2004. About 165 thousand people were killed or went missing due to the disaster in the Aceh province of Indonesia, on the island of Sumatra. This database presents related photos and news articles from local media. It can be consulted from portable terminals such as smartphones, allowing records accessed in this way to supplement records onsite, in an attempt to make a whole town of Banda Aceh into a field museum through the use of mobile devices. The records available for consultation show how the reconstruction/rehabilitation process has unfolded and how the legacy of the disaster have played different roles in the everyday life of people. This database also serves to preserve experiences of the disaster can be accessed from anywhere.

2. Disaster Information Mapping System

http://disaster.net.cias.kyoto-u.ac.jp/Indonesia/
This database gathers online information in local languages to show on a map the extent of damage and rescue activity following the outbreak of a disaster in the region.

In disaster situations, reports from English-language and international media are useful to grasp the overall picture of the disaster; however, these sources do not clearly convey the situation on the ground from a local perspective. This system gathers information in local language from the local media and allows speedy visualization of damage in the disaster-stricken area to support rescue activities.

As a prototype, the system collects articles on natural disasters in Aceh and West Sumatra provinces from Indonesian online newspapers, based on relevant keywords. This database is expected to be useful for humanitarian aid efforts and to be generalizable to other investigations, for instance of social conflicts or political developments such as elections, by changing the keywords.

3. Article Database of the 2004 Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami

http://disaster.net.cias.kyoto-u.ac.jp/Aceh/

Database of articles that appeared in local media (in Indonesia and neighboring countries), related to the Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami that occurred in December 2004. It includes about ten thousand articles collected from local newspapers and magazines in Indonesia and neighboring countries. This database is part of the Aceh Tsunami Mobile Museum.
A database of photographs of the damage and the reconstruction of Aceh province, Indonesia, which was the area most affected by the Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami in December 2004. Some seven thousand photographs were collected beginning immediately after the earthquake and continuing until the present. This database is part of Aceh Tsunami Mobile Museum.

4. Image Database of the 2004 Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami

A database of articles appearing in local Indonesian media related to the West Sumatra (Padang) earthquake in September 2009. About one thousand articles have been collected from local and national newspapers in Indonesia.

5. Article Database on the 2009 West Sumatra (Padang) Earthquake
A database that shows in numerical values, and via other types of information the transition of successive cabinets, electoral system and political parties, the results of parliamentary elections, presidential elections, and European parliamentary elections since the 1990 democratic liberalization of eighteen countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. This database permits the retrieval of information by using keywords and a comparison between items.
This mapping database collects and integrates from on-site investigation, data concerning Theravada Buddhist temples and residing priests of the continental part of Southeast Asia, including the South West part of China where Theravada Buddhists mostly concentrate. This database aims to clarify the networks between temples and priests and the mobility of Buddhist societies brought about by priests' actions. The information is classified by region and the establishment patterns of Theravada Buddhism by means of mapping the related information on a map. In the domain of cultural studies about religion and society of the continental part of Southeast Asian this is an unprecedented type of database. The survey of Buddhist temples and priests occurred between 2006 and 2010 in nine places of Southeast Asia (Thailand: Khong Chiam and Mae Sot; Laos: Champasak, Vientiane, Luang Prabang; Cambodia: Kampong Thom, Kien Svay; China: Xishuangbanna, Dehong Dai and Jingpo). The following information was collected: locations of temples recorded with a GPS, pictures taken during the survey, information about the type and quantity of facilities such as ordination hall or monk cells, answers by the priests to a questionnaire, the names of priests that reside at each temple (layman name and name as a priest), birthplace, age, sect to which the priests belonged, temple where they entered priesthood, names of temples and their location where they resided since five years before the survey. With this information, it is possible to track the details of the priests' movements. The objective is to classify patterns of behavior of Buddhists in various regions and recreate practices across the region, by using new methods of visualization and internet based collaborative environments, while linking the data from this database with other types of data like population, land use, and spatiotemporal information.
8. Field Notes Database

Schedule to be publicly available in 2013

This database combines various types of information on area written on field notes by Dr. TAKAYA Yoshikazu and Dr. YAMADA Isamu, emeritus professors of Kyoto University since the 1960s. Fieldwork has been done all over the world, in which they have the longest stay in Southeast Asian countries. Information written on field notes includes records of their observation, photos, and images, covering natural setting, local people’s livelihood, government project, rituals, architecture, and so on.

9. FUNO Shuji and the World’s Architectural Database

http://app.cias.kyoto-u.ac.jp/infolib/meta_pub/G0000003gridcity

A database with illustrations and photos on architecture of the world collected by Dr. Shuji Funo, a professor at University of Shiga Prefecture. It is available illustrations and photos in the book “Grid City” edited by Dr. FUNO Shuji, JIMÉNEZ VERDEJO, and Juan Ramón published from Kyoto University Press in 2012. This database is a part of the project collaborated with Kyoto University Press to make the fieldwork records owned by Kyoto University available to society.
A database of the updated ISHII's collections of books, research and fieldwork materials, photographs, and of the films: “The path is opened – ISHII Yoneo and the Southeast Asian Studies”, “The path ISHII Yoneo walked along”, “The writing ISHII Yoneo invented”, which were collected between 1957 and 2010 by the late ISHII Yoneo – emeritus professor of Kyoto University (1929-2010). A total of 2567 items are available for retrieval, from about the ten thousand books and pamphlets, 6906 reprints, research materials and others, and about 5000 photographic materials, which conforms a relevant group of materials for research on Southeast Asia, the history and legal system in Thailand, and about languages. This database permits ontology oriented retrieval based on keywords extracted from the bibliographic information created on a PC or a virtual bookshelf.

11. Database of Turkestan Collection

http://app.cias.kyoto-u.ac.jp/infolib/meta_pub/CsvDefault.exe
Abbreviation URL: http://bit.ly/X8vtSr

The "Turkestan collection" (Туркестанский сборник) refers to documents concerning Central Asia under the rule of the Russian empire. These 594 volumes of documents originate from the latter half of the 19th century to the beginning of the 20th century. The compilation was started by the first governor-general of Turkestan, K. P. fon Kaufman and was conceived as an encyclopedia in order to allow Russians to know better about the recently conquered Central Asia. The originals are held by the National Library of Uzbekistan and named after A. Navoi. CIAS owns the digital reproduced version of the documents, which are available through this database. The database makes it possible to retrieve bibliographic references of included materials and allows for on campus only access the images of documents. The bibliographical information of this database is currently under maintenance and the trial version contains 8723 items.
A database of all articles of *Qalam*, a monthly magazine on Islam and Muslim peoples and cultures, written in the Malay language and the Jawi script. *Qalam* was first published in 1950 in Singapore and was widely read among Muslims in the Malay world until it ceased publication following the death of its founder, Edrus (Ahmad Lutfi) in 1969. The articles in *Qalam* provide us with invaluable information on the activities and thoughts of Muslims living in the Malay world in the 1950s and 1960s. The articles are especially informative with regard to Ikhwan al-Muslimin (the Muslim Brotherhood), which was established in Singapore in 1956. The articles in *Qalam*, which was distributed not only in Singapore but also in Indonesia, Malaya, Borneo, and southern Thailand, present an important source of alternatives to the nationalist discourse on the modern history of the Malay world. This database collects and integrates articles from this magazine a collection that was not systematically gathered or preserved in archives or libraries.
 donated by KYOCERA Corporation, CIAS owns all the original documents of the British Parliamentary Papers, which include the House of Commons Papers 1801-1986 and the House of Lords Papers 1801-1920. The British Parliamentary Papers contains a vast collection of materials such as bills compiled as parliamentary discussions, documents for every session, reports from various committees, governmental reports, trade statistics and censuses, and reports from the consulates about the situation of countries from many parts of the world. The British Parliament Map Database contains 1515 maps which were included in the House of Commons Papers from 1803 - 1838 using the funds of the “Resource Sharing Development Project by the National Institutes for Humanities.” The database was created through the following procedure:

1. Investigation of originals: The presence of maps was verified, along with all other illustrations and photos, and a review of all map captions was carried out.
2. Photographing: Maps were photographed using 35 mm color microfilms. Map captions were photographed with 35 mm monochrome microfilms. Each A2-size or larger map was photographed in divided images. The table of contents for each volume was also photographed.
3. Digitization: After photographing all images, the microfilms were converted into digital format. Maps (color images) were digitized into non-compressed TIFF files (2400 DPI, RGB 8 bits each). From the TIFF format, the images were compressed into JPEG format (300DPI, RGB 8 bits each) to be publicly disclosed. The texts (black and white images) were saved in a TIFF format (300DPI, RGB 8 bits each, G4 compression).
4. Metadata creation: The metadata of the maps were extracted from the digitalized image data. The main data items are material number, sub-number within documents, page, type of institutional classification, year of the session, document number, document title, diagram title, number of divided images and image file name.
5. Proofreading: Metadata was corrected.
CIAS, the Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS) Kyoto University, the Slavic Research Center Hokkaido University and the Research Institute for Humanities and Nature (RIHN) hold more than 60,000 topographic maps of Asia and surrounding regions including Russia, which are difficult to obtain from elsewhere. The Sharing Database of Asian Topographic Maps integrates map databases of above four Japanese major university institutions which hold maps of Asia regions. By the end of 2012 some 13,810 maps were digitalized and their online availability is in preparation. The work is supported by an IPSJ Grant-in-Aid for Publication of Scientific Research Results (2010-2012). The following are the databases integrated in the Sharing Database of Asian Topographic Maps and their development status. In addition to the usual keyword searches, this database also allows searching based on locations and certain historical periods.

- Maps of the Former Soviet Union: accessible online
- Maps of the Areas outside the Japanese Territory Prepared by Former Japanese Army (Gaihouzu): under preparation
- General Maps: under preparation

The Sharing Database of Asian Topographic Maps offers information of various research domains such as agriculture, vegetation, distribution of cities, road networks, and social infrastructures more than 100 years. Because this database covers all Asia regions, it is expected to become an important tool for research on trans-border issues, which has recently gained importance among social science academics. The database is also valuable to hydrology, agriculture, regional development, anthropology, area studies, environmental studies and geography in which spatiotemporal attributes are essential.
The Thai language “The Three Seals Law” (Kotomai Tra Sam Duang) is an aggregation of laws, ordinances and edicts compiled from the mid-14th century until the beginning of the 19th century and based on the manuscripts of the code of all existing things. These documents were saved after the downfall of Ayutthaya under the imperial command of the first generation of the Rama dynasty (1782-1809), actual Rattanakosin (Bangkok), in 1805. This database is based on the full text database of the Royal Institute published in 2007.


This is the Thammasat University’s own compilation into a full text database, using photographic consultation, of laws, ordinances and edicts from the mid-14th century up until the beginning of the 19th century. The compilations is based on the manuscripts of the code of all existing things which were saved after the downfall of Ayutthaya under the imperial command of the first generation of the Rama dynasty (1782-1809), actual Rattanakosin (Bangkok), in 1805. Based on the index of examples of total words of the “Three seals law” a five volumes popular edition was compiled: the “Computer Concordance of the Law of the Three Seals” (5 fascicles, 3850 pages, 239576 examples, Thailand Amarin Publications, 1991). In the CIAS Resource Sharing Database for Area Studies a trial version is available to consulting texts from this compilation.

A database of area historical magazines including their contents, related to mode of life, relations between ethnic groups, religion, culture and politics. The magazines were collected from various palm leaf manuscripts from the region centered on the northern part of Thailand and extending into the southern part of the Yunnan province of China, Myanmar, and Laos. The collection was held by the Center for Southeast Asian Studies and CIAS is responsible for updating and preparing the online access of these materials.
18. Southern Part of the Northeast Thai Palm-Leaf Manuscripts Database


Abbreviation URL: http://bit.ly/11G3gA0

This is a database of digital images of manuscripts on palm-leaves in old-local languages created by the local researcher Mr. Cheymongkol Chalermsukjitsri. He took high-resolution pictures of the palm-leaf documents at Buddhist temples in the Southern part of the Northeast Thailand. Now few people can read these documents that are decaying in storages. The purpose of this database is to protect and revive the local language on the verge of disappearing because of the spread of standard Thai language. The digitalized images of the manuscripts with metadata are now available for public access. The palm-leaf manuscripts database has in a total of 311 records as of March 2013. All 311 manuscripts can be searched by basic metadata items, such as, title of the document (in Khmer and Thai languages), category, owner of the document, and year of document creation. Free-word search is also available for 100 manuscripts with summary in Thai language. This is a model case of an application of area informatics technology for broadcasting/preserving local culture and history by local people themselves.

19. Indian (Tamil) Movies Database

http://app.cias.kyoto-u.ac.jp/infolib/meta_pub/G0000003THAI

Abbreviation URL: http://bit.ly/11G64NR

Commercial movies are produced in several languages in India. Tamil language movies that are mainly produced in Chennai and they strongly reflect the culture and political situation of the Southern part of India. Tamil movies stand among the most representative commercial movies of India, rivaling with the Hindi movies mainly produced in Mumbai. The movies gained popularity among Tamil immigrants living all over the world. A Tamil journalist living in Malaysia donated his Tamil movie collection to CIAS, and this collection includes the most important works from the 1960s to the 1990s. The database allows searches and data retrieval of movie titles, chronology of production, actors and directors, musical producers and genre.
20. Thai Movies Database

http://app.cias.kyoto-u.ac.jp/infolib/meta_pub/G0000003THAI

A database of posters and of catalogues of the collection of both theatre movies and films produced in Thai, held in the CIAS database.

21. Malaysian Movie Database

http://app.cias.kyoto-u.ac.jp/infolib/meta_pub/G0000003Malaysia
Abbreviation URL: http://bit.ly/11GTf5D

A database of posters and catalogues of movies produced in Malaysia (in the video CD and DVD formats). In addition to about 900 feature films, the collection also includes films that are banned from screening in Malaysia, for example, *The Last Communist* (dir. Amir Muhammad, 2006), which deals with Chin Peng, the leader of the disbanded Communist Party of Malaya. The collection also includes about 30 short films from the independent circuit, 28 movies in the Tamil language produced in Malaysia, and 30 telemovies produced in the state of Sabah.
A database of reproductions of posters and promotional leaflets concerning the Manchukuo and Kwantung Leased Territory, which was held from 26th September 1925 until 8th December 1941. The database holds as of March 1st, 2013 some 176 posters and 167 propaganda leaflets (flyers). The poster’s producing organizations include the army of Manchukuo and Kwantung Leased Territory, administrative bodies, corporations, nongovernmental organizations. A large number of posters were produced inside Japan and are similar to those of the South Manchuria Railway. The production from Japan comprises the posters and flyers created to lead the Japanese people to the “foreign land” of Manchukuo, or those created to establish Manchukuo’s image in the minds of Japanese people. The posters and flyers produced in Manchukuo feature the political orientation of the national administration and the local etiquette and ceremonies. The original material is owned by the “Yüsei Meeting Hall” (Yüsei Deai no Kan) located in Saihakugun at Shimane Prefecture and the Hakodate City Central Library.
A database that compiles about 2500 picture postcards published during the pre-war period. The subject areas include “Mainland Japan”, “Korean Peninsula”, “Taiwan”, “Karafuto (Sakhalin)”, “Manchuria – Mongolia”, “North China”, “Central and South China”, “Far East Siberia”, and the “South Seas (West part of the Pacific Ocean)”. The original material includes the ones owned by CIAS, and also donated images. The material of the database is being renewed.
25. Twentieth Century Chronological Database (1918-1952)

http://app.cias.kyoto-u.ac.jp/infolib/meta_pub/G0000020NPY
Abbreviation URL: http://goo.gl/7TQH0

This database was created based on the chronology of the state of affairs, divided into “Politics”, “Economy”, “Society”, “Culture”, and “Remarks”, that took place mainly during the first half of the twentieth century (1918-1952). The database permits searches with Japanese keywords. The main feature of the database is that it covers subjects from politics and economy, but also from society, culture, science and technology. At present the period 1918-1952 has been completed. The aim is to complete chronological data of the entire twentieth century.
This database provides demographic information of foreigners and Japanese nationals in China, surveyed by the overseas diplomatic establishments of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) during the pre-war period. A demographic view is possible through combining the search of city name, ethnic group’s name, and age, among others. The basic documents are: a “Table of population statistics of Japanese expatriates and foreigners in Kwantung and Manchuria (1908-1924)” prepared by the MOFA’s Government Affairs Bureau (at that time the responsible for the Asia Bureau of the MOFA) and four tables prepared by the MOFA’s East Asia Bureau: the “Table of population statistics of Japanese expatriates and foreigners in China (1925-1931)”; the “Table of population statistics of Japanese expatriates and foreigners in Manchukuo and the Republic of China (1932-1936)”; the “Table of estimated population statistics of Japanese expatriates and foreigners in Manchukuo and the Republic of China (1934-1937)” and the “Table of estimated population statistics of Japanese expatriates and nationals of a third country in the Republic of China (1940-1944)”. 
27. Index Search Database of “Municipal Government Bulletin of Beijing Special Municipality, Shizheng Gongbao (1938-1944)”

http://app.cias.kyoto-u.ac.jp/infolib/meta_pub/G0000020BJG
Abbreviation URL: http://goo.gl/7TQH0

A database of titles of articles of the “Municipal Government Bulletin (January 1938-September 1944)” published by the Beijing special municipal government, (at that time a municipal administration), during the war period. This database gives indication of the character and distinction of the political nature of the so called puppet government (regime), the influence of Japan on Beijing, and the actual condition of the municipal administration during the war period.

28. Document Subject Index Database of the “Shanghai Municipal Police Files (1894-1949)”

http://app.cias.kyoto-u.ac.jp/infolib/meta_pub/G0000020SGH
Abbreviation URL: http://goo.gl/hYnYG

The source documents of the “Shanghai Municipal Police Files” were transferred under the jurisdiction of the CIA United States in 1949, and were publicly disclosed in the 1980s as documents of the CIA United States National Archives (Record Group 263). This group of documents accounts for a great majority of documents concerning the municipality where Britain became the central administration inside the Shanghai International Settlement. Inside the Police Force, responsible for maintaining the public order in the municipality, the Special Branch was the central organization in charge of maintaining order in foreign trade and commercial activities of Shanghai. The collection contains documents from 1894 to 1945, but the majority are documents produced and collected by
This database includes the bibliographical information of essays and monographs from serials and periodicals published by humanities research institutes of the academy of sciences of Mongolia (former Mongolian People’s Republic), from the first publication until the end of the 1980s. The database includes several subjects in historical archives, collections of documents and academic theses, which can be considered as a fundamental literature of Mongolia’s humanities research. The database allows the search in Japanese and Mongolian languages. The serials and periodicals continue to be published up to the present, but due to the backlog of material that requires processing, recent essays and monographs are not included. The original sources are owned by the Institute of North East Asian Research of the University of Shimane.
30. The Subject Index Database of China Related Archives Located at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University

http://app.cias.kyoto-u.ac.jp/infolib/meta_pub/G0000020HOV
Abbreviation URL: http://goo.gl/Hqo4j

A database of about 4500 subjects of China related archives owned by the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. The archive features: the individual archives of well-known Chinese people; foreign advisers of the Government of China; Chinese researchers; army members of the Second Sino Japanese War and the Pacific War; American intelligence service; organizations for reconstruction and aid assistance to China; missionaries and missionary activities; collection of Russians in exile; the state of affairs immediately after the Second World War; and all sorts of newspaper clippings, among others.

31. Resource Sharing System for Area Studies

http://app.cias.kyoto-u.ac.jp/GlobalFinder/cgi/Start.exe
Abbreviation URL: http://goo.gl/akc6C
This is a new and innovative database that aims to integrate and retrieve databases dispersed on the Internet. In addition to an ordinal keyword search, this database allows to retrieve data by appointing the specific position on a map and appointing certain periods of time. The database integrates CIAS’s 16 databases: British Parliament Map Database, Tamil Movies Database, Qalam Article Database, Waktu Article Database, Database of Turkestan’s sbornik, Database on the Election and Political System in East Central European Countries, Malaysian Movies Database, Thai Movies Database, Twentieth Century Chronological Database (1918-1952), Index Search Database of "Municipal Government Bulletin of Beijing Special Municipality (1938-1944),” Document Subject Index Database of the "Shanghai Municipal Police files (1894-1949),” The Subject Index Database of China related Archives of Hoover Institution at Stanford University, Database of Index of Periodical Articles of the Academy of Sciences in Humanities of the Mongolian People's Republic, Manchukuo Poster Database, The Prewar East Asia Picture Postcards Database, and Three Seals Laws (Royal Institute version) database. In addition, since 2012 the Resource Sharing System for Area studies integrated total of 41 databases including databases from the Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS), the National Museum of Ethnology, the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature, and the OPAC of CIAS, CSEAS, and the Slavic Research Center of Hokkaido University. Finally, Asian Topographic Maps is also scheduled to be available since fiscal year 2013.
Database shared by the Resource Sharing System for Area studies is described in different language such as English, Thai and Russian. Therefore, if a search word is Japanese, it is invalid for databases described in English. The Resource Sharing System for Area studies of a multilingual version is an experimental system that has a translation function by use of the Language Grid Service (http://langgrid.org/jp/). If a search word is Japanese and a target database is described in English, this system will translate Japanese search word into English, retrieve the database by English, and translate and display the results in Japanese. Since it is a prototype, the access is restricted to internal use at CIAS and CSEAS.
Database service needs much expertise knowledge such as database systems, operating systems, networks and so on, which make it difficult for non-information researchers to construct and open databases. My Database is a database construction support tool for researchers who are not computer specialists easily to create and modify metadata, define search functions, and design search screens by simplifying operations and managements of database systems. If users prepare for CSV files or XML files with image files which meet minimal requirements of My Database, they can easily to create and open their own databases simply by following the instructions of My Database.

While My Database allows researchers easily to construct their databases, functions of screen designs and retrieval procedures are limited. The REST like API offers rich database operation and management functions to solve above problems. Researchers can realize attractive user interfaces, complex retrieval procedures, and integrating databases by writing simple API programs using JavaScript or other languages.
HuMap is a GIS (Geographic Information Systems) tool which is developed by H-GIS Research Group (http://www.h-gis.org). HuMap is derived from TimeMap developed by TimeMap Project which is the international collaboration project of Sydney University and the ECAI (Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative, University of California Berkeley). The innovation of TimeMap is that it can carry out temporal operations, but weakness is that it is rather a viewer than an analysis tool. Therefore HuMap aimed at the development of a genuine GIS tool while using the time processing feature of TimeMap.

HuMap has been developed by several ongoing collaborations. They include the Collaborative Research Project on People and Water by the National Institutes for the Humanities started in 2005, the Resource Sharing Development Project by the National Institutes for Humanities started in 2006, IPSJ Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research started in 2007, CIAS Joint Research Project started in 2007, and other projects. The latest HuMap is completely different software from TimeMap, and is available for downloading from the Website (free of charge). The tool has been used in various academic domains such as public health, history etc.

HuMap has the following functions:

**Basic Viewer Functions**

1. Arrange/display various data by place and time
2. Use maps whose coordinate systems are different simultaneously
3. Multi-format: ESRI shape files, CSV, XML metadata, JPEG, JPEG2000 etc.
4. Layer selection, change layer order, create new layers, delete layers etc.
5. Change symbol/colour/size/value of an object (feature)
6. Zoom-in/out by place and time
7. Import/export layer data
8. Web-link
9. Put and retrieve annotations on layers

**Spatial Tool Functions**

10. Link with the data clearing house
11. Retrieve objects (features) by place, time, and subject
12. Choropleth Map
13. Animations/tracking
14. Logical operations between layers (Intersection, Union, Merge etc.)
15. GIS functions (Dissolve, Buffering, Clipping, Tracking etc.)
16. JAVA and R plug-ins for advanced analysis (under construction)
HuTime is an innovative temporal information tool developed by H-GIS Research Group (http://www.h-gis.org/). In the same way as HuMap overlays and visualizes maps and images by referencing positions, HuTime arranges calendars, documents, graphs, and images by referencing time lines. Users can easily grasp temporal relations and/or patterns of events from different calendars by time. Although there are some temporal tools such as SIMILE Timeline, these tools primarily focus on data visualization. The strength of HuTime is that it can carry out basic temporal operations. HuTime has been developed by several ongoing collaborations. They include the projects at the National Institutes for the Humanities started in 2005, CIAS Joint Research Project started in 2007, and other projects. HuTime is available for downloading from the Website (free of charge). HuTime has been used in various academic domains such as environment, history, and even in lectures at universities.

Functions of HuTime are summarized as follows.
**Basic Viewer Functions**
1. Arrange/display various data by time
2. Use calendars whose calendar systems are different simultaneously
3. Multi-format: CSV, XML metadata, JPEG, GIF etc.
4. Layer selection, change layer order, create new layers, delete layers etc.
5. Change symbol/colour/size of an event
6. Zoom-in/out by time
7. Import/export layer data
8. Web-link

**Temporal Tool Functions**
9. Link with data clearing house (under construction)
10. Retrieve data by time and subjects
11. Search/filter functions to select specific events on a layer
12. Logical operations between layers
13. Analysing periodicity, causal relation etc. (under consideration)

35. A Temporal Information Tool (HuTime: Humanities Time)
Accessibility: CIAS, R&D Group of the Database

Digital Historical Gazetteer is a simple thesaurus about historical place names in Japan. Entry words are collected from "Dainihon Chimei Jisho (Dictionary of Place Names in Greater Japan compiled by Togo Yoshida)," "Engishi Jinmyocho (Procedures of the Engi Era)," "Nihon Jiin Sokan (Directory of Japanese Temples)," "Jinsoku-zu (Quick Mastery Maps: Kanto Region)," and "Kasei-zu (Temporary Maps: Kinki Region)." At present, more than 300,000 place names are registered in the Gazetteer. This is the largest free digital gazetteer in Japan. Each entry word includes its present place name, pronunciation of the place name by Japanese KANA and Roman alphabet, broader and narrower place administrative units (e.g., prefecture, county, town, village), types of the place (e.g., rivers, mountains, houses), and geographic coordinates (longitude and latitude). This digital gazetteer will be used to identify correct place names, to convert a place name into a pair of coordinates, to visualize spatial relationships between places, to analyse spatial patterns of particular place names and so on.
The Calendar Database is a simple table to organize all dates (Japanese dates, Chinese dates, Gregorian dates and so on) according to Julian dates. It is used to convert a date from one calendar to another.
Subjects are keywords that describe primary themes of materials. However, as there are many equivalent and resemble words (synonyms and quasi-synonyms) that express the same theme, information retrieval sometimes becomes difficult. Therefore, the subjects must be controlled under an authority, which is called "subject headings." The Basic Subject Headings (BSH) is one of the subject headings which is the list of the controlled indexing words used for information retrieval in libraries and published by the Japan Library Association (JLA). The Topic Maps Database of JLA Basic Subject Headings is a database constructed with the process of ontology and semantic web researches and is a web application by means of topic maps of BSH. Currently, 11,226 topics, 21,798 associations and 45,778 occurrences are registered in the database. This topic map was created from a computer file (BSH4) of the JLA distribution. With the consent from the JLA subject heading committee it has now become available to the public.
Subjects are keywords that describe primary themes of materials. However, as there are many equivalent and resemble words (synonyms and quasi-synonyms) that express the same theme, information retrieval sometimes becomes difficult. Therefore, the subjects must be controlled under an authority, which is called "subject headings." The Subject Headings of the National Diet Library (NDLSH) is one of the subject headings which is the list of the controlled indexing words applied to the catalogue of the National Diet Library (NDL). The Topic Maps Database of NDL Subject Headings is a database constructed with the process of ontology and semantic web researches and is a web application by means of topic maps of NDLSH. The Topic Map Database of NDL Subject Headings uses a file downloaded from the Web-NDL Authorities (downloaded on August 2, 2011). At present, 75,426 topics, 122,964 associations, and 192,716 occurrences are registered in the database.
AGROVOC is a multilingual thesaurus that covers vocabularies that are relevant to agriculture, forestry and fisheries. The thesaurus contains approximately 40,000 entries in 20 languages. AGROVOC arranges the vocabularies in relation to synonyms, broader and narrower terms, related terms, and non-entry terms. It is used to identify and search information simply and effectively. The Topic Map Database of AGROVOC is a database constructed with the process of ontology and semantic web research and is a web application by means of topic maps of the AGROVOC. At present 53,669 topics and 76,776 associations are registered.

Human Relations Area Files (HRAF) is a file in which the materials written about the various ethno-cultural communities and cultures of the world are analyzed and classified according to areas and ethnicities. The Topic Map Database of HRAF is a database constructed with the process of ontology and semantic web research and is a web application by means of topic maps of the HRAF.
Japanese comic books (manga) have been widely read not only in Japan but also in abroad, and applied into various media from weekly magazines to monographs, animations, movies, internet books, and mobile-phone apps, that is, manga are considered to have already established a cultural genre. Therefore, it is important to collect, digitize and store mange materials, to create metadata for organizing and retrieving them, and to open them to the public through internet. The metadata should:

1. Organize the diverse use of manga in various media, for example weekly magazines, books, movies, and in different translations
2. Allow an easy and efficient preparation
3. Link data related to the contents such as images

Topic Map Database of “Boys over Flowers (Hana yori Dango)” is a trial version of a database built during research on comics' metadata and Web application using topic maps. This database includes the first volumes of “Boys over Flowers (Hana yori Dango)” published in different countries in Japanese, English, and Thai language, and organizes following information by mean of topic maps: bibliographical information, utterances and their locations in images (page and frame), utterers and utterance attributes, and their relations between different language publications. This database can search images and texts of English or Thai text from the Japanese text. At present, this database registers 161 topics, 521 associations and 282 occurrences about bibliographic references, and 2034 topics, 5349 associations and 5338 occurrences about the texts.