

JRC NEWS

Newsletter of the Japan Research Centre, SOAS

<http://www.soas.ac.uk/jrc>

No. 49

January 2003

JAPAN RESEARCH CENTRE SEMINARS

Wednesdays at 5pm in Room G50

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|-------------|--|
| 22 January | Dr Gus Heldt (Bard College)
Writing Like a Man: gender, poetry, and property in the Tosa Diary |
| 29 January | No seminar |
| 5 February | Mr Albert Axell (Author)
The Kamikaze Mentality |
| 12 February | Dr Yorimitsu Hashimoto (Yokohama National University)
Religious Fanaticism or Modern Chivalry? Bushido propaganda and the British Empire during the Russo-Japanese war |
| 19 February | Reading week |
| 26 February | JRC Member's Annual Dinner |
| 5 March | No seminars. (See inside for details of The Toshiba Lectures in |
| 12 March | Japanese Art) |
| 19 March | Professor Drew Gerstle (SOAS)
Creating Celebrity and Fame: Kabuki actors, poets, artists |
| 26 March | Dr Helen Macnaughtan (SOAS)
Female Labour in Japan's Postwar Textile Industry |

From the JRC Chair

NB Dr Cho is visitor

Welcome back everybody to a new year and a new term.

We have another busy but fascinating term of seminars and lectures ahead of us. Issues addressed by this term's seminars range from 10th century gender issues as they relate to the *Tosa nikki* through 18th century kabuki actors to 20th century militarism and post war labour issues. The absence of seminars in the first half of March is in order to enable members to attend John Rosenfield's Toshiba lectures in Japanese arts at the Brunei gallery. He will be giving two lectures on the 12th century Buddhist monk, Chogen. Full details can be found inside this Newsletter.

New this term is a series of seminars in Japanese. Topics addressed include contemporary funeral practise, Japanese responses to Western imperialism, Natsume Soseki's depictions of women and the deification of daimyo in Choshu. Everybody is of course most welcome to attend. Japanese visitors who would like to offer papers are invited to mail me on jb8@soas.ac.uk. The annual members' dinner is the other event not to be missed this term. It will take place on Wednesday February 26th and details will be mailed out to members and MA and PhD students shortly.

If you have any news you would like included in the next issue of the JRC Newsletter, please contact me by e-mail.

John Breen

JRC Seminars in Japanese
Mondays 5.00 – 6.30pm

3 February, Room G51

Yamada Shinya (kokuritsu rekishi hakubutsukan)

‘Gendai Nihon ni okeru soso girei no henyo’

17 March, Room 106

Aoyama Tadamasa, (Bukkyo University)

‘1850 nendai ni okeru nihon no rekkyo ni taisuru taio’

24 March, Room 116

Kitagawa Fukiko, (Tottori University)

‘Soseki shoki sakuhin no josei byosha: Nihon ni okeru shosetsu no seiritsu, buntai, genru’

5 May, Room 116

Kishimoto Satoru, (Tottori University)

‘Shinkakuka suru daimyo ke sosen: kinsei koki no Mori ke o sozai toshite’

CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF JAPANESE RELIGIONS
SEMINARS

Thursdays, 5-6.30pm, Room V223, Vernon Square Campus

16 January

Professor Michel Mohr (Hanazono University)

Examining the Avatars of Bodhidharma: Toorei's commentary on the Damoduoluo chanjing and its Japanese context

23 January

Dr Peter Clarke (Kings College University of London)

Sekai kyuseikyo

6 February 6

Dr Robert Duquenne (Hobogirin Institute, Ecole Francaise d'Extreme-Orient)

Ebisu

27 February

Dr Christophe Kleine (University of Marburg)

Ritual suicide in Japanese Buddhism

21 March*

Dr Urs App (Independent Scholar, Kyoto, Japan)

Francis Xavier's discovery of Zen

* Please note - this seminar is on Friday.

The Sainsbury Institute presents
The Toshiba Lectures in Japanese Arts

John M. Rosenfield
 Professor Emeritus, Harvard University

*The Renaissance of Japanese Buddhist Art
 and the Great Deeds of Monk Chôgen (1121-1206)*

Tuesday 4 March 2003: *Sculptors and Builders*

Tuesday 11 March 2003: *Power of Faith*

at the Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre
 SOAS, University of London
 Russell Square, London



Thursday 20 March 2003: *Power of the Throne*

Blackfriars Hall
 St Andrew's Plain, Norwich



All lectures start at 6.00 pm, followed by an informal reception



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For further information: Phone 01603 624349 / Fax 01603 625011

Email: sisjac@sainsbury-institute.org Web site: www.sainsbury-institute.org

Introducing JRC Visitors

Professor Yuriko Takahashi, Sophia University

April 2000 to March 2003

Recent publications:

‘*Shuowen Jiezi Wuyin Yunpu* and its Japanese Text in Edo Period’, *Chinese Culture*, 2002

‘An Independent Chinese Church in Beijing and its Chinese Pastor in the 19th century. The Church after Lao She Left’, *The Bulletin of the Sinological Society*, 2001

‘On the text of *Shuowen Jiezi* as issued by the Shoheiko during the Edo period’, *The Bulletin of the Sinological Society*, 1998

‘On *Jiguge Shuowen Ding* by Duan Yucai’, *Chinese Culture*, 1997

Philological Studies on the ‘Shuowen Jiezi’, Rokko Shuppan, 1996

‘Lao She's Literature and His Views on Literature’, *Journal of Arts and Letters*, 1989

Current research:

Philological study of an Ancient Chinese dictionary, focusing on *Shuowen Jiezi*.

Comparative study of an Ancient Chinese dictionary, focusing on *Shuowen Jiezi Wuyin Yunpu*, Chinese version and Japanese Kanbun version.

Philological and comparative study of an ancient Chinese dictionary, *Shuowen Jiezi*, focusing on its Chinese Texts and their Japanese Texts in Kanbun.

Historical study of a Christian Chinese novelist, Lao She, focusing on his life and his novels, using missionary archives of the Special Collection Room in SOAS Library.

Dr Reiko Tanimura, International Christian University

November 2002 to October 2003

Recent publications:

Ii Naosuke Kenkyu -Shuyo toshitenno Chanoyu, Sobunsha, 2001

Current research:

Study of political power and culture in 18th century Japan.

Analyze the materials which are categorized as “tea” in the British Museum. I think that I would gain visual information on the tea ceremony in Edo era through that investigation.

JRC Members Research and Travel

Dr Steve Dodd, (East Asia Department), will be co-convenor of the first workshop for the AHRB City and Literature project, to be held 30 April - 2 May 2003 at SOAS; Dr Dodd is also convenor for the Japanese Literature section of the European Association for Japanese Studies (EAJS) to be held in late August in Warsaw; he will present a paper, entitled Kajii Motojiro, the City, and Modernism, at a workshop 'The Other in Japanese Literature' to be held at Leeds University, 25 - 27 June.

Dr Lucia Dolce, (East Asia Department), gave a talk on ways of studying Buddhism in Europe at Taisho University, 17 October 2002; gave two lectures on Nichiren's interpretation of esoteric Buddhism, at the University of Tokyo, 4 December 2002, and at the Kokusai bukkyogaku daigakuin daigaku (ICABS), Tokyo, 28 January 2003; and will give a lecture on mediaeval prophecies at the Italian School of East Asian Studies, Kyoto, 28 March 2003; has taken part in the annual meeting of the Tendai gakkai in Eisan gakuin, Sakamoto, 8 – 9 November 2002; attended the opening conference of the Nihon sogo bukkyo kenkyukai at the University of Tokyo, 8 December 2002.

Dr Lola Martinez, (Anthropology and Sociology Department), gave a paper entitled Kurosawa, the Price of Global Fame at the conference on Japanese popular culture 'Popular Noise', at the University of Bielefeld, Germany, November 2002; gave a paper entitled From Fairy Tale to Science Fiction for the AHRB workshop series 'Translation and Genre'.

Dr Gary Scott, (East Asia Department), gave a paper entitled "Japanese-style" Languages and Adjective Ordering Restrictions at the Centre National de Recherches Scientifiques, Paris, December 2002.

Dr Timon Screech, (Art and Archaeology Department), gave a paper in Paris at the conference 'Regards sur la pensee de l'epoque d'Edo', entitled L'ecole du Kano: splendeur et sclerose, December 2002.

JRC Members Publications

John Breen, 'The Rituals of Anglo-Japanese Diplomacy: imperial audiences in early Meiji Japan' in Gordon Daniels and Chushichi Tsuzuki (eds.), *The History of Anglo-Japanese Relations 1600-2000 5: social and cultural perspectives*, Palgrave, 2002.

Steve Dodd, 'Making Space: Kunikida Doppo and the "Native Place" Ideal in Meiji Literature' in M. Hockx and Smits, I. (eds.), *Reading East Asian Writing: The Limits of Literary Theory*, London and New York: Routledge Curzon, 2003.

Lucia Dolce, 'Hokke Shinto: Kami in the Nichiren Tradition' in Fabio Rambelli and Mark Teeuwen, (eds.), *Buddhas and Kami in Japan: Honji Suijaku as a Combinatory Paradigm*, Curzon/Routledge, 2002.

Gary Scott, 'Stacked Adjectival Modification and The Structure of Nominal Phrases' in G Cinque (ed.), *Functional Structure in DP and IP: The Cartography of Syntactic Structures*, Vol. I. New York: Oxford University Press, 2002.

— "'Japanese" Type Languages and Adjective Ordering Restrictions' in *SOAS Working Papers in Linguistics* 12 (edited by Colella C. & S. Hellmuth), 2002.

Introducing New JRC Members

Keller Kimbrough is here at SOAS as a Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Research Fellow for the 2002-2003 academic year. A native of Colorado, he received an M.A. degree in Japanese Literature from Columbia University in 1993, and a Ph.D. from Yale University in 1999. He has held one-year teaching appointments at the University of Michigan and the University of Virginia, and he is now an Assistant Professor of East Asian Studies at Colby College in Waterville, Maine. This year at SOAS, Keller is revising his doctoral dissertation for publication as *Izumi Shikibu and the Literature of Medieval Japan*. His research interests include the Buddhist literature of Heian and medieval Japan, popular culture in the Japanese medieval and early-modern periods, and the uses of painting in storytelling, performative preaching, and medieval literary production. His publications include: 'Apocryphal Texts and Literary Identity: Sei Shônagon and the *Matsushima Diary*' in *Monumenta Nipponica* 57, no. 2 (summer 2002); 'Voices from the Feminine Margin: Izumi Shikibu and the Nuns of Kumano and Seiganji' in *Performing Japanese Women*, vol. 12:1 #23 of *Women and Performance* (2001); '*Nomori no kagami* and the Perils of Poetic Heresy', forthcoming in *Proceedings of the Association for Japanese Literary Studies* 4 (summer 2003); translations of *Shintokumarû*, *Ko-Atsumori*, *Izumi Shikibu*, *Chûjôhime*, and a section of *Jôruri monogatari*, forthcoming in Haruo Shirane, ed., *Japanese Literature: Beginnings to 1600* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2003).

Dr Chris Jones is a Visiting Lecturer in Japanese Politics at SOAS from the University of Kent at Canterbury.

Recent Publications:

- 'Politicizing Travel and Climatizing Philosophy: Watsuji, Montesquieu and the European Tour', *Japan Forum*, 14:1 (2002)
- 'A Lost Tradition: Nishida Kitarô, Henri Bergson and Intuition in Political Philosophy', *Social Science Japan Journal*, 5:1 (2002)
- 'If not a Clash, then what? Huntington, Nishida, and the Politics of Civilizations', *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific*, 2002:2
- 'The State of the Art on Zen (and the Art of the State)', *Global Society*, 16:3 (2002)
- 'Ethics and Politics in the Early Nishida: Reconsidering *Zen no kenkyû*', *Philosophy East & West*, 53:4 (2003)

Over the past year, Chris has presented a number of papers on the connections between Heidegger's political thought and that of Nishida Kitarô – including one at Oxford University and one at Leiden University.

Current Research:

Chris is currently putting together a special issue of the journal *Global Society*, themed on 'Locating the 'I' in 'IR''. It is concerned with de-centring and challenging the hegemony of Euro-American theories of politics and international relations. It will appear in April 2003. He is also working on a book for Manchester University Press, *Japanese Politics and Political Thought* (forthcoming, 2003), as well as on a monograph, *Ideas at War: Nishida Kitarô and the Philosophical Context of the Co-Prosperity Sphere*. His main research interests are in Japanese philosophy, political thought, and the intellectual history of Japan.

Japan Related MPhil and PhD Dissertations at SOAS

- Anna Schegoleva**, Ghosts in Japan: re-constructing horror in modernity
(Prof. Brian Bocking and Dr Lucia Dolce)
- Christian Boehm**, Early Heian Buddhist Chinzo Sculpture
- Robbert Fehmers**, Late Edo bunjin calligraphy
(Dr John Carpenter)
- Irena Hayter**, Interrogating realism: literary self-consciousness in the modern Japanese novel
- Helen Weetman**, Dislocation in Japanese literature: Ishikawa Jun and post-war
experimental writing
(Dr Steve Dodd)
- Yukiko Nishimura**, Worship of Avalokitesvara in Japan
(Dr Lucia Dolce)
- Kristian Bering**, Takizawa Bakin and Kabuki theatre
- Barbara Cross**, Shikitei Sanba and Kabuki theatre
- Alan Cummings**, Kawatake Mokuami and kabuki playwriting, 1850-1891
- Makiko Tsuchida**, Kabuki theatre and music
(Professor Drew Gerstle)
- Shino Arisawa**, Text relations in Japanese jiuta
- Matthew Gillan**, Traditional music and identity in Yaeyama, Japan
(Dr David Hughes)
- Kris Chapman**, Learning in the martial arts.
- Mari Hirano**, Gift-giving in Japan
- Miki Kawabata**, Nikkeijin in Okinawa
- Anne Mette-Fiske**, Japanese youth and political identity
- Daisuke Murakami**, Japanese tourism in Tibet
- Satoshi Ota**, Japanese popular culture in Taiwan
- Neil Raven**, Naturalised foreigners and companies in Japan
- Rei Sugimoto**, Youth and technology in Japan
- Phil Swift**, Japanese new religions and healing
(Dr Lola Martinez)
- Noriko Inagaki**, Linguistic politeness in Japanese language acquisition
- Akiko Furukawa**, Passives in Japanese language acquisition
(Dr Barbara Pizziconi)
- Meri Arichi**, Hie-Sanno Mandara: the Iconography of Kami and Sacred Landscape in medieval Japan
- Alfred Haft**, The Art of Mitate
(Dr Tim Screech)
- Etsuri Motoyoshi**, Japanese Imperial Household Diplomacy in the Taisho and Showa periods,
with special reference to Anglo-Japanese Court relations
(Dr Richard Sims)
- Inessa Connor**, Japanese and Russian cinema: cross cultural perspectives
- Chris Howard**, Art House cinema
- Mari Kamada**, Film audiences and film consumption in Japan and Britain
(Dr Isolde Standish)
- Silke Neuhusman**, Translating Japanese manga in European countries
(Dr Standish and Dr Lola Martinez)

MA Dissertations at SOAS

The following dissertations were submitted by students as part of the MA Japanese Studies programme 2001-2002:

Charmaine Keng-Siew Chan, The interaction between Western media stereotypes of Japan and home-grown uniqueness

(Supervisor: Dr Lola Martinez)

Martin William Dusingberre, Travel in Japan: pilgrimage and identity in the Kunisake peninsula

(Supervisor: Dr Lola Martinez)

Mitsunobu Komatsubara, A Study of Matasaburo the Wind Imp

(Supervisor: Dr Steve Dodd)

Duncan Laing, Japanese Cinema: media images through contemporary film

(Supervisor: Dr Lola Martinez)

Caragh Law, East Goes West: the effect of Western Music on the Contemporary Music of Japan

(Supervisor: Dr David Hughes)

Joanne Catherine Mercer, Akira Kurosawa and Film: Comprehending Apocalypse in the Atomic Age

(Supervisor: Dr Lola Martinez)

Kate Moran, Macrocosms: representations of symbolic immortality in Noh theatre

(Supervisor: Dr Lola Martinez)

Patrick Andreas Pемler, The Japanese IT Policy

(Supervisor: Professor Chris Howe)

Monica Ruiz-Marques, An Insight Into Japanese Politeness: (language and culture)

(Supervisor: Dr Hitoto Hoshi)

Kazuhiko Sato, Tokyo-jin and Osaka-jin: a comparative study

(Supervisor: Dr Lola Martinez)

Philppa Clare Symington, Japan's Immigration and Refugee Policy; can it remain unchanged in the 21st Century?

(Supervisor: Dr G Healey)

Lok Yee Szeto, Complex Predicates in Japanese and Chinese

(Supervisor: Dr Hiroto Hoshi)

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2002 Japanese Language Proficiency Test

The JLPT was held at SOAS on Sunday 1 December 2002 with the highest number of applications --- 647 --- since we began hosting the test some years ago. Applications for the test were, Level 1: 89, Level 2: 169, Level 3: 215, Level 4: 174. Test results will be sent to candidates in March, by the Japan Research Centre. Our thanks to staff and students who assisted on the day.

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Voluntary contributions towards the cost of mailing the *JRC News* are very welcome.

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We would like to thank readers who have already sent in contributions.

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