



人間文化研究機構

現代中国地域研究 拠点連携プログラム

Contemporary Chinese Studies

Newsletter

No. 7 Jul.2011

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NIHU Program “Contemporary Chinese Studies” Project

Research Centers 2010 Yearly Activity Report and Future Schedule

The 5-year joint project of NIHU Contemporary Chinese Studies has reached end of its fourth year. Heading toward the final fiscal year of the joint project, each research center in the network is working hard on publication. The second volume of *Japan's Contemporary Chinese Studies* has been translated into Chinese and could be downloaded at our joint network homepage (<http://www.china-waseda.jp/index.html>). The third volume is currently being translated, and has reached to the final stage. We also created the English version of our homepage for the program. More research info and achievements will be uploaded on the website in the future. On the aspect of research activity, research center at Keio University took the initiative in hosting the 4th international symposium-“Coexistence with a ‘rising’ China”, on January 29.



English Homepage



Japanese Studies of Contemporary China



Waseda University, Organization for Asian Studies (OAS)
Waseda Institute of Contemporary Chinese Studies (WICCS)
<http://www.china-waseda.jp/wiccs/index.html>

Focusing on Academic Publication

Waseda University Network Center (Waseda Institute of Contemporary Chinese Studies-WICCS) has been endeavoring on both publications and academic exchanges with foreign scholars around the world. In the past year, renowned overseas scholars, think tank experts and opinion leaders such as Pin Huang (Institute of American Studies, Chinese Institute of Social Science), Jun Zuo (Boyuan Foundation), Xueliang Ding (Hong Kong University of Science and Technology) visited our center. In addition, WICCS continued to host its research meetings regularly. With the participation of young scholars from both Japan and overseas (South Korea and China), next generation workshops and research meetings regarding on Xinfang (Petition), Social Class and Cold War History were held in December, January and March respectively.

All research meetings aim at research findings publication at first. For example, workshop on poverty and education held a forum called “An educational study of minority group’s female teenagers’ career planning” in January. The research findings of this forum were published by WICCS Series, and later were included in the book *A Survey Study of Tianjin (1997-2010)* by Shigeto Sonoda. In addition, other research achievements such as *Economic System and policy of China in Reform*

Era and its Evaluation by Katsuji Nakagane, East Asia’s Vision and China by next generation research group are currently being editing. The issue of Xinfang focused by our research team will also be included in the paper collection called *Diffusing China* in the future.



WICCS Research Series No.1-3



Cold War History Study Workshop



Kyoto University, Institute for Research in Humanities
Research Center for Modern and Contemporary China
<http://www.zinbun.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~rcmcc/index.htm>

Dialogue with Society – Public Seminars

The most frequently asked question from the ordinary citizens is, where is China – the Great Dragon- heading? For China specialists like us, it is difficult to answer this question in a simple and straightforward way. But it is the important to offer some clues to answer this question and explain it to citizens in a way that is easy to understand. To offer

a platform for dialogue with citizens, the Kyoto University Network Center exerted much energy in the past years on organizing public seminars. In 2007, when the center had just established, we organized a seminar entitled “Heading to the Contemporary Chinese Studies with Kyoto Model”. In 2009, a research seminar called “The Meet of Chinese



Seminar "Contemporary China It's image

Character Culture and Modern Western Philosophy – A case of Liang Qichao” was held in Tokyo. Then in the autumn last year, we had four weekly research seminars on “Modern China: An Image”. The seminars were very well attended and we, as instructors, again felt audience’s high concern to the contemporary China.

It is difficult to explain professional knowledge in a simple way. And, it is not surprise that we often find questions that are less connected and nothing to do with the main theme of the seminars. We

rethink if we are doing not good enough on explain the knowledge in details. For example, in the first round of weekly seminars held last year, we set the main theme as “Why China is the Sleeping Lion”. It is beyond our expectation that so many people came to join us due to the recently happened Chinese fisher boat crashing incident in Senkaku (Diaoyu) Islands. As a result, the theme unfortunately turned to why China is so rude. The seminar originally intended to focus on historical discussion on why the “sleeping lion” surfaced around the 1900s, but questions among the audience after seminar focus on why Beijing took a hawkish stance over the fisher boat issue.

Audience and ordinary citizens tend to interpret the seminar from their own perspective. We strongly aware this reality, and recognize that it is important to offer explanations in a great patience for the public. In this sense, the public seminar is a valuable venue of learning for our researchers.



Keio University, Institute of East Asian Studies (KIEAS)
Center for Contemporary China Studies

<http://cccs.kieas.keio.ac.jp/>

The Publication of Contemporary Chinese Studies Series and the Success of International Symposium.

The Keio University Network Center has reached great success in 2010 on both research findings publication and international academic exchanges. Firstly, we have achieved the publication of Contemporary Chinese Studies Series. The first volume, *National Salvation, Mobilization and Order: Politics and Society during the Chinese Revolutionary Period*, was published in September last year. Based on newly available sources, this volume examines the ruling of China from the late imperial period to the establishment of PRC in a new perspective. In March 2011, we successively published *China’s Diplomacy in the Past 60 Years: Change and Continuity*, which explores Chinese foreign policies from multiple angles. In the coming November, we plan to publish *The Transformation of the Party-State system: Coping with Demands*.

Secondly, the Keio Center focused on exchange with overseas researchers on China Studies. We held seven research seminars and invited the following scholars; Peter van Ness (ANU), R. Bin Wong (UCLA), Jaeho Chung (Seoul National University), Sufeng Wu (Academia Historica), Hongbiao Ying (Peking University), Yunhu Zang (Peking University) and Boyu Zhang (CASS). The presentations of these scholars were all intellectually informative and stimulated further discussions among the participants of our research seminars.

The main academic event of our center this year was NIHU’s 4th international symposium “Coexistence

with a ‘rising’ China” held on January 29. Famous overseas scholars on China studies such as Xueliang Ding (HKUST) and Robert Ross (Boston Collage) came to join us and share their views on the merit and limitation of the developing model of China, the possibility of political reform and the appropriate methods to coexist with a ‘rising’ China. On February 5, we also hosted international workshop “A U.S.-Japan Conversation on the Rise of China and India: Structural Shifts and Policy Consequences”, cosponsored by the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) of the United States. The participants enjoyed a highly professional discussion in closed sessions. The former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda delivered a closing remark for the workshop.

In addition to the above activities, the Keio Center provided a wide variety of activities including monthly lunch seminars, overseas young scholars exchange program and the research gathering (September). We will continue these activities and launch new research projects across the three research groups for more in-depth research exchanges in 2011.



International Symposium



International Workshop with CFR



The University of Tokyo, Institute of Social Science
Contemporary China Research Base

<http://web.iss.u-tokyo.ac.jp/kyoten/index.html>

Open Seminars with Guest Speakers from Different Fields

Contemporary China Research Base at Institute of Social Science, the University of Tokyo has been attempting to internationalize its research activities by inviting famous experts on Chinese studies and holding open seminars on different topics.



Labor relations Seminar

On December 9, 2010, we held a seminar titled “Labor Disputes in China: New Features and Problems”. As the main speakers of this seminar, we invited Prof. Kai Chang, from People’s University of China. Prof. Chang served as the legal advisor for the labor side in the famous Nanhai-Honda Strike happened in May-June, 2010. As a participant of this incident, Prof. Chang pointed out the problems on resolving labor disputes in China. We held another seminar titled “Labor Relations in Contemporary China” on January 13, 2011. Dr. Chan-Hee Lee (ILO, Beijing) and Assoc. Prof. Bill W.K. Taylor (City University of Hong Kong) gave presentation on the current circumstances of Labor Union system and its role in China at the seminar.



Prof. Kai Chang (2010.12)

We also held several seminars on China’s credit system and agriculture including: “The Development of Credit System: A



Field Reserch Trip in Jilin (2010.3)

Comparative Studies of China and Japan” by Prof. Jianguo Sun from Henan University, China (January 11, 2011); “Income Disparity and Social Stability in Rural Areas of China: A Quantitative Study Utilizing Data of Rural Households in

Sichuan” by Dr. Makoto Hoshino from Hokkaido University (February 28, 2011); “Hou Debang and the Development of China’s Chemical Industry” by Mr. Xiwen Chen from Dailian, China (March 1, 2011); “The Re-rise of Global Grain Price and the Trend of China’s Agriculture” by Prof. Akihide Ikegami from Meiji University and Ms. Xiangyuan Zhang from the University of Tokyo (March 9, 2011).

Contemporary China Research Base will make continuous efforts to build the network of Chinese studies in Japan by inviting scholars of various fields from overseas.



Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN), RIHN Initiative for Chinese Environmental Issues

<http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/rihn-china/>

The Start of Comprehensive Network of Japan-China Environmental Studies

The recently astonishing economic development of China has a profound impact to its neighboring countries. In particular, countries in the Indochina peninsula, which have long historical ties with China, have not only maintained economic relations with Chinese but also those aspects on capital and human exchanges. As a result, significant transformations have been taken place in both China and those surrounding countries.

Given the rapid growth of China power and the transformation of local environments and society in its neighboring countries, we started to focus on the “Southwest China” and “Environment and Health (Eco-health)”. By organizing workshops, research meetings and symposiums, we intend to clarify the impact of China Power to its neighboring countries around downstream Mekong River such as Laos. The research findings of those discussions are introduced in our newsletter “Ten-Chi-Jin” (No.13).

On the other hand, our center has been collaborating with researchers both inside and outside Japan, and working hard on building research networks and sharing research findings. In December 2010, we held an “The Third International Conference on Forest Related Traditional Knowledge and Culture in Asia”, with the participation of scholars from China, Japan and

South Korea. Meanwhile, to further academic cooperation, an agreement has been reached with Organization for East Asia Environmental Studies in Kyushu University in October 2011. In February 2011, we jointly hosted “The International Symposium on Combating Desertification in East Asia”, with the participation of scholars that not only from China and Japan, but also Mongol and South Korea. In the coming 2011 fiscal year, to strengthen the foundation and level-up our studies on China’s environmental issue, we will continue to expand our research networks in Asian countries and closely cooperate with those institutes and researchers outside Japan.



International Symposium in Kyusyu Univ. (2011.2)



RIHN News Letter No.13



The Toyo Bunko (Oriental Library), Documentation Center for China Studies (DCCS)

<http://www.tbcas.jp>

A New Stage: Publication of Research Findings and the establishment of New Main Building

Documentation Center for China Studies at Toyo Bunko has been committed to advocating the promotion of collection and utilization of contemporary Chinese historical materials and the furtherance of bibliographical research. For the former objective, we have registered to the NII NACSIS Webcat and established a digital library. For the later objective, we have published selected works entitled “*Chinese Contemporary History from the Perspective of New Historical Materials: Oral, Digital and Local*”, published by Toho Shoten, Japan.

The selected works is mainly related to those research findings of our project since 2007. Those research findings include many papers of our workshops and international symposiums about “New Historical Materials (Oral documents, Digital historical materials and Local archives)” which written by our researchers, other NIHU-CCAS (NIHU Contemporary Chinese Area Studies) researchers and oversea scholars.

Meanwhile, the main building

of Toyo Bunko was established last year. Nearly 900,000 books were transferred to the new stackroom and we plan to open the Toyo Bunko Museum that display some of our valuable books to the visitors. The official opening of the main building will be held in autumn 2011 eventually, as we plan to organize special seminars and exhibitions during the centenary of China’s 1911 Revolution.

In June, the new library opened and reading service for visitors.



New Building



New Library



Publication from DCCS

The 4th International Symposium, NIHU Network of Contemporary Chinese Studies “Coexistence with a ‘Rising’ China”

January 29, 2011 Keio University

From Kyoto back to Tokyo! On 29 January 2011, the Keio University Network Center in Tokyo hosted the 4th international symposium for NIHU Network of Contemporary Chinese Studies. Mr. Kenichiro Hirano gave an opening greeting and pointed out that it is an appropriate moment to organize a symposium on “coexistence with a



Kenichiro Hirano



Ryosei Kokubun

‘rising’ China”. Mr. Hirano mentioned that NIHU program on Islamic studies has played a critical role to the government before, and he hoped that now it is very important for China specialists in Japan to think about the China problem. Then, another greeting was given by Ryosei Kokubun, Director of Keio University Network Center. By tracing the tradition of China studies at Keio University

from Tadao Ishikawa to Tatsuo Yamada, Professor Kokubun raised three questions for the symposium: 1) whether China can offer a new model for state development; 2) whether China’s political institution is shifting; 3) whether China has fulfilled its responsibility in the related issue area as a “responsible power”. The international symposium largely consists of three sessions and free discussion. Opinions were being actively exchanged.

The 1st session titled “How China reached Growth: Questioning the Chinese Developmental Model”. First, Xueliang Ding (Hong Kong University of Science and Technology) explained the conceptual uniqueness of the so-called “Chinese model”. Jingjun Xue (Nagoya University) and Nobuhiro Horoyi (Kyushu University) suggested that China needs to have an institutional reform in both macro-economic and energy aspect. As commentators, Tomoo Marukawa (Tokyo University) mentioned the less participation of state-owned enterprises in the market, and pointed out that the increasing gap of income in the Chinese society does not necessarily mean negative at all. Shigeki Iwai (Kyoto University) then pointed out China is going to change from negative to positive and the interest behind the iron triangle of party-state capitalism is the moving force behind the transformation. Iwai further addressed that the weakness of national unification has been traditionally existed in China.



Session1



The 2nd session titled “How China reached transformation: Questioning the possibility of political institutional shift”. First, K.E. Brodsgaard (Copenhagen Business School) pointed out that the Chinese Communist Party still maintains a powerful resource despite the development of civil capital in the economy. The privatization of economy is still and will be the basis of the privileged class of China. Kazuko Mori (Tsukuba University) then introduced the worker strikes at the bottom level and suggested that it is necessary to cope with those diversified situations in China. As commentator, Nobuo Takahashi (Keio University) questioned if there is any change on workers’ perception to the close ties between government and the businessmen. In addition,

Kazuko Mori (former program director) raised the problem of internal rationality by questioning if China has a different conceptualization on working union with the outside world. She further pointed out that instead of state-owned enterprises, the monopoly of cooperation might be a more important problem to understand Chinese economy. The relations of employers and employees, the scope of personnel power were also being lively discussed in this session.



Session2



The 3rd session titled “How to live with a ‘rising’ China”, which focuses on the issues on international relations and foreign policy of China. This session put much time on discussing the relations between China- a ‘rising’ power and the United States- a hegemonic power in the current world order, and the implications of a rising China to the contemporary world order. Robert Ross (Boston Collage) began the session by pointing out the growth of nationalism in China when the country’s status is rising. On the other hand, he also positively commented that conflicted has been avoided in the past years. Yong Wang (Beijing University) forecasted the possibility of New Cold War by applying the realist and liberalist theories. Then, Yoshihide Soeya (Keio University) explained the complexity of Chinese nationalism, in which both victimization and self-confidence co-exist in China. Soeya suggested that it is necessary for Japan to build multi-lateral relations in East Asia on the basis of US-Japan alliance. As commentators, by employing pendulum theory, Xiao Ren (Fudan University) suggested that conflicts stimulated by one side may call further escalated reaction by the other side over the diplomatic issue. Seiichiro Takagi (Aoyama University) suggested that it is necessary to cope with China through both competition and coexist.



Session3

Finally, Tatsuo Yamada, emeritus professor of Keio University, gave his closing remarks by saying that a sketch on China is important for contemporary Chinese Studies. We need both peacefully co-exist and compete with China but at the same time avoid conflict with the country. He ended his speech by emphasizing the importance of searching an appropriate way to coexist with a ‘rising’ China.



Tatsuo Yamada

The 5th international symposium of NIHU will be held at Waseda University in January 2012. For more details, please check our website and we are looking forward to your participation.

(Edited by: Center for Contemporary China Studies, Keio University and Waseda Institute of Contemporary Chinese Studies, Waseda University)