Preface

The Institute for Cultural Interaction Studies of Kansai University, in addition to carrying out Global Center of Excellence projects, laterally brings together various fields of research and promotes education and research aimed at creating a new field in the humanities and social sciences called cultural interaction studies. Within this purview lies the International Academic Forum for the Next Generation, a unique and regular venue for young researchers to freely bring forth new ideas.

In the first International Academic Forum for the Next Generation, papers were presented and discussion was held on the theme of “Cultural Reproduction on Its Interface: From the Perspectives of Text, Diplomacy, Views of the Other, and Tea Culture in East Asia.”

Culture is never statically preserved in social groups outside the confines of history. Rather, culture should be thought of as constantly undergoing revision through cultural interaction at the interfaces of different cultures. Moreover, it is thought that groups with different historical and social backgrounds or different political-power relationships (such as ruler and ruled, central and peripheral, majority and minority, preexisting and new) come into contact at the interfaces between different cultures. There culture becomes a point of contention, cultural differences are noted, boundaries based on these differences are constructed, and people at these boundaries continuously reinterpret their own and the other culture, revising their culture in the process. The first International Academic Forum for the Next Generation, focusing on such issues, analyzes the processes of cultural reinterpretation and revision in East Asia in the four areas of texts, diplomacy, views of the other, and Tea culture, and sought clues for dynamically understanding the structure of interactions between cultures in general.

Moreover, it presented research based on specific geographic regions. It focused on the southern portion of East Asia, Southeast Asia, and regions west thereof, presenting papers on Okinawa, Taiwan, Yunnan Provence, Vietnam, Burma (Myanmar), Malaysia, Sri Lanka, and Europe. East Asia as a region is defined by many peculiarities of historical periods and phenomena. We thought that if we selected interesting research concerned with any area of Asia without setting up any a priori limitations, we could overcome the limited perspective
within the field of East Asian research.

In this forum we welcomed up-and-coming presenters and commentators from Japan and abroad, and we ascertained the need for further research and discussion on the topics covered in the forum. In the area of tea culture, though most of the researchers of this institute who presented comparative research on this topic started from nothing, they showed that they could come up with definite research results, thereby providing a model for future multidisciplinary research on a common theme (for details, see the planned report “Journal of East Asian Cultural Interaction Studies, Special Issue”). Hence we feel that this forum, a collection of research on disparate topics, was a definite success.

On the basis of this experience, we hope to plan and carry out more evolved forums in the future. We invite those interested to attend.

Coordinator for the 1st International Academic Forum for the Next Generation
NISHIMURA Masanari
The 1st International Academic Forum for the Next Generation
Program

Theme: Cultural Reproduction on its Interface:
From the Perspectives of Text, Diplomacy, Otherness, and Tea in East Asia

Date: 13th and 14th, December, 2008
Venue: 4th floor, Ibunkan, Senriyama Campus, Kansai University, Osaka, Japan
Host: Institute for Cultural Interaction Studies, Kansai University

Opening speech KAWATA Teiichi
(President, Kansai University)

Introduction NISHIMURA Masanari
(COE-Assistant Professor, ICIS, Kansai University)

Session 1 Diplomacy as Cultural Interaction in Early-modern East Asia

Structural Transformation of Ryukyu Kingdom in the 17th and Early 18th Centuries: As an Intersection of Cultural Interaction
OKAMOTO Hiromichi
(COE-PD, ICIS, Kansai University)

The Position of Vietnam in the Seventeenth-Century Intra-Asian Trading System
Hoang Anh Tuan
(Lecturer, Department of History, Vietnam National University, Hanoi)

A Comparative Study of Dutch Diplomatic Strategies and Practices in Asia at the End of the 18th Century
Alicia Schrikker
(Lecturer, Institute for History, Leiden University)

Comment and Discussion
Commentator HAMASHITA Takeshi
(Professor, Faculty of Intercultural Communication, Ryukoku University)
Session 2 Negotiating the Self and the Otherness on the Interface of Cultures: Case Studies from Baba Chinese, Indigenous Taiwanese, and Yunnanese Muslim Migrants

Interculturalism, Empire and Nation State: A Portrait of the Lim Cheng Ean Family
Neil Khor
(PD, History Department, University of Malaya)

Facing Japanese: Colonialism, Modernization, and Epidemic Liver Disease in the Truku Society, 1895 - 1945
Hung-Yu Ru
(Ph. D. Candidate, Department of Anthropology, University of Hawaii at Manoa)

Managing the Image of “Yi di (Barbarian Area)”: From the Case Study of Spirit Possession among Yunnanese Muslim Migrants in Burma
KIMURA Mizuka
(COE-PD, ICIS, Kansai University)

Comment and Discussion
Commentator TAN Chee-Beng
(Professor, Department of Anthropology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Second Day
Session 3 Diverse Aspects of Translation-Buddhism, Islam, and Wikipedia

The Formation and Development of the Chinese Buddhist Literature
MIYAJIMA Junko
(COE-RA, ICIS, Kansai University)

The Transition of Terminology in the Works of Chinese Muslim Intellectuals
SATO Minoru
(COE-Fellow, ICIS, Kansai University)

Chinese on the Internet: Case of Wikipedia’s Chinese
HINO Yoshihiro
(COE-Digital Archives Curator, ICIS, Kansai University)

Comment and Discussion
Commentator HORIIKE Nobuo
(Professor, School of Humanities and Culture, University of Tsukuba)
Session 4 Tea Viewed from the Comparative Culture and Cultural Interaction

Cultural Context of the Tea Viewed from the Comparison Study in East Asia
NISHIMURA Masanari, OTSUJI Yoko
(COE Research Group of ICIS, Kansai University)

Development of Porcelain Tea Ware in Europe: From Hizen Porcelain Tea Ware to European Porcelain Tea Service
SAKURABA Miki
(COE Research Fellow, the Kakiemon-style Ceramic Art Research Center, Kyushu Sangyo University)

The Commoditization of Tea Leaf in Southeast Area of Yunnan Province of China: The Case Study of Pu’er and Sipsong Panna of the Late Qing Era
MASUDA Atsushi
(Graduate School of Humanities, Gakushuin University)

Comment and Discussion
Commentator TSUNOYAMA Sakae
(Former Director, Sakai City Museum, Professor Emeritus, Wakayama University)

Comment and Discussion in General
Commentator WANG Zhenping
(COE-Visiting Professor, ICIS, Kansai University, Associate Professor, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University)