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

Aim and Scope

This forum focuses on the contact zone of cultures, which is the interface of the cultures in East Asia. Culture is not developed unchangedly down through history within a single social group. It is constantly varied and reproduced through a process of cultural interaction on its contact zone of cultures. On contact zone of cultures, all social groups with different historical and social backgrounds or political power relationships, the ruler and the ruled, the center and the periphery, the majority and minority, and indigenous culture and foreign culture, are in contact with one another. Culture is therefore a point of contention. Cultural differences arise. An interface is further built upon these differences. Then, through this kind of interface, people continually reinterpret and reproduce their own culture as well as that of others. Based upon the issue of concerns like this, specifically from the viewpoints of text, diplomacy, perception of otherness and material culture (tea) in East Asia, processes of cultural reinterpretation and reproduction will be analyzed, and clues to a dynamic understanding of the structure of cultural interaction in the culture as a whole will be explored.