

The Bulletin CNEAS

Center for Northeast Asian Studies 2012-13

VOLUME

01

March 2014



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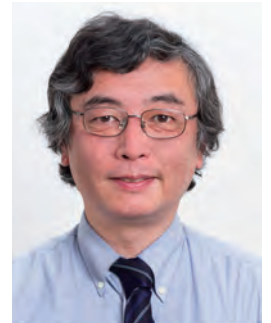
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Director

The Mission of the Center for Northeast Asian Studies

The two decades since the end of the Cold War has been an era during which Northeast Asia became increasingly visible. Six nations, including the Siberian and Far Eastern parts of Russia, China, Mongolia, North and South Korea, and Japan, are part of this vast region occupying almost half of the continent. Yet from the historical point of view, what was most notable about past twenty years of this region was the recurrence of regional geopolitical currents that have their roots in the seventeenth century. The ascendancy of Czarist Russia in the north and the establishment of the Daiqing dynasty of China in the south, accompanied by the decline of the traditional power of the nomadic tribes of Inner Asia and the maritime power of premodern Japan, ushered in an era of domination of the region by the two gigantic empires. With the arrival of modern imperialism in the second half of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century, the region was buffeted by the breakdown of the old geopolitical order and wars between nation states. Later, during the years of the Cold War, the region came under the strong grip of the Soviet Union and communist China and was sealed off from advances by the outside forces of American sea power under which

Japan and South Korea sought their security. Then what did the region gain after the end of the cold war regime? Now again we see the establishment of Russian and Chinese political hegemony on the continent along with economic cohesion between them and the maritime powers. Relations among the region's nations are growing closer and demographic transfer over their boundary lines is increasing. But the Northeast Asia emerging from these changes is still unstable, as reflected in recent territorial disputes and ethnic confrontations. The consequences of globalization are also unpredictable. The issues of the Northeast Asian region, as shown in this Bulletin, range over a wide spectrum of academia, making the interdisciplinary approach to research indispensable. The growing need for the advancement of Northeast Asian regional studies encourages us to mobilize the capacities of scholars throughout the world. This is the mission of CNEAS.



Oka Hiroki,
the Director of CNEAS

Focus

Siberian Ethnology and Edo-Period Castaway Accounts

On February 16, 2013, at the invitation of the privately organized Ishinomaki Wakamiya-maru Castaway Society, in the first-floor hall of the Ishinomaki Kahoku Building, Ishinomaki, Miyagi prefecture, I presented a lecture on "Siberian Ethnology as Seen From the Records of Castaways: History and the Present."

Tsudayu and the other crew of the Ishinomaki Wakamiya-maru are known to have been the first Japanese to go around the world by ship. After leaving Ishinomaki in 1793, the ship suffered an accident and drifted to the Aleutian Islands. There they encountered the indig-

enous peoples of the islands as well as Russian settlers and were taken to St. Petersburg via Kamchatka peninsula, the Sea of Okhotsk, Yakutsk, and Irkutsk. Later they crossed the Atlantic and the Pacific on the ship carrying Nikolai Petrovich Rezanov, a prominent figure in Japanese-Russian diplomatic relations, and returned to Japan in 1804. Of the crew of 15 who had accompanied Tsudayu, only 4 returned alive.

The record of their travels is preserved in the Kankai ibun [Strange Tales of Circumnavigation] and other writings. The Kankai ibun contains quite a large number of



accounts of an ethnographical and topographical nature, so I also spoke about the value of this and other documents from the point of view of cultural anthropology today.

I had known about the sojourns in Siberia of Edo period castaways including Daikokuya Kodayu (1751-1828), but this time I read the accounts of Tsudayu and his crew and was

quite surprised to find much of value from a documentary point of view. I am particularly interested in how they obtained such a wealth of ethnographical information and how it was recorded. The Kankai ibun is a report of oral

accounts obtained from the castaways by rangaku (Dutch learning) scholar Otsuki Gentaku of the Sendai domain. The question of how such ethnographical information obtained from castaways was written down is a subject worthy of study in the history of cultural anthropology.

This lecture was made possible by the Society's chairman, Kimura Seichū who took an interest in my book *Gokkan no Shiberia ni ikiru* [Life in Arctic Siberia: Shinsen-sha, 2012] and the connection provided by CNEAS professor HIRAKAWA Arata, who is also vice-chairman of the Society. I was nervous about speaking to the audience of about 30 members who were much more informed about the castaways than am I, but the question-and-answer session was very lively and I thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity to speak. (TAKAKURA Hiroki)

Focus Symposium linking Sendai and Florence

Public Lectures: Preservation of Cultural Heritage by Science and Technology: Experience from the 3.11 Earthquake and Tsunami and Flood in Florence.

This was a program of lectures held by CNEAS, with support from the Istituto Italiano di Cultura-Tokyo, at the Sendai Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 10 March 2012. The event was held in conjunction with "Spirit of Tohoku University," Tohoku University's one-year anniversary commemoration of the Great East Japan Earthquake, inviting overseas researchers connected with the university for a program dedicated to recovery from the disaster. Many historic buildings and cultural properties were lost in the tsunami at the time of the March 2011 Earthquake and great effort has been invested in their salvage and restoration. Like Japan, Italy is a nation of volcanic eruptions and earthquakes and is known for its active research for the preservation of cultural treasures from natural disasters. Following the tremendous damage resulting from the flooding of the Arno River in 1966, Florence has become a city with a great accumulation of experience in the preservation of cultural treasures. For these lectures, associate professor Massimiliano Pieraccini, of the University of Florence, with which Tohoku University has an academic exchange agreement, was invited to speak. He presented specific examples of ways science and technology have been mobilized for the preservation

of cultural treasures. After introducing his research conducted at the University of Florence relating to preservation of cultural artifacts that began following 1966 flooding in Florence, he spoke about the case, in which he himself was involved, of using radar to explore the theory that another painting was hidden beneath a work *Battle of Anghiari* by Leonardo da Vinci.

Kaori Fukunaga of the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT) talked about the study and repair of early Renaissance paintings at the Uffizi Gallery in Florence using terahertz waves that are midway between the wavelength of electronic waves and light. Motoyuki Sato introduced the electronic wave technology being used at CNEAS for archaeological site preservation and in protection against fires and disaster mitigation. Akihiro Kaneda and Yosei Kozuma of the Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties reported on cases of the application of technology for preservation of cultural properties in Japan. (SATO Motoyuki)



Focus Symposium Held in Mongolia

In September 2012, an international symposium on Mongolian history was held in the Mongolian capital of Ulan Bator. The symposium was the fifth in a series held about every two years since 2003. Tohoku University has an academic exchange agreement with the Mongolian Acad-

emy of Sciences, and the symposiums have been sponsored jointly by CNEAS and the Academy's Institute of History or Institute of International Studies. Researchers from the Inner Mongolia Normal University participated since the third symposium held in 2007, with the audi-

ence including people from the Russian republics of Buryatia and Kalmykia. Along with CNEAS, the Institute of History of the Mongolian Academy of Sciences and the Inner Mongolia Normal University Institute for Mongolian Studies co-organized the 2009 symposium, and the Inner Mongolia Normal University Institute for Mongolian History and Culture was the third co-organizer of the fifth symposium held in 2012. Participants from Japan were not limited in the university professors and research faculty of institutes, but graduate students were also encouraged to present their papers at the symposium. The research presentations were all given in Mongolian and a collection of papers presented at the symposium was published in Mongolian.

Among the participants in the 2012 symposium on the theme “The Qing Dynasty and Mongolians” were two university faculty members and four doctoral degree students from four universities in Japan. Although unintended, I turned out to be the only Japanese participant—the rest being ethnic Mongolian. Quite a number of Mongolian scholars and students are studying Mongolian history in Japan today. Mongolians in Mongolia, China, and other countries have taken the lead in what may be called international Mongolian studies. When I visited the St. Petersburg branch of the Institute of Oriental Studies (Russian Academy of Sciences) a few years ago, a Russian specialist told me that in their European division, Mongolian studies was on the wane, with research tending to

center on research on Siberia’s Buryatia instead.

In October 2012, I attended a meeting in Beijing sponsored by Renmin University. In Beijing as well, one of the languages of the presentations was Mongolian and the scholars invited from Mongolia gave their presentations in Mongolian. The student who came to meet me after I flew into the airport at Beijing was a Han Chinese but said he was majoring in Tibetan history and studying the Tibetan language. I heard that there are Han students who speak Mongol and I got a sense that there is some change in the language environment involving Mongolian studies in China today. This sort of “localization” of research is in a way quite perfectly natural, but it seemed to me that it might be necessary to consider the significance of that trend in the context of international research exchange, including that with Europe and the United States. (OKA Hiroki)



Recent Events

Fiscal 2012 Visiting Seminar “Japan and Asia”

The “Japan-Asian Studies Seminar” which begun in 2009 between the Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University and the Department of Humanities, Novosibirsk State University was conducted for the fourth time in 2012. The seminar was held in 2012 by Associate Professor KUBO Shun’ichi of the Graduate School of Information Sciences and Associate Professor YAMADA Hitoshi of the Faculty of Arts and Letters. From CNEAS, vice president OKA Hiroki, associate professor TAKAKURA Hiroki, and I participated.

The lectures were held on November 14 on the theme this time of “Reality and the Power of Imagination as Reflected in Myth and Subculture.” During the morning session Professor Kubo spoke on “Catastrophes and Japan’s Pop Culture.” War, nuclear explosions, earthquakes, and other catastrophic events are frequent topics of Japanese manga. In response to the earthquake and tsunami disaster of March 2011 and the nuclear power plant accident that ensued from it, he gave an overview of the status quo of manga and [manga/anime] stories of past catastrophes. By providing specific examples from manga and anime, Kubo made his subject matter easily accessible for students as well as scholars.

The afternoon session was a lecture on “Myth and Shamanism: Japan, Ainu and Siberia” by Professor Yamada. There are points in common between Japan and Siberia in terms of traditional religion, and it was the Ainu that provided the link between them. It is thought that changes happened in the musical instruments used in shamanistic rituals from bows to drums (Siberia) and juzu rosaries (northeast Japan) as they were transmitted from the Ainu. During the talk, Yamada showed videos of shamanistic rituals in the Tohoku region and actual recordings of Ainu songs, which he knew would be of particular interest to the Russian students in his audience. Both lectures were well attended with audiences of more than 50. In addition to students from the departments of Humanities, Foreign Languages, and Management, Novosibirsk State University, Japanese-language students from Novosibirsk Educational University and Novosibirsk State Technical University attended as well. Freshmen and sophomores from the Department of Humanities were numerous in the audience for this event, but a Russian teacher of Japanese language undertook to interpret both lectures into Russian, in order to make them comprehensible even to Japanese-language beginners. There was lively dialogue



between the students and lecturers, indicating that good mutual understanding was achieved.

On November 15, fourth- and fifth-year students presented reports of the content of their graduation theses, and the faculty members from Tohoku University offered advice for the students' research. This kind of session has been conducted yearly, giving each student about five minutes to present a report of his or her research. In the 2012 seminar there were four fourth-year students' and seven fifth-year students' reports. The student reports were mainly about the humanities, but gave an impression of approaches to Japanese studies from diverse perspectives, as illustrated by a sampling of their report titles: "The Ethno-psychological Impact of the Great East Japan Earthquake," "The Development of Stereotypes of Japanese

and Russians," "The Spread of Shinto Outside of Japan," and "A Comparison of the 1960s Student Movement in Japan, the United States, and France." The Tohoku University faculty members asked each student questions and offered advice. Partly because the reports were close to their own areas of research, professors Yamada and Takakura provided particularly detailed advice.

The 2012 sessions marked the end of the "Japan-Asian Studies Seminars." There is as yet no specific plan for what kind of joint project will be undertaken between Tohoku University and Novosibirsk State University. Prior to the opening of the Seminar, on November 13, Novosibirsk State University Vice President Mikhail Lavrentyev, Professor Alexandre Brodnikov, vice dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Professor Elena Voiteshek, chief of the department of Oriental Studies, and the visiting Tohoku University faculty members discussed possibilities for about an hour. They agreed to continue to discuss specific ideas for projects on both sides.

As it happened, Tohoku University was sponsoring a Japan-Russia university fair at about the same time as the Japan-Asian Studies Seminar. The coincidence of these events had a significant impact, helping to bring the existence of Tohoku University into the awareness of people in Novosibirsk. We expect that interchange between both students and faculty of both universities will become livelier from now on. (SHIOTANI Masachika)

Recent Events

Symposium on Networking Research Institutions

On December 19, 2012, CNEAS as the secretariat, organized a symposium of the Third Division (Humanities and Social Sciences) of the Council of the Directors of National University Affiliated Research Institutes and Centers was held at the Westin Sendai hotel. The Council is an organization created for the purpose of promoting scholarly research in Japan through close communication and cooperation among the presidents and directors of research institutes and centers affiliated with national universities throughout Japan. Its predecessor organization included inter-university research institutes in addition to the national university-affiliated research institutes, but in 2004, following the incorporation of the national universities, the inter-university research institutes became separate from the Council, and mutual liaison was promoted. Today, the Council has 63 research institutes and 28 research centers affiliated with 29 national universities from Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine in Hokkaido on the north to the University of the Ryukyus in Okinawa at the south, and they are home to more than 3,300 scholars. The fields of research of the affiliated institutes and centers are very diverse, including the natural sciences, humanities, and social sciences, and the members of the Council are



those that lead university-level research in each field in this country.

This council has three divisions, for science and engineering, for medicine and the biological sciences, and for the humanities and social sciences. In academic year 2012-2013, CNEAS took up the post of secretariat for the third division and planned the symposium held annually under the auspices of the Council. While the Council itself is composed of these three divisions the research activities of the institutes and centers are not clearly divided along those lines. In recent years, interdisciplinary research straddling multiple fields and research merging the perspectives of the humanities and natural sciences through liaison between the humanities/social sciences and

sciences/engineering or medicine/biological sciences are being sought in all sorts of activities of research. In contrast to university faculties and departments, which need to maintain the educational systems based on established research frameworks, the university-affiliated institutes and research centers have the flexibility to engage in this kind of liaison and collaboration. They can by their nature develop interdisciplinary research and so those that advocate linkages between the humanities and sciences are quite numerous. There are, at the same time, voices pointing out the difficulties of conducting research within this new framework. The Division 3 Symposium introduced research being conducted between humanities/social sciences-related scholars and those in other fields, offering a chance to consider the nature of cross-disciplinary research and we arranged for lectures on the theme of “networking research institutes” by scholars affiliated with institutes who work in collaboration between various fields and the humanities. About 80 participants including the presidents of 14 institutes and centers attended the symposium. After a greeting by ITO Sadayoshi of Tohoku University

(Executive vice president of Tohoku University, in charge of research and environmental safety), three lectures were presented as follows:

(1) Associate Professor SUGIURA Motoaki, Institute of Development, Aging, and Cancer, Tohoku University: “Understanding the Mysteries of the Mind through Non-invasive Brain Activity Measurements”

(2) Professor KONO Yasuyuki, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University: “Merging the Humanities and Sciences in Area Studies: Developing Research on a Sustainable Humanosphere

(3) Associate Professor SHIRAIWA Takayuki, Institute of Low Temperature Science, Hokkaido University: “Liaison Among Different Fields toward the Construction of Environmental Science: Efforts in the Pan-Okhotsk Maritime Region”

The lectures were followed by comments by CNEAS Associate Professor TAKAKURA Hiroki and a general discussion moderated by CNEAS Director SATO Motoyuki (chairperson of Division 3 and vice chairperson of the Council both for AY 2012-2013). (SATO Motoyuki)

Recent Events

Symposium, February, 2013

Folk Performing Arts and Festivals in Local Reconstruction: The Impact of the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster on Intangible Folk Cultural Assets



The CNEAS 2012 fiscal year Symposium, co-sponsored by Tohoku Gakuin University and the Tohoku University Faculty of Letters with support from the Yomiuri Shinbun and the Kahoku Shinpo newspapers, was held at Tohoku University's Sakura Hall on the Katahira campus in Sendai. Based on a survey of intangible cultural assets affected by the March 2011 disaster, it discussed local recovery efforts from the viewpoint of folk performing arts and festivals.

The results reported at the symposium, drawn from a Miyagi-prefecture commissioned project, “Survey of Intangible Folk Cultural Assets Affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake,” included the influence of the disaster on festivals, kagura shrine dances, and annual events in the communities in the disaster zone, as well

as the current state of their recovery.

Session 1 of the symposium opened with an explanation of the purpose of the symposium and report of the survey by Professor Takakura Hiroki. This was followed by reports on the affected folk cultures and recovery efforts by researchers in charge of different regional areas: Professor Okada Hiroki (Kobe University) from the viewpoint of cultural anthropology; Professor Kimura Toshiaki (Tohoku University) from the viewpoint of religious studies; Professor Kikuchi Akira (Kyoto University) from the viewpoint of folklore studies; Numata Ai (Tohoku Gakuin University), from the viewpoint of students, and Kotani Ryusuke (Miyagi prefecture) from the viewpoint of local government administration.

In Session 2, which was moderated by Tohoku Gakuin University professor Masaoka Nobuhiro, discussion followed comments offered by Kikuchi Kensaku (Agen for Cultural Affairs, currently in charge of folk culture administration), Saito Saburo (Miyagi Prefecture, Yamamoto-cho Board of Education), and Numakura Masaki (in charge of the Hakusan shrine on Oshika



peninsula, Miyagi prefecture). The discussions lively exchanged among the researchers, the local administration, and the local representative. The symposium drew considerable public interest and was attended by an audience of more than 160. The exhibits set up

at the symposium venue, explaining the survey process and showing the areas surveyed by each research team, drew the interest of many who attended. (INAZAWA Tsutomu)

Awards

Associate Professor TAKAKURA Hiroki Receives 27th Daido Life Foundation Encouragement Award for Area Studies (2012)



Cited for his “pioneering and development of new dimensions of Siberian area studies,” Professor Takakura was recognized by the award for his leadership role in cultural anthropological fieldwork in Siberia and theoretical observations through comparison with other regions,

the high level of his efforts to introduce the field internationally, and his leadership in the organization of interdisciplinary and joint research.

The Daido Life Foundation Award for Area Studies was founded in 1986 by the Daido Life Foundation to honor researchers who have contributed to “global-scale area studies,” which is the most fundamental field of endeavor in cultivating international mutual understanding. Since its inception, the prize has been awarded to

researchers of outstanding achievement both in Japan and overseas. The Encouragement Award is presented to researchers who have opened up new avenues in the field of area studies.

Professor Takakura received the award at a ceremony held at the Daido Life Insurance Company headquarters in Osaka on July 13, 2012.

The Daido Life Foundation defines area studies as “academic research in the humanities, social sciences, or natural sciences that endeavors to clarify human affairs in developing regions or in peripheral or marginal regions through empirical methods closely based in the target area itself.” In addition to this prize, the Foundation engages in the translation into Japanese and publication of contemporary literary works of other Asian countries and the translation into other Asian languages and publication of Japanese literary works. It also helps to build schools as an education support program and engages widely in cultural exchange and education support through area studies.

Professor SATO Motoyuki Receives the 2012 IEEE GRSS Education Award

CNEAS Professor SATO Motoyuki was awarded the 2012 Education Award presented by the Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium (GRSS) of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) at the international conference IGARSS2012 held in Munich, Germany, on July 23, 2012. The prize is awarded to GRSS members who have exhibited exceptional achievement in education and training of researchers in the field of research on remote sensing. Sato, who was the sole recipient for 2012, was recognized for his energetic efforts in training researchers through graduate education, intensive courses, and other activities—including overseas activities in China and Russia—in the field of ground-penetrating radar and microwave remote sensing. Professor Sato played a major role in activities to invite the IEEE GRSS annual international symposium to Sendai for its 2011 IGARSS and was active in preparations as general chairman of the Symposium Committee, although ultimately it was held in Va-

ncouver, Canada, as a result of the impact of the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami disaster that hit the Tohoku area. Professor Sato pursues his research through conference and research activities in IEEE GRSS relating to environmental assessment in Northeast Asia

■ <http://www.grss-ieee.org/about/awards/grs-s-education-award/>

■ <http://www.grss-ieee.org/about/awards/>



Professor ISHIWATARI Akira Recognized for Contributions to JSPS



On August 22, 2013, a ceremony was held to present awards to JSPS-appointed screening committee members who had candidly and dedicatedly reviewed proposals for the Japan Society for Promotion

Science fellowships, and CNEAS professor ISHIWATARI Akira was among those selected to receive an award. Twenty scholars were chosen this time from throughout Japan (representing about 3 percent of all the screening committee scholars). Ishiwatari, along with three other Tohoku University recipients (two from the Graduate School of Science and one from the Institute of Multidisciplinary Research for Advanced Materials [IMRAM]), received the certificate of the award and commemorative plaque on August 22 from Tohoku University Director ITO Sadayoshi at the administrative headquarters of Tohoku University at the Katahira campus.

Ishiwatari recalled the virtually superhuman task he faced in reviewing the documents of dozens of applicants in

fields often far distant from his own areas of expertise and performing the exacting task of assessing and commenting on them. "I was not confident of having performed a task that deserves an award," he demurred, but commented that "since I did pass a number of sleepless nights in order to meet the deadline, I will gratefully accept the award." He received a certificate and impressive folding-plaque with the JSPS logo (Photo), Ishiwatari mentioned his awareness of the heavy responsibility of giving judgment on the careers of others, the result of which could so greatly affect their futures. Recalling the frustration and bitterness he felt upon his own failure to pass entrance examinations or to win research grants, he could not help feeling guilty to be on the screening committee side. Still, he says, recalling his own experience, "there were cases in which I failed but eventually I understood it as valuable lessons," so he hopes that those who did not receive JSPS grants will not be discouraged but move onward toward their sought-after goals. See the CNEAS website for this notice at

■ <http://www.tohoku.ac.jp/japanese/2012/08/award20120827-01.htm>

New Colleagues from 2012

Division of Regional Ecosystem Studies

CHIBA Satoshi, Professor

Ecology and evolution, conservation biology

The research in my laboratory is focused on understanding the mechanisms that regulate biological diversity on various spatial and temporal scales. I use insect, amphibian, crustacean, land and marine mollusk, and trematode parasite, and other organism as model systems to clarify the evolutionary origins of biological diversity in Northeastern Asia.



Division of Geoscience and Remote Sensing

TAKAHASHI Kazunori, Assistant Professor

Ground penetrating radar (GPR)

Observing subsurface conditions is an important task in dealing with many environmental issues. My research seeks to develop and provide tools to probe the subsurface in a non-destructive manner by means of electromagnetic methods. My current interest is the use of GPR in the identification of soil properties.



Department of Research Projects

TAKIZAWA Katsuhiko, Research Fellow

Religious studies

My research explores the religious situation in present-day Mongolia, especially focusing on the influx of Evangelical Christianity following the collapse of the socialist system. I have attempted to illuminate the resilience and transformation of Mongolian society by analyzing this phenomenon as a historical consequence of the long-term religious repression during the socialist period.



Division of Geoscience and Remote Sensing

LIU Hai, Research Fellow

Non-destructive testing

My research topic is imaging and quantitative characterization of subsurface targets and structures using electromagnetic waves. Applications include utility detection, archaeological investigation, disaster mitigation, etc.



New Staff member from 2012

KOYAMA Christian Naohide, Research Fellow

Radar remote sensing

My major focus of research interest is earth observation and quantitative geophysical parameter estimation by means of polarimetric synthetic aperture radar (PolSAR). Currently, I am participating in a NICT project on the development of ground-based sensors for the non-destructive inspection of damaged buildings.



LU Koshun, Research fellow

The theme of my research is "Analysis of the Co-benefits of Unified Policy on Global Warming and Reduction of Air Polluting Substances." Our research involves constructing econometric models of factors including global climate fluctuations and air pollution and conducting simulations of policy countermeasures to recommend what we believe to be the optimal measures for public policy on the assumption that the EOP (End of Pipe) emissions rights market regarding global warming emissions substances and air pollution emissions substances would be introduced.



Visiting Professor

Ulujiabayar (2012.6.1-8.31)

Professor of the Department of Mongolian Language and Literature, Minzu University of China. Field of Research: History of cultural relations between Mongolia and Tibet, Mongolian cultural history, Mongolian philology. At CNEAS, I conduct research on the theme of mutual contact between Mongolian and Tibetan languages and culture.



Visiting Professor

Magaly Koch (2012.9.1-11.30)

Professor of Geology, Center for Remote Sensing, Boston University. I use remote sensing and geographical information systems (GIS) to analyze water resources and environmental changes in tropical regions. Scholars have high hopes for applying radar for earth-surface and underground measurements using the new satellite missions (SMAP, Tandem-L) and other technology for tropical and arid regions of the world. My research is important as it employs radar technology combined with optical sensors for groundwater monitoring.



Visiting Associate Professor

Andryan Borisov (2012.12.1-2013.3.31)

Senior Researcher, Institute of the Humanities and Northern Indigenous Peoples, Siberian Branch, Russian Academy of Sciences (Yakutsk). Subject of Research: Civil Policy on Indigenous People in Siberia in the Czarist Russia. I am concerned with the issues of the rule of the nomadic tribes of Russia (Buryats, Yakuts, Khakas, etc.). Through a case study of the Yakuts, I explain the structure and functions of self governance of the Yakuts in relation to the problems of unification of the state in the process of the Russian settlement of Siberia.



Visiting Professor

Tumen Tsimidorotsiev (2013.1.1-1.31)

Vice director, Institute of Strength Physics and Material Science, Siberian Branch, Russian Academy of Sciences (Ulan-Ude) Applications of microwave remote sensing. The purpose of my research is to explain phenomena originating in frost heave phenomena, from small to large scale, and elucidate natural as well as artificial seismic activity. Clarification of the phenomena of artificially induced earthquakes will be useful in preventing cave-in accidents. I am also planning earth-surface measurements synchronized by satellite in order to clarify the mechanism of earthquake occurrence brought on by plate tectonics in the Lake Baikal area.



Visiting Professor

Altanzaya Laikhansuren (2013.4.1-7.31)

Director of Research Department, Professor, Mongolian State University of Education. Specialization: Historiography, Mongolian history. My previous research focused on the shabi, or serfs of Buddhist clergy in Outer Mongolia during the Qing dynasty (seventeenth to early twentieth century). My current research is a historical study of Buddhist society in Mongolia while at the same time gaining an understanding of the results of Japanese research on Mongolian history.



Visiting Professor

CHEN Zhenghong (2012.10.1-11.30)

Professor, Chinese Classics Research Institute, Fudan University (Shanghai). Field of Research; Chinese classics. Multi-color printing techniques were developed from the end of the 16th to the 17th century in China. My research themes are to analyze East Asian court and private publications printed in color focusing on two-color or multi-color woodblock printings in Japan and Vietnam and to examine the features of specific colors and symbols.



Publications

The language of the following books is basically in Japanese except showing the other language.

■Northeast Asian Monograph Series

This commercially published series presents scholarly monographs in Northeast Asian regional studies aimed at researchers and university students including general readers.

1. An Anthropological Study on the Images of Ethnic Group in Contemporary China. Ed. SEGAWA Masahisa. Kyoto: Showado, 2012.
2. Arctic Pastoralist Sakha: Ethnography of Evolution and Micro-adaptation in Siberia. TAKAKURA Hiroki. Kyoto: Showado, 2012.
3. Religion in Contemporary China: An Ethnography of Belief and Societies. Eds. KAWAGUCHI Yukihiro and SEGAWA Masahisa. Kyoto: Showado, 2013.
4. Living with Invented Tradition: Local Identity of Contemporary Japanese Society. KIM Hyeon-Jeong. Tokyo: Seikyusya, 2013.



■CNEAS Books

A new series published for the purpose of sharing the results of research intended rather for the general reader, which has been published by Tohoku University Press since 2011.

1. Nomads of Siberia and Africa: Livelihoods with Domestic Animals in the Arctic and the Desert. TAKAKURA Hiroki and SOGA Toru. 2011.
2. Linkage of Earth in Northeast Asia. ISHIWATARI Akira and ISOZAKI Yukio. 2011.
3. Suspended Transportation and Isolated Region. OKUMURA Makoto Okumura, FUJIWARA Junko, UEDA Kyoko, KAMIYA Daisuke. 2013.



■CNEAS Monograph Series

Research results of CNEAS joint research projects and individual projects, irregular publication (in-house publications).

46. Written Mongolian and Written Manchu Indices to the Dagur Vocabulary. KURIBAYASHI Hitoshi. 2012.
47. Chinese Word-Index to the Secret History of the Mongols. KURIBAYASHI Hitoshi. 2012.
48. Written Mongolian Index to the Baoan Vocabulary. KURIBAYASHI Hitoshi. 2012.
49. The Report on the Culture of Court Theatre during the Qing Dynasty. ISOBE Akira. 2012.



■CNEAS Reports

A series for such purposes as timely reports from symposiums, cataloguing references, and promotion of exchange with national and international researcher communities since 2010 (in-house publications).

3. Passing on Our Historical Heritage to the Future. Eds. HIRAKAWA Arata and SATO Daisuke. 2012.
4. Reviving the Memory of the Streets of Old Sendai: The History of Tori-cho, Tsutsumi-machi, and the Kitayama area. Ed. HIRAKAWA Arata. 2012.
5. 2011 Fiscal Year Report of Documentation Project for "Investigation of the Damage to Folk Cultural Assets from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami". Eds. TAKAKURA Hiroki, TAKIZAWA Katsuhiko and MASAOKA Nobuhiro. 2012.
6. Mengwen Daogang: Mongolian-Chinese-Manchu Trilingual Dictionary of 1851. KURIBAYASHI Hitoshi. 2012.

7. Research Collaborations among Institutes: Proceeding of Symposium organized by the Section of Humanity and Social Sciences in the Director Council of University Research Institute and Center. Eds. SATO Motoyuki Sato and TAKAKURA Hiroki. 2013.

8. Shamanism as Physical Practice. Eds. KIKUYA Ryuta and TAKIZAWA Katsuhiko. 2013.

9. 2012 Fiscal Year Report of Documentation Project for “Investigation of the Damage to Folk Cultural Assets from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami”. Ed. TAKAKURA Hiroki, TAKIZAWA Katsuhiko. 2013.



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Letters

Professor Elena Voytishek

Head of the Department of Oriental Studies,

Humanities Faculty of Novosibirsk State University (Russia, Novosibirsk)

Information on Cooperation between the Department of Oriental Studies of Humanities Faculty of Novosibirsk State University (Novosibirsk, Russia) and the Center for Northeast Asian Studies of Tohoku University (Sendai, Japan)

Results and Prospects

The Department of Oriental Studies of Humanities Faculty of Novosibirsk State University has matured through many years to become an important part of Siberian Humanities researches. The Department of Oriental Studies is involved in education and research as to the history and the culture of the Far East countries—China, Korea, and Japan. Today's faculty represents a local orientalist school of highly professional historians, archeologists, ethnologists, philologists and art critics, who cover all areas of interest. It is supported by various state organizations—the Japan Foundation, the Korean Foundation, Hanban / Confucius Institute Headquarters, to name a few. In addition, there are much acknowledged Chinese, Korean, and Japanese Centers founded and raised by the faculty to propagate Eastern languages and cultures.

As Japanologists we support strong relations with the Center for Northeast Asian Studies of Tohoku University. It's not only personal contacting for professional issues but also business partnership between our universities, which is regulated by Collaboration Agreement, signed in 2004, and Association Agreement concluded between the Oriental Department and

Center for Northeast Asian Studies in 2008–2012.

Together, we accomplished a more than six-year project for studying history, archeology, culture and society of Japan as an integral part of Asian community. Every year teachers and other staff from Novosibirsk State University and Tohoku University were arranging international seminars for interested researchers, teachers, administration and students of Novosibirsk. Many relevant lectures were delivered for the student listeners of the university only. At the Department of Oriental Studies there have been delivered more than ten lectures on topical issues of modern orientalism; there have been conducted several workshops and seminars, with representatives of different areas of contemporary Russian-Japanese research taking part. Japanese lecturers most actively participated in sc-



entific and educational seminars where NSU students made reports on the topics of their diplomas and course papers.

Thus, we would like to further intensify and magnify our interactions in the educational area and make it mutually fulfilling. The curators of the Russian-Japanese cooperation project have come to an agreement on further interaction in developing new programs to be used by Humanities students and professors

New positive ideas and decisions will surely cement international relations and undoubtedly satisfy the ambition of our collaboration team to be one of the recognized leaders in Asian studies in the world.

Letters

Research Associate Professor Magaly Koch
Center for Remote Sensing
Boston University (USA)

Groundwater exploration in Egypt from space

Following an invitation in 2012, I had the opportunity to spend three months at Prof. Motoyuki Sato's research lab in CNEAS to conduct research related to groundwater exploration in arid lands. I have been collaborating with Prof. Sato and his former PhD student Dr. Ahmed Gaber for the last three years in a research project in Egypt (funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation), which has produced a number of joint publications. During my stay at CNEAS last year I learned a great deal about the use of polarimetric ground penetrating radar (GPR) and polarimetric synthetic aperture radar (SAR). SAR technology has immediate applications in Egypt, where I am currently leading a team of U.S. and Egyptian scientists in the investigating of a desert plain area to develop new techniques of multisensor data integration (from optical, infrared, thermal and radar sensors) for groundwater exploration and land use planning. Such research efforts are aimed to reclaim desert land for agricultural use in order to cope with increasing food and water demands for a growing population. The implementation of large agricultural activities in desert environments requires detailed knowledge about the soil and water characteristics, quality and availability. A combination of multispectral, thermal (ASTER, Landsat) and microwave (ALOS/PALSAR) data obtained from space and supported by ground measurements (ground penetrating radar, field spectrometry and magnetometry) was used to investigate surface sediment characteristics of El-Gallaba Plain in the Western Desert near Aswan. This desert plain once hosted an ancestral river system long before the Nile even existed. At present the fluvial deposits and structural framework (faults) are largely covered by aeolian and gravelly sands and thus only detectible with radar and thermal images. Optical, thermal and radar satellite sensors rely on different operating principles and have the potential

to provide a wealth of complementary information regarding the surface and near-surface sediment conditions in desert environments. Improvements in radar imaging technology (long wavelength, multipolarization and high spatial resolution) is making subsurface mapping of buried features such as faults and paleo-channels possible at increasing depths and spatial resolutions. Field measurements using GPR and magnetic surveys have confirmed the nature and depth of hidden structures in our study area in Egypt, which were previously identified on satellite radar and thermal images. The faults were detected under a layer of desert sands and represent highly fractured zones in the bedrock. The GPR profiles revealed obvious offsets in the subsurface stratigraphy suggesting the presence of highly fractured zones flanking down-dropped blocks of sediments. The magnetic survey on the other hand, detected the relief of the basement bedrock across these depressed blocks of land showing greater depths in the center and shallower depths toward the edges. This strongly suggests the existence of graben-like structures forming sub-basins. The detected buried channels, the depositional environment of the sub-basins and the faults flanking them may well form good groundwater traps or recharge conduits. Consequently, the structurally controlled El-Gallaba Plain basin could be a promising area for groundwater accumulation and exploration in the Western Desert of Egypt.

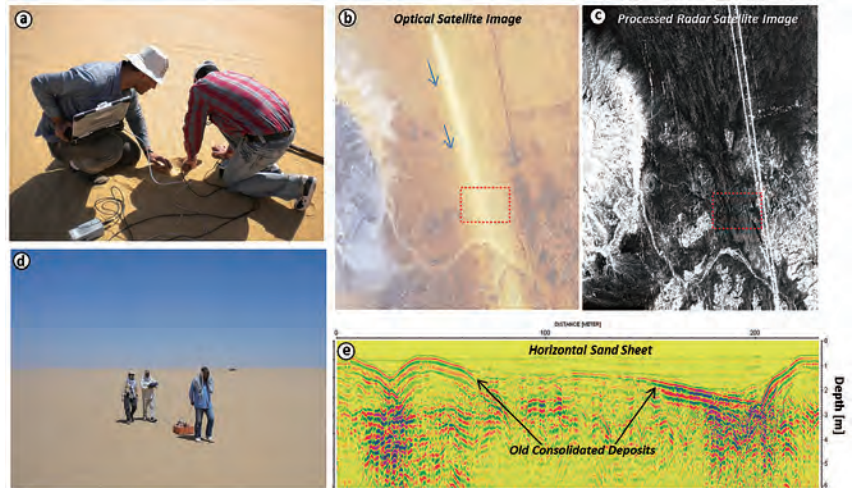


Figure caption:

Field measurements of soil conditions (a), optical satellite image showing moving sands (b), satellite radar image revealing faults under the sand (c), and ground based radar work confirming the nature and arrangement of subsurface deposits (d & e). (Image credit: ALOS/AVNIR-2 & ALOS/PALSAR provided by JAXA. Photo credit: Magaly Koch & Ahmed Gaber)

Acknowledgement:

This project, entitled “US - Egypt Cooperative Research: Assessing the potential of natural resources for land use planning and development west of Aswan, Egypt,” was conducted under the direction of Dr. Magaly Koch, Research Associate Professor at the Center for Remote Sensing, Boston University, USA. It is supported by NSF Grant # 1004283



Editorial

Editorial postscript:

What do you like about this first issue of the CNEAS Bulletin (2012-13). Please let us know. I hope that you would find that matters of your own concern are among our research activities. Your interest could be the seed for a future collaborative research project. We welcome your comments and suggestions. As you may notice, the bulletin has a “Letters” page, which consists of messages from colleagues who were at CNEAS as visiting professors or visiting scholars. I hope that their experiences and messages will encourage the further international academic exchange of Northeast Asian studies. [contasia@cneas.tohoku.ac.jp]



The CNEAS Bulletin is published once a year by the Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University. The bulletin promotes a continuing exchange of information with former visiting scholars and others who related to the Northeast Asian Studies.

Website: http://www.cneas.tohoku.ac.jp/index_e.html

Editor: TAKAKURA Hiroki

Editorial panel: SHIOTANI Masachika, KIM Hyeon-Jeong

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