



Center for  
Northeast Asian Studies  
Tohoku University  
2009-2010



## From the Director

In autumn throughout China and Russia, apples are piled high in village marketplaces. When you see apples, what comes to mind? Their taste, crispness, price? Or do you think of their varieties or the places where they are grown? You might imagine their colors in a famous painting, recall their sweet taste, or associate them with a sweet-yet-bitter experience. But when researchers think of “apples” they are concerned with all sorts of yet-other topics. At the Center for Northeast Asian Studies (CNEAS), a wide variety of research is going on in diverse fields and from multiple perspectives, all focusing on Northeast Asia.

The environment of Northeast Asia—the region extending from Russia through China, Mongolia, the Korean peninsula, and Japan—is caught up in a time of tumultuous change. It is the scene of timeless historic topics as well as compelling contemporary issues. At CNEAS two kinds of researchers come together: those engaged in the study of Northeast Asia and those who pursue their research *in* Northeast Asia. Whether Northeast Asia itself is the subject of their research or the region is the stage upon which they are pursuing the subject of their specialty, these scholars have identified topics of study distinctive to Northeast Asia and are in the process of deepening their study.

When we fly from Narita International Airport heading west and pass over the Sea of Japan, a vast plain comes into sight, through which snakes a massive river—the Amur. Among these geographical features so different from those that we know, we can guess that distinctive cultures flourish. We live in an era when, even without going up in an airplane, we can learn almost anything about the earth’s crust through the technology of remote sensing using data sent from satellites orbiting in outer space. But once you actually set foot in this region and observe the scene from a human perspective, you know beyond doubt that no research on Northeast Asia can be valid without actually visiting there. When you smell the fragrance of the edelweiss that grows wild on the Mongolian plains, tromp through wetlands in Siberia, and feel the potency of the continental mosquito’s sting; when you watch wild birds taking off from dense grass at the demilitarized zone or sip wonton soup in a shop off an urban back alley, you experience the special immediacy of fieldwork. The material of research that you can only obtain by being in the field is in infinite supply, as CNEAS researchers know very well.

SATO Motoyuki

## Research

### TERAYAMA Kyosuke

Associate Professor  
*Soviet-Russian history, Japanese-Russo/Soviet relations*

I study and investigate Soviet border areas (Mongolia, the Far East, and Poland) in the interwar period (1918–1939), especially the Soviet Union’s censorship policy as well as railroad transportation and mobilization of national resources in the Stalin era. I also have begun research on disparate views of history between contemporary Russia and its neighboring countries.

### TAKAKURA Hiroki

Associate Professor  
*Social anthropology, Siberian ethnography*

My current interest is in perceptions and utilization of snow and ice by the peoples of the Arctic region. Examin-

ing the freezing and melting process of waters along the seacoasts and of rivers and wetland areas, I am pursuing a comparative socio-cultural analysis of societies that incorporate that process into the calendar of their daily lives. I am also investigating the impact of global warming upon indigenous societies.

### SHIOTANI Masachika

Assistant Professor  
*Russian economic history, modern Russian economy*

During the Qing dynasty, merchants of Shanxi exported Chinese tea to Russia, and Siberian merchants sold the tea within Russia. Apart from this research on Russo-Chinese trade history, I am interested in contemporary business in Russia, and am conducting fact-finding surveys on corporate management.

### TOKUDA Yukako

Research Associate  
*Area studies of Siberia*

The scientific and human potential of Siberia is not as highly appreciated in Japan as in other countries. In consideration of this fact, the actual state of Siberia is under investigation to attain a clearer image of the region, focusing on the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

### KURIBAYASHI Hitoshi

Professor  
*Philological studies of Mongolian, comparative studies of Mongolian*

In the eighteenth century, during the Qing dynasty, massive polyglot Manchu dictionaries were compiled one after the other. My research investigates the characteristics of Mongolian words and phrases included

in such dictionaries as *Wuti Qingwenjian* [Pentaglot Mirror of Qing Languages].

### OKA Hiroki

Professor  
*Mongolian history, Asian history*

My research explores social and administrative structures established in Mongolia during the Qing dynasty (seventeenth to early twentieth centuries). The recent focus of my work is on the regional administrative reforms in the 1920s and the formative process of Qing rule in the first half of the seventeenth century.

### YANAGIDA Kenji

Associate Professor  
*Russian linguistics, sociolinguistics*

New language varieties may appear due to multilingual use and language

contact. I am engaged in simultaneous observations of both the decreasing status of Russian language in the multilingual society of Central Asia and the changes taking place in the Russian language in this region.

#### ISOBE Akira

Professor  
East Asian publishing culture,  
Chinese literature

The aim of my research is to portray the realities of Qing-dynasty court theater and its influence on Chinese and other cultures in Asia. I also seek to show how Chinese court theater was incorporated into local theater in the course of its formative process.

#### SEGAWA Masahisa

Professor  
Cultural anthropology, South China study

My recent research topics are: (1) the process through which Chinese lineages (*zongzu*) have been restored and how they have changed with

the advent of the twenty-first century; (2) changes in the academic as well as popular discourse concerning Hakka Chinese; (3) recorded genealogies of the She, Yao, Lee, and other Chinese minorities, and their ethnic identity.

#### ASUKA Jusen

Professor  
Environmental and energy policy,  
international cooperation

The design of institutional arrangements in Japan and other countries to tackle climate change is the focus of my research. I would like to conduct research that will contribute directly to specific policy proposals or policy formulation based on quantitative discussion.

#### UENO Toshihiro

Associate professor  
Modern Chinese history, Chinese ethnology

My research mainly focuses on the Chinese frontier area inhabited by various non-Han ethnic groups, and on the historical process of the

area's integration and reorganization in the early and mid-twentieth century into mainland China (the Han-Chinese area) toward a multi-ethnic state. By studying related documents that are increasingly being made available, I aim to clarify the historical background of ethnic problems in modern China.

#### HIRAKAWA Arata

Professor  
History of early modern Japanese

Pursuing a bold revision of conventional images of early modern Japan, my research findings support the assertion, for example, that national seclusion (*sakoku*) was a viable foreign policy for Japan because it was in fact a major world power, and that Edo-period governance was not monopolized by the warrior class but incorporated political systems responsive to public opinion.

#### ISHII Atsushi

Associate Professor  
International relations, science and technology studies

My current research focuses on science and technology studies in international politics, whaling diplomacy, and policy interlinkage among different environmental problems. I plan to investigate the theoretical aspects and practice of environmental cooperation with North Korea and to develop a comprehensive theory for explaining the failures of fishing resource management.

#### SHIKANO Shuichi

Associate Professor  
Microbial ecology, system ecology

Molecular phylogenetic analysis of the composition and changes of microorganism communities in lakes, wetlands, and other aquatic ecosystems is the main subject of my research. I also analyze the structure of the food web supporting higher consumers in the lakes and wetlands of western Siberia.

#### ISHIWATARI Akira

Professor  
Geology, petrology

## Publications

### TOHOKU AJIA KENKYU [NORTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES]

#### Contents of No.13 (2009)

##### Articles

- Iwate-Miyagi Nairiku Earthquake (2008), Northeast Japan: Regional Distribution of Tombstone Fall-Down Rate and Geological Interpretation  
ISHIWATARI Akira (Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University)  
OGURI Naoki (Graduate School of Earth Sciences, Tohoku University)  
HARADA Yoshikazu (Faculty of Science, Tohoku University)
- Precipitative Removal of Free Hydrogen Sulfides from Estuarine Muddy Sediment by Iron Addition  
KANAYA Gen (Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University)  
KIKUCHI Eisuke (Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University)
- On Pidgins, Creoles, Codeswitching and the Russian Language Spoken as a Lingua Franca in Central Asia  
YANAGIDA Kenji (Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University)
- The Study of the Political Contributors and the Relationship between the Contributors, the Feudal Lords and the Local Areas in Sendai Han (administrative division)  
SATO Daisuke (Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University)
- Hegemony and Religious Discourses in the Transitional Period of



Mongolia TAKIZAWA Katsuhiko (Graduate School of Arts and Letters, Tohoku University)

- Cornelius Rahmn and His Works on the Kalmuck Language  
Jan-Olof SVANTESSON (Department of Linguistics and Phonetics, Lund University)
- A Written Oirat Translation of *Tanggū Meyen* (The Hundred Chapters)  
KURIBAYASHI Hitoshi (Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University)  
SECHINBAT (Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Tohoku University)

##### Document Review

- About Russian Paper Moneys Presented by Mr. Ono  
SHIOTANI Masachika (Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University)

### TOHOKU AJIA KENKYU SENTAH SOSHO [MONOGRAPH SERIES OF THE CENTER FOR NORTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES]

32. 1930-nendai Soren no tai-Mongoru seisaku—Manshu Jihen kara Nomonhan e [Soviet Policy toward Mongolia in the 1930s—From the Manchurian Incident to the Nomonhan Incident], TERAYAMA Kyosuke. 2009.
33. "Gencho hishi" Mongorugo kanji on'yaku/boyaku Kango taisho goi [Word- and Suffix-Index to *The Secret History of the Mongols* with Chinese Transcriptions and Glosses], KURIBAYASHI Hitoshi. 2009.

My research on geochemical cycles and the dynamics of solid Earth (earthquakes, volcanoes, plate tectonics, etc.) focuses on rock obtained from drilling into the ocean floor as well as on ophiolites, which are remnants of the ancient oceanic crust uplifted to land by orogenic processes.

**GOTO Akio**

Assistant Professor  
*Physical volcanology, physical properties of magma*

The style of volcanic eruption differs greatly from one volcano to another, and their controlling factors are not clearly known. To clarify these factors, I measure the physical properties of magma, conduct experimental simulations of volcanic eruptions, and observe actual eruptions.

**MIYAMOTO Tsuyoshi**

Assistant Professor  
*Geology of volcanoes, petrology of volcanic rocks*

The history of volcanic eruptions of Mt. Paektu on the China-North Korea border has been the subject

of my research for several years. My particular interest is in the relationship between volcanic eruptions and historical events.

**HIRANO Naoto**

Assistant Professor  
*Petrology and volcanology, tectonics*

Throughout the Far Eastern region and on the sea floor of the Pacific Ocean “petit-spot” volcanoes—unknown volcanoes until recently—can be found. Little is known about how they were formed. My research focuses on the relationship between the origin of these volcanoes and plate tectonic movements.

**OKUMURA Makoto**

Professor  
*Intercity transport planning, urban planning*

My research focuses on the expansion of risk resulting from cancellation and delays of intercity public transportation services, and people’s reactions to the increased risk. I seek to clarify the relationship between intercity transportation-networks

and the hierarchies among cities. I am also interested in the traffic systems that have developed using frozen rivers in the Arctic.

**OKUBO Kazuaki**

Assistant Professor  
*Regional planning, logistics planning*

With the goal of a sustainable society in mind, my research seeks to explain reverse logistics, facility location, and other dynamics of industrial structures and propose workable measures and systems for realizing a better society.

**KUDOJ Jun-ichi**

Professor  
*Environmental informatics, digital image recognition*

The research theme of the Kudoh Laboratory is solutions for the environmental problems of the Far East Russia and Siberia using data obtained by satellite. As forest fires are closely related to the carbon dioxide emissions that are said to be the cause of global warming, we have been engaged in research international-

ly, cooperating with the Russian Academy of Sciences to construct an early detection and extinguishing system for forest fires.

**SATO Motoyuki**

Professor  
*Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR), microwave remote sensing*

Applying the measurement functions of electromagnetic waves, I developed the advanced landmine identification system (ALIS) for humanitarian demining. Tests of ALIS in mine fields in Cambodia showed that it could detect landmines more efficiently than conventional metal detectors.

**WATANABE Manabu**

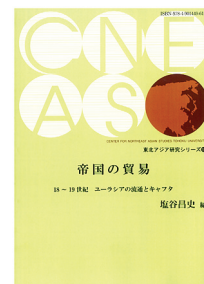
Assistant Professor  
*Environmental remote sensing*

I am engaged in basic research on forest and disaster monitoring and on soil water content measurement using high-resolution image data gathered by ground-based and airborne/satellite synthetic aperture radar (SAR).

- 34. *Jiko genkyuteki minzokushi no kanosei* [The Possibility of Self-referential Ethnography], LEE Inja and KANETANI Miwa. 2009.
- 35. *Tohoku Ajia chiiki Noa gazo detabesu kochiku to bunkei bun'ya e no ryo kenkyu hokokusho* [Interdisciplinary Study of Northeast Asian Region through Construction of a NOAA Database], KUDOJ Jun-ichi. 2009.
- 36. *Roshia shiryo ni miru 18-19 seiki no Nichi-Ro kankei dai-4 shu* [Japanese-Russian Relations in the 18th and 19th Centuries: A Documentary Record, Part 4], sup. HIRAKAWA Arata and eds. TERAYAMA Kyosuke, HATAKEYAMA Tadashi, and ONODERA Utako. 2009.



- Transfer: Reviewing “Participation,” “Observation,” and “Improvement” as Field Research Methods], ed. TAKAKURA Hiroki. 2008.
- 10. *Uchi naru tasha = Shuhen minzoku no jiko ninshiki no naka no “Chugoku”*—Mongoru to Kanan no shiza kara [Immanent Strangers: “China” in the Identity of Ethnic Minorities—The Cases of the Mongols and the Minorities of South China], ed. OKA Hiroki. 2009.
- 11. *Teikoku no boeki: 18-19 seiki ni okeru Yurashia no ryutsu to Kyafuta* [Empires’ Trades: Eurasian Distribution and Kiakhta from the 18th to 19th Centuries], ed. SHIOTANI Masachika. 2009.



**NORTHEAST ASIAN STUDY SERIES**

- 10. *New Trends and Present Agenda of Historical Study of Mongolia (17th - Beginning of 20th Century)*, eds. Chuluun DASHDAVAA and Hiroki OKA, 2009. (In Mongolian)



**TOHOKU AJIA KENKYU SHIRIZU [NORTHEAST ASIAN STUDY SERIES]**

- 9. *Chiiki bunseki to gijutsu iten no setten: “Hamaru,” “miru,” “ugokasu” shiten to chiiki rikai* [Area Studies Meets Technology

**NORTHEAST ASIA A LA CARTE**

- 20. *Roshia no Kita-Taiheiyo shinshutsu to Nihon—“Roshia-ryo Amerika no rekishi” yori* [Japan and Russia’s Advance into the North Pacific: From “Istoriia Russkoi Ameriki, 1732-1867”], ed. TERAYAMA Kyosuke. 2009.
- 21. *Shiberia tsushin 2: 2004 nen-2008 nen* [Letters from Siberia 2, 2004-2008], ed. TOKUDA Yukako. 2009.
- 22. *Shingijutsu kaihatsu daijjesuto 2: 2004 nen-2008 nen* [New Technology Development Digest 2, 2004-2008], ed. TOKUDA Yukako. 2009.



## EXHIBITION

### The Riddles of Mt. Paektu: Active Volcano on the China-North Korea Border

Date: October 7-26, 2008

The exhibition "The Riddles of Mt. Paektu, Active Volcano on the China-North Korea Border" was held at the Sendai Science Museum for twenty days from October 7 through 26, 2008 under the auspices of the CNEAS, the Tohoku University Museum, and the Sendai Science Museum. The aim of the exhibition was to make open to the general public the findings of CNEAS's joint research on the volcanic eruptions of Mt. Paektu, a project launched in 2000.

Mt. Paektu (Ch. Changbaishan), located at the border of China and North Korea, is an active volcano that erupted on a huge scale a number of times in the past. Focusing on the mountain's largest-ever eruption in the tenth century, we have conducted joint research in collaboration with researchers from Japan, China, and North and South Korea regarding how eruptions occurred and what impact such large eruptions can have on human society. Based on the findings of this research, the exhibition showed the impact of the tenth-century massive eruption on the history of kingdoms in the surrounding region, the current volcanic activities of Mt. Paektu, and the impact it would have on surrounding countries if it should erupt again. Many problems remain unsolved in these respects, however, because the sur-



vey of this volcano is constrained by its location at the national borders, especially the survey on the North Korean side is insufficient. Joint research is still under way. The

use of panels at this exhibition was made possible by the survey results achieved over the years on the Chinese side. The possibility of holding a similar exhibition at several other places in Japan is now being studied. We hope that many Japanese, to whom Mt. Paektu is remote and unfamiliar, will learn through such an exhibition how an eruption of Mt. Paektu would affect Japan, too.

## SYMPOSIUM

### Nomadizing Religion and Floating Communality: Phases of "Salvation" in Contemporary Northeast Asia

Date: February 28, 2009

Keynote lecturer: SUZUKI Iwayumi, Tohoku University  
Presenters: HIDEMURA Kenji (Meisei University), FUCHIGAMI Kyoko (formerly Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture, Nanzan University), TAKIZAWA Katsuhiko (Tohoku University), and SHIMAMURA Ipppei (University of Shiga Prefecture)  
Commentators: WATANABE Hibi (University of Tokyo) and HE Yansheng (Koriyama Women's College)

The presentations and discussion at this symposium dealt with how complex phenomena such as changes of established religions and the spread of foreign religions are reflected in the fluidity of Northeast Asian societies since the collapse of the Cold War structure. In his keynote lecture, SUZUKI Iwayumi discussed the dynamics of ethnicity, the state, and religion using as a case study the forced relocation of Korean tombs to Uzbekistan. Presentations were made at two sessions, on South Korea and Mongolia, respectively. In the South Korea session, HIDEMURA Kenji introduced recent trends in Christianity in South Korea and FUCHIGAMI Kyoko reported how the Japanese practice of "memorial services for aborted/miscarried fetuses" (*mizuko kuyo*) has been increasingly



accepted in South Korea. In the session on Mongolia, SHIMAMURA Ipppei analyzed the revival of shamanism in the wake of the collapse of socialism, with focus on the people of Aga Buryatia Autonomous District in Russia, and TAKIZAWA Katsuhiko discussed the rapid spread of Christianity in Mongolia today. WATANABE Hibi and HE Yansheng commented on these reports, and further comprehensive discussion followed. It was confirmed as a result that the phenomenon of religion becoming "nomad" as it incorporated established beliefs and new religious practices with the advance of globalization has produced a "floating" communality that cannot be reduced to the simple local-versus-global dichotomy.

Cover photo: Shows the site of the exhibition "Journey to Knowledge by Seeing and Touching: Reindeer! Reindeer!! Dear Reindeer!!! How People Live in the World's Coldest Region," held on December 12-14, 2008 at Sendai Mediatheque. This event made open to the public some of the achievements of the CNEAS research on the indigenous peoples of Siberia, presenting their folk tools and implements and photographs of their lifestyle. The exhibition was planned and implemented under the leadership of TAKAKURA Hiroki, anthropologist in the CNEAS Division of Russian and Siberian Studies, joined by young anthropologists of Tohoku University as well as photographers, designers, and other professionals. Set up for visitor participation to enhance enjoyment by both children and adults, the event was well received by many local residents, with a total attendance of 1,045 visitors over the three days it was open.