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Japanese Foundations: Trends for the 1990s

The number of grant-making foundations in Japan increased dramatically in the 1980s. Below I will review developments in that decade and prospects for the next decade, based on a report I prepared for the Foundation Library Center of Japan, "1980 Nendai no Josei Zaidan no Doko" [Trends of Grant-Making Foundations in the 1980s], published in the 1992 edition of the Library Center's biennial publication *Nihon no Josei Dantai no Genjo* [Grant-Making Organizations in Japan].

Developments in the 1980s

Of the 394 grant-making foundations included in the Library Center's database, 170, or 43 percent, were established in the 1980s. This works out to an average of 17 new foundations a year. About 50 percent of these were endowed by corporate donors, about 20 percent by corporate and individual donors together, and about 30 percent by individual donors. If the first two categories are considered to be corporate foundations, about 70 percent of the foundations established in the 1980s are corporate foundations. Moreover, almost half these new foundations award grants for research in the natural sciences, the field in which Japanese foundations have traditionally concentrated their grant-making activities.

Nevertheless, several new fields of grant activities are emerging. Most noticeable is the increase in the number of foundations awarding scholarships enabling people from other countries to study in Japan. There has also been a significant rise in the number of foundations providing grants for international-exchange activities. A number of foundations promoting bilateral exchange between Japan and a particular foreign country or offering international prizes and awards were also established in the 1980s.

Clearly, internationally oriented activities are becoming a major field of grant-making activities. In the latter half of the 1980s several foundations supporting the arts and culture or environmental activities were also established, indicating two other promising fields of activity.

Trends in the 1990s

What directions are Japanese foundations likely to take in the 1990s? In the concluding section of my report for the Library Center, I identified two major tasks facing foundations in this decade. One is the need for corporate philanthropy and so-called corporate *mécénat*, which began to become popular at the end of the 1980s and the beginning of the 1990s, to recognize the important roles played by foundations and citizens and to focus in earnest on these issues, which have not always received sufficient attention so far. The other is the need for foundations to respond to the world's expectations by defining their creative and philosophical focus, developing activities that, while rooted in Japan's own history, society, and culture, will be understandable to the wider world.

As Japanese foundations address these tasks, their number will continue to increase in the 1990s. Though there may well be a temporary downturn as a result of the collapse of the so-called bubble economy, the speculative euphoria that fueled Japan's economic growth in the 1980s, a rough estimate based on trends from 1960 to 1990 indicates that close to 210 foundations will be established in the 1990s alone.

The fields that became evident in the 1980s will continue to develop. In addition, I predict—or, rather, hope—that two new fields of grant-making activities will emerge: grants directly supporting activities overseas and grants supporting grass-roots citizen activities.

The number of foundations engaging in international activities grew rapidly in the 1980s, but most such foundations support activities within Japan or exchange between Japan and other countries; few address the needs of other countries or regions independently of Japan.

The world is, I believe, hoping for the advent of many more foundations making direct overseas grants. As for citizen activities, a number of foundations support social-welfare or environmental activities, but foundations have not kept pace with the recent development of broader-based citizen activities. This is an area in which foundations can and should do much more.

Two immediate tasks

These two fields address the needs of the world and the needs of citizens. Cultivating grant-making activities that are more responsive to both the world and citizens will win foundations greater understanding and sympathy. To develop effective grant-making activities of these kinds, however, foundations must be capable of gathering a wide range of information, carrying out thorough preliminary studies, and administering grants with great care. The first priority, then, is to strengthen program staff, and especially to secure professional staff. I hope that the 1990s will be a decade of upgrading foundation staff.

Another problem is that the system whereby every foundation is chartered and overseen by a government agency and the tax system as it applies to philanthropic organizations provide almost no incentives for creating the kinds of foundations outlined above. Enthusiasm, the philanthropic urge, must be strong enough to overcome these institutional disadvantages. I hope, too, that foundations in the 1990s will exhibit this kind of enthusiasm.

I would like to close on a personal note. In March 1992 I resigned as program director of the Toyota Foundation, having reached my fiftieth year of life and my fifteenth year as a member of the Foundation's staff. I remain involved with a number of the Foundation's ongoing activities, but I hope to shift gradually from being connected with the staff of a particular foundation to a vantage point from which I can survey the overall development of Japanese grant-making foundations. (*Yoshinori Yamaoka, Program Consultant, The Toyota Foundation*)

A Study of Indonesian And Ethnic Languages

"The Use and Development of Indonesian in the Context of Ethnic Languages in Indonesia," a project awarded international grants by the Toyota Foundation in fiscal 1987, 1988, and 1989, was the first nationwide study of its kind to be conducted in Indonesia. Our aim was to elucidate the relationship between Indonesian, which has developed rapidly as a national language, and Indonesia's varied ethnic languages.

Has the use of Indonesian already spread throughout the nation? Does it pose a threat to the survival of ethnic languages? Have the function and role of

Indonesian completely supplanted those of ethnic languages? These were among the questions to which we sought answers. In addition, through our research we were able to formulate the new hypothesis that Riau Melayu (a Malay language) is not the sole linguistic source of Indonesian.

The spread of Indonesian

Since there had never before been a nationwide linguistic study of the use of Indonesian, we made use of the national census of 1980 to determine the extent of its use. At the time of the 1971 census, 40.77 percent of the population spoke Indonesian. By the time of the 1980 census, this figure had risen to 60.81 percent. Nevertheless, Indonesian was still not universally spoken.

The spread of Indonesian speakers to include 60.81 percent of the population has caused more vocabulary items from ethnic languages to enter Indonesian. This has been corroborated by Mangkudilaga, who has studied the number of vocabulary items from ethnic languages that have been incorporated into the national language by comparing the number of entries for words from ethnic languages in the Indonesian dictionary *Kamus Umum Bahasa Indonesia* between 1953, when the first edition was published, and the present. To give a few examples, the first edition includes 957 Betawi words, compared with 1,261 in the most recent edition. The number of Javanese words has increased from 951 to 1,079, Palembang words from 15 to 23, and Minangkabau words from 780 to 1,487.

Our linguistic studies also made it clear that Indonesian does not use Riau Melayu as its sole model and that in the course of its development it has diverged further from that language. The recent trend has been one of moving, rather, in the direction of incorporating elements of the non-Riau forms of Melayu found throughout Indonesia, as well as elements of various ethnic languages.

Melayu and Indonesian

Melayu has a long history of use as a lingua franca on the Malay Peninsula and in Indonesia. Moreover, its use differs from region to region. Manado Melayu, for example, is utilized as a means of communication between ethnic groups, while Lombok Melayu is used as a religious language. And in Kalimantan and Aceh, Melayu became the language of written literature.

Broadly speaking, the distribution of Melayu follows three patterns: (1) the Melayu languages of



A Hindu temple on Bali, where an intermediary language is used to bridge the gap between castes

western Indonesia, including those of Singapore, Malaysia, and Brunei; (2) Minangkabau and Kerinci, Melayu-based languages that have developed such distinctive characteristics that they give the impression of being non-Melayu languages; and (3) the Melayu languages of eastern Indonesia, such as Loloan Melayu (Bali), Manado Melayu, Ambon Melayu, Ternate Melayu, Kupang Melayu, and Jayapura Melayu.

It is true that Riau Melayu is thought to be the source of written Indonesian. The written language was strongly influenced by the Pudjangga Baru literary group, which modernized it, and the Balai Pustaka (the publishing arm of the Dutch colonial government), which endeavored to popularize it (both included many people from Minangkabau). Later, written Indonesian took as its model the classical Melayu introduced into school education by the colonial government in 1853. As already discussed, however, since then written Indonesian has incorporated many words from various ethnic languages; in recent years the number of loanwords from English has also increased.

Spoken Indonesian, meanwhile, can be regarded as deriving in the first instance from eastern Indonesian Melayu. Linguistically, its sentence structure is characteristic of that found in eastern Indonesia. Examples are *dia punya rumah* (*rumah dia* or *rumahnya* in the standard language) and *itu buku* (*buku itu* in the standard language). In addition, the spoken language has been enriched by the incorporation of vocabulary items and idioms from various regions' ethnic languages.

Indonesian can, thus, be divided into three types, each with its own kinds of influences: (1) written Indonesian, originating in western Melayu; (2) spoken Indonesian that is the colloquialized form of written Indonesian; and (3) spoken Indonesian originating in eastern Indonesian Melayu and augmented by vocabulary items and idioms from ethnic languages.

Indonesian and ethnic languages

The selective use of Indonesian and ethnic languages in Indonesian society is not as simple as had been thought. Through our fieldwork we discovered that Indonesians are not limited to the choice of

either Indonesian or ethnic languages but also use intermediary languages.

Basically, Indonesian is used to communicate with other ethnic groups and in formal situations. Ethnic languages are used for communication within an ethnic group and in informal, everyday contexts. An intermediary language derives its basic structure from an ethnic language and its vocabulary from the ethnic language and Indonesian words adapted to the pronunciation system of the ethnic language. Such languages constitute a delicate means of linking different strata of society. On Hindu Bali, for example, a high-caste Brahman with little education and low social status will use an intermediary language to talk to a low-caste Sudra who is well educated and highly respected.

Different forms of Melayu

Another phenomenon that troubled us in the course of our research was the differences among Indonesian, Malaysian, the Melayu of Singapore, and the Melayu of Brunei. We wonder whether these different forms of Melayu can be divided into two major groups: western Melayu, centered geographically on Riau, and eastern Melayu, centered geographically on Ternate.

Indonesian is believed to have developed from Betawi Melayu, which includes many Javanese and Sundanese words, as well as many words from various ethnic languages. Historically, the influence of Melayu in Java was brought about by religious contacts between Ternate and Gresik, in East Java. Javanese vocabulary and syntax are dominant in Betawi Melayu, indicating that it belongs to the eastern Melayu group. Malaysian is thought to have developed from Riau Melayu, the major western Melayu language. This classification enables us to understand more easily the differences that have grown up between Indonesian and Malaysian.

Another reason for the divergence between Indonesian and Malaysian is that Indonesian was influenced by various ethnic languages in the course of its development, whereas Malaysian developed under the influence of Melayu alone. Given these differing linguistic trends, it may be that although Indonesian and Malaysian are both Melayu-based languages, speakers of the two languages will find it more difficult to understand each other as time goes by.

In conclusion, we can say that Indonesian is a syncretistic language and that both its developmental pattern and its relationship to ethnic languages are

highly complex. Moreover, before arriving at its present form Indonesian passed through a variety of stages and was subjected to various waves of influence. (*E. K. M. Masinambow, Professor; Muhadjir, Lecturer; and Multamia R. M. T. Lauder, Lecturer; Faculty of Letters, University of Indonesia*)

Cross-Cultural Conflict Among Workers: A Symposium

Well over a decade has passed since I began studying the kinds of friction and conflict that tend to occur when people from different cultures work together, focusing on the crews of flag-of-convenience ships. I became interested in this field in the early 1970s, when I was doing research in Europe on maritime labor problems and discovered that quiet but earnest research on problems having to do with foreign workers was underway there.

Joint international research

At first there was little understanding in Japan of the significance of this field of research. I could not obtain funding, so I had to content myself with conducting surveys on a small scale within Japan. Later, however, with the help of grants from the Toyota Foundation in fiscal 1984 and 1985, I was able to develop a joint international research project, "Cultural Friction and Conflict in Work Groups: Research on the Crews of Flag-of-Convenience Ships," involving a team of nine researchers from four countries: Japan, South Korea, the Philippines, and Indonesia.



Participants in the symposium on cross-cultural conflict

At three workshops—in Mitaka City, Tokyo (June 1986), Kwangju, South Korea (December 1986), and Cebu, the Philippines (June 1988)—we gathered to report the progress of research in our various countries and discuss the status of the project. The very first matter we decided was that we would avoid cross-cultural conflict among ourselves. This presented us with no problems, but fallout from the political situation in South Korea and the Philippines brought home to us in no uncertain terms the difficulties facing joint international research.

Eventually we combined our research findings and decided to publish them. We held our fourth workshop, mainly to discuss publication, on Bali, Indonesia, over a four-day period in April and May 1992. In conjunction with the workshop we also organized a public symposium on cross-cultural conflict and friction among workers of different nationalities in enterprises, focusing on views of the problem and efforts to overcome it.

The symposium

About thirty people attended the symposium. In addition to the members of the research team, the participants included Indonesians whose work brings them into contact with people from other cultures: representatives of shipping companies and crew unions, hotel and airport personnel, government officials dealing with the tourist industry, labor-union representatives, members of employers' organizations, and faculty from Udayana University, on Bali. A two-hour session in which everyone had a chance to speak yielded a number of suggestions for ways to minimize cross-cultural conflict and friction in the workplace. Following is a summary of the major points made.

- People who are going to work in a foreign country should study the cultural background of the country before going there.

- A country planning to receive foreign workers should supply information on the culture of the country to the foreign workers who think they would like to work there. At the same time, information on the foreign workers should be provided to their employers in advance of the workers' arrival.

- When workers are sent to another country, priority should be given to people who have experience working in a country with a culture similar to that of the country in question.

- Anyone working with people of varying cultural backgrounds must be equipped with the ability to accept differences.

- When groups of workers are sent to another country, one of the workers should be selected as the group's representative, filling the role of mediator between the employer and the workers.

- Workers are at a disadvantage in the international labor market. To enable individual workers to stand up to international competition, it is necessary to promote occupational and technical training to ensure that workers can meet international standards.

- Workplaces where people of a variety of cultural backgrounds work together should be managed in an open and tolerant fashion. There must be no invidious comparisons of workers' countries of origin, complaints about level of knowledge or education of people from this or that country, or criticism of one another's cultures. And there should be no double standard in work conditions on the basis of country of origin.

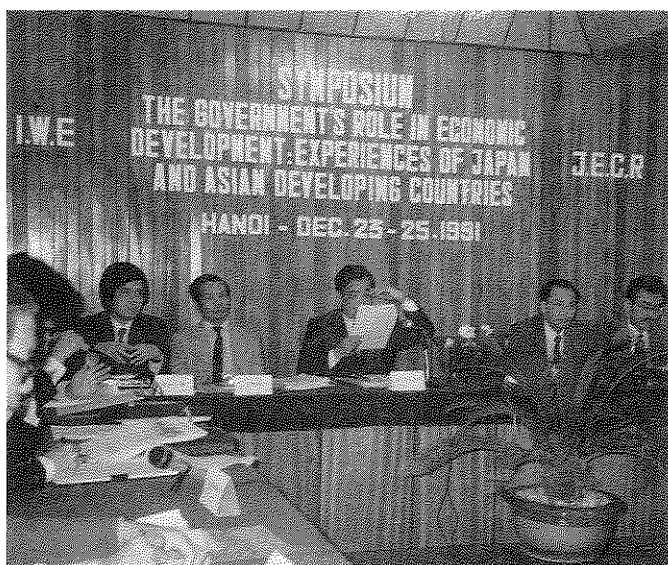
- Various after-hours activities can be effective means of helping workers from different cultures understand and get along with one another.

I myself stressed the importance of knowing the history of fellow workers' countries, especially—when Japanese are working alongside people from other countries—those countries' historical relations with Japan.

Many Indonesians, hearing of the symposium, asked us to repeat it in Jakarta. Clearly, issues having to do with cross-cultural conflict in the workplace are of keen interest to Indonesians working for the many Japanese companies doing business in their country. (*Nobuo Ohashi, Professor, Nagano Prefectural Junior College*)

Three Symposiums on Economic Development in Vietnam

In December 1991 three symposiums were held in Hanoi based on the findings of a joint international research project analyzing Vietnam's economic situation and development strategy in the light of the course of economic development in Japan and other East Asian countries. The project, "The Vietnamese Economy: The Current Situation and Development Strategy," awarded a Toyota Foundation research grant in fiscal 1989, involved researchers from the Japan Center for Economic Research and from the Institute of World Economy of the National Center for Social Sciences of Vietnam. The findings have been published in Vietnamese and English (for the latter, see *Occasional Report 13* [May 1991], p. 12).



A session of the closed symposium on economic development

The symposiums were held December 23–25, with a six-member delegation from Japan led by Hisao Kanamori, chairman of the Japan Center for Economic Research, joining the Vietnamese researchers. One symposium was an intensive closed meeting with high-level Vietnamese economic experts and policy makers. The other two, open to the public, were aimed at a wider spectrum of people.

Symposium for economic experts

The closed symposium, on the theme "The Government's Role in Economic Development: Experiences of Japan and Asian Developing Countries," featured two days of lively discussion and debate. In addition to researchers who had taken part in the joint international project, the Vietnamese participants included many high-level party and government policy makers, among them the economic adviser to the general secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party, the economic adviser to the prime minister, a director of the central bank, and the deputy director of the Central Institute on Economic Management.

At the time of the symposium, Vietnam was addressing the urgent tasks of macroeconomic stabilization and reform of state enterprises, and was searching earnestly for means of resolving these problems. Important longer-range issues under consideration included the relationship between economic planning and market principles and the extent to which the government should intervene in economic activities. This being the case, the Vietnamese participants had a strong interest in Japan's experience of economic development and were looking

forward eagerly to exchanging views with the Japanese experts.

The Japanese participants delivered reports on the macroeconomic stabilization measures implemented in Japan around 1950, the role of government planning in Japan's economic development, the special features of Japanese economic policy making, and Japan's experience of privatizing state enterprises. The Vietnamese participants reported on the current stage of reform of state enterprises and related problems and on recent anti-inflation measures.

Aspects of the Japanese experience that particularly interested the Vietnamese participants included Japan's achievement of both economic stabilization and economic growth, the importance of planning in a market economy, and the relationship between development and state enterprises. Since many issues remained unresolved due to time limitations, however, a number of participants expressed the opinion that it was important to meet again for further discussion and debate.

Public symposiums

Following the expert symposium the Japanese and Vietnamese researchers divided into two groups and conducted separate symposiums for different audiences. One symposium, aimed at educators and researchers affiliated with universities and research institutes, considered why the Japanese economy



The open symposium for educators and researchers

had been able to develop and what the factors behind Japan's success mean for Vietnam today.

The other symposium was designed for managers and administrators of state enterprises, chiefly presidents and executives. The theme of this meeting was the major characteristics of Japanese corporate organization and management and the conditions for success in joint ventures with Japanese companies.

At both symposiums there were many questions from the floor, and both went over the scheduled time.

In addition to this series of symposiums, on December 24 Vietnamese Communist Party General Secretary Do Muoi invited Kanamori and the other Japanese participants to the presidential residence and spent more than an hour exchanging views with them, questioning them keenly about Japan's economic development and soliciting their views on Vietnam's future development policy.

The timing of these symposiums was excellent. The joint research team was able to share its findings on the application of Japan's experience to Vietnam's current problems with decision makers on the highest level. As representative of the project team, I would like to thank the Toyota Foundation for its help. (*Tran Van Tho, Associate Professor, Obirin University*)

Incentive Grants In Malaysia

This fiscal year (April 1992 through March 1993) the Toyota Foundation began awarding incentive grants for research in Southeast Asian studies by Southeast Asians. These grants, administered as a subprogram of the International Grant Program, are available to Southeast Asian researchers under thirty-six years of age who are enrolled in or have been admitted to graduate programs at Malaysian universities, and are awarded for research in the humanities and social sciences that is focused on Southeast Asian countries other than the researchers' own or on Southeast Asia as a whole.

Search for cultural identity

Despite their geographic proximity, historically the countries of Southeast Asia have had little understanding of one another. Recently, however, Southeast Asians have been showing a growing interest in studying other countries in the region and in con-

ducting joint comparative studies as they struggle to establish a stronger sense of national and regional identity. This trend was felt strongly at the November 1990 international symposium in Bangkok at which researchers presented the results of projects funded under the Foundation's International Grant Program, which supports projects aimed at preserving and encouraging the indigenous cultures of Southeast Asia and conducted by indigenous researchers.

Regional awareness has been stimulated in part by Southeast Asia's recent rapid economic development, which has brought about changes in indigenous cultures, lifestyles, and value systems. This in turn has prompted Southeast Asians to reevaluate their cultural identity by exploring not only their own countries' traditional cultures but also the shared substratum of regional culture. Recent changes in the international situation, especially the end of the cold war, have also enabled Southeast Asian countries to begin finally to feel a sense of regional unity. They are now exploring ways to cooperate with one another, which has made the need for mutual understanding more evident.

In keeping with this trend, the Foundation's incentive grants are intended to encourage Southeast Asian studies by the young researchers who will shape the future of the discipline. In particular, the program aims to provide opportunities for fieldwork to researchers who have already mastered languages of the countries under study. Malaysia was chosen because of its central location and because it has a university offering degrees in Southeast Asian studies.

Five grants awarded

Application forms were sent to Malaysian universities with humanities and social science departments, and applications were accepted from April 20 through July 20 this year. Because the field of Southeast Asian studies is only beginning to attract interest within the region and because this was the first year of the program, we did not expect many applicants. The ten applications (including seven from Malaysian researchers) received were screened first by an evaluation panel in Malaysia, then by the International Grant Program selection committee. At the Board of Directors' meeting in September five grants were approved.

Though the number of recipients is small, the project proposals are of a high level. Moreover, because one of the projects will culminate in a doctoral

dissertation and the other four in master's theses, the research findings can be expected to take concrete form. Three of the recipients are Malaysian; the other two are graduate students from the Philippines and Indonesia. Four of the five recipients are women. As befits regional studies, four of the research projects are comparative studies, and the projects cover a wide geographical scope, including Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam.

One of the Foundation's immediate tasks is to find a way to publicize the new program among young researchers outside Malaysia who are interested in Southeast Asian studies. If the program in Malaysia develops satisfactorily, we may consider expanding it to include graduate students in other Southeast Asian countries. (*Yumiko Himemoto, Assistant Program Officer, International Division*)

"Know Our Neighbors" Books

Following are brief reviews of four books recently published under the Toyota Foundation's "Know Our Neighbors" Translation-Publication Program in Japan, which supports the translation and publication in Japanese of Southeast and South Asian works.

Rupasi Bangla (Beautiful Bengal). Jibonanond Das. Trans. Masayuki Usuda. Published in Japanese as *Uruwashi no Bengaru* (Beautiful Bengal). Tokyo: Kashinsha, 1992. 165 pp. ISBN 4-7602-1213-2.

The Bengali poet Jibonanond Das was born in 1899 in the town of Barisal, in what is now Bangladesh, and died in Calcutta in 1954 after being hit by a streetcar. This book includes sixty-two of his sonnets, together with explanatory notes and commentaries.

A verdant, well-watered land with a literary tradition that embraces elegant classical epic poetry, graceful yet trenchant religious verse, and the profound poetry of the philosopher-poet Rabindranath Tagore, Bengal is a region blessed with both natural and spiritual abundance. Das, nurtured by this environment and conversant with the works of T. S. Eliot, Rainer Maria Rilke, and other Western poets, created innovative modern Bengali poetry that appealed to many readers.

As an adult, Das saw his beloved Bengal stripped of its wealth as, partitioned as a result of British machinations and religious strife, it was overwhelmed by recession and poverty. Recreating the

lost beauty of Bengal in his poetry, Das seems to be trying to provide spiritual solace and, if possible, hope for the future. *Rupasi Bangla* is widely read and recited in both parts of this divided land, the state of West Bengal, in India, and Bangladesh.

Local Entrepreneurship in Singapore. Tsao Yuan Lee and Linda Low. Trans. Ikuo Iwasaki. Published in Japanese as *Shingaporu no Kigyoka Seishin: Minkan to Kokka* (The Entrepreneurial Spirit in Singapore: The Private Sector and the State). Tokyo: Imura Cultural Enterprise Co., 1992. 270 pp. ISBN 4-326-91109-3.

Singapore is the hub of ethnic Chinese economic activities in Southeast Asia. This book is a study by two Singaporean researchers of the part played by ethnic Chinese entrepreneurs and local businesses in the city-state's industrialization after World War II.

Foreign companies and state-run enterprises have been largely responsible for Singapore's dynamic postwar economic growth, but local companies established by ethnic Chinese entrepreneurs have also played an important role. Meanwhile, for the past several years there has been a trend among local companies in Singapore and other Southeast Asian countries to form multinationals or corporate groups. Despite this, there are few books in Japanese systematically describing and analyzing Singapore's local businesses and their ethnic Chinese entrepreneurs.

The second chapter of this book presents the careers and business activities of twenty local entrepreneurs, most of them ethnic Chinese, based on interviews. The authors have succeeded in describing vividly the current situation of Singapore's ethnic Chinese entrepreneurs.

Local Entrepreneurship in Singapore is a valuable contribution to knowledge of the place of ethnic Chinese entrepreneurs in the Singaporean economy, written as it is by Singaporean researchers, who are best qualified to address the subject.

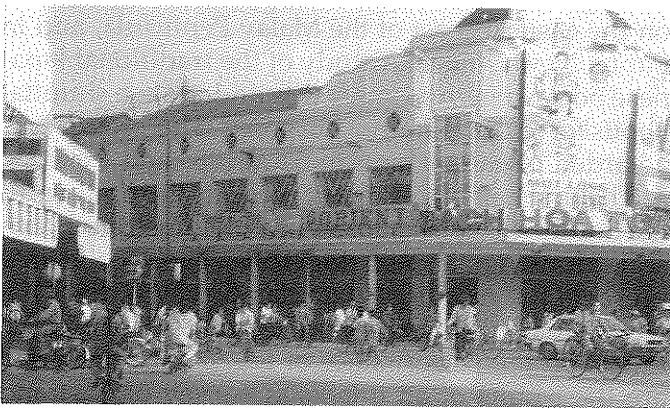
Nu Chien Si Ruang Dua (Women Warriors of the Coconut Groves). Bich Thuan. Trans. Sumiko Katayama. Published in Japanese as *Yashi no Mori no Onna Senshi: Minami Betonamu Kaihogun Fukushima-kan Guen Ti Din no Denki* (Women Warriors of the Coconut Groves: The Life of Nguyen Thi Dinh, Vice-Minister of Defense of Southern Vietnam's Provisional Revolutionary Government). Tokyo: Hodaka Shoten, 1992. 333 pp. ISBN 4-938672-15-4.

This book is a biography of the late Nguyen Thi

Dinh, who was vice-minister of defense in the Provisional Revolutionary Government of southern Vietnam and later head of the Women's Association of Vietnam and vice-chairman of Vietnam's National Council.

Born in 1920 to a farming family in the Mekong Delta, she began to take part in the movement opposing French colonialism while still in her teens, influenced by her older brother, and joined the Communist Party when she was eighteen. Around that time she married a fellow activist, but he was arrested shortly thereafter and died in prison. She herself was soon arrested, separated from her son, and imprisoned. After her release she began to take part in Viet Minh activities. She learned of her husband's death at the time of the August 1945 revolution and was plunged into despair.

After the Geneva Agreement of 1954 she sent her son to northern Vietnam and remained in the south, then under the Ngo Dinh Diem regime, leading a clandestine life among farmers. She led the January 1960 Ben Tre uprising and organized a corps of female soldiers to fight oppression. Her son was killed in the war, but, overcoming her grief, she took part in the activities of the National Liberation Front and was appointed vice-minister of defense in the Provi-

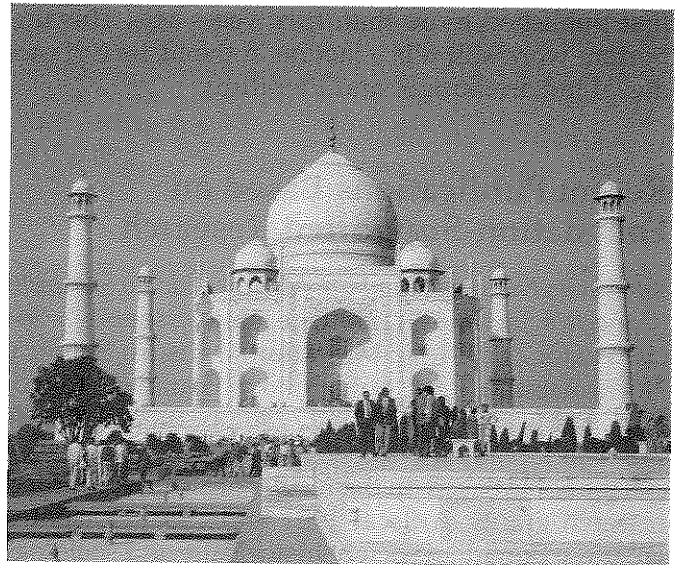


A street scene in Hanoi, capital of unified Vietnam

sional Revolutionary Government in 1966. Enduring U.S. offensives and the rigors of jungle life, she participated in the 1968 Tet offensive and in Ho Chi Minh's 1975 campaign.

After the liberation of Vietnam she devoted herself to the struggle for sexual equality and to creating a brighter future for the children of Vietnam.

Hindi Sahitya ki Bhumika (The Current of Hindi Thought and Literature). Hazariprasad Dvivedi. Trans. Teiji Sakata, Keiichi Miyamoto, and Taigen



The Taj Mahal, a supreme achievement of North Indian architecture

Hashimoto. Published in Japanese as *Indo, Daichi no Sanka: Chusei Minshu Bunka to Hindi Bungaku* (Paeon to the Great Land of India: Medieval Popular Culture and Hindi Literature). Tokyo: Shunjusha, 1992. 320 pp. ISBN 4-393-11181-8.

Hazariprasad Dvivedi (1907–79) taught at Visva-Bharati University, headed by his friend Rabindranath Tagore, for about twenty years. This book is based on the lectures on the history of Hindi literature he delivered to students from non-Hindi-speaking parts of India. The book defines the place of Hindi literature within the great current of Indian thought and literature and provides an overview of the development of North Indian thought and its expression in Hindi literature from the origin of various regional languages about a millennium ago down to the twentieth century.

Dvivedi maintains that the works of such great North Indian religious writers as Kabir, Surdas, Tulidas, and Jaysi, while cultivated within the context of folk arts and influenced by philosophical elements from other parts of India, represent the sublimation of these elements into lofty thought and sophisticated literature expressed in Hindi. The people of Hindi-speaking India today, he states, are reevaluating this ancestral legacy and using it as the springboard for new forms of creativity. In fact, the book is distinguished by the author's consistent expression of faith and hope in the creativity of ordinary people.

Between its original publication and Dvivedi's death in 1979 this book went through more than a dozen printings. But it is as fresh now as when it was

first published more than fifty years ago. This important work still fills a lacuna in the history of medieval Indian thought and literature.

Recent Publications Based on Foundation-Supported Research

Kanada no Nihongo Shimbum: Minzoku Ido no Shakaishi (Canada's Japanese-Language Newspapers: A Social History of Ethnic Migration). Mitsuru Shimpo, Norio Tamura, and Shigehiko Shiramizu. Tokyo: PMC Publications Inc., 1991. 290 pp. ISBN 4-89368-218-0. In Japanese.

This book, based on the results of a study awarded research grants in fiscal 1981 and 1982, elucidates Japanese Canadian society historically and sociologically by examining its relationship to Japanese-language newspapers published in Canada, which seek to facilitate immigrants' assimilation to a strange culture by providing information to help them adapt to the host society.

The authors set forth two basic premises: the existence of two levels of assimilation, cultural and structural, and the existence in even a homogeneous people of negative factors that militate against assimilation. (The latter premise is an important point in chapter seven, which compares the Japanese Canadian press with other ethnic presses and analyzes their characteristics.)

Analyzing the ethnic Japanese community in Canadian society by means of the core-peripheral model, with Japanese Canadians situated on the periphery, the authors conclude that the need for Japanese-language newspapers has lessened because of changes in Japanese Canadians' political, legal, economic, social, and cultural conditions. Political conditions, the authors state, are shaped by the quality of relations between Canada and Japan; legal and economic conditions go together, like the two faces of a coin; social conditions are influenced by the number of new immigrants; and cultural conditions are largely determined by the language problem. The authors suggest that greater acceptance of ethnic Japanese, a rise in their economic status, a decrease in the number of new immigrants, and improved telecommunications technology are behind these changes. They support their conclusion by means of a chronological examination of the content of the *Rodo Nippo*, *Nikkan Minshu*, *New Canadian*, and other leading Japanese-language newspapers of the past.

As the authors demonstrate, the history of Japanese-language newspapers in Canada faithfully mirrors that of ethnic Japanese in Canada. This kind of analysis could also prove useful as a means of considering the functions of the media in the international community.

Comparative Studies on Indigenous Fishing Boats and Gears Around the Northwestern Coast of Pacific: Coastal Fishing Boats of Southeast Asia and Japan. Keishi Shibata, ed. Nagasaki: Working Group on Fishing Boats in Southeast Asia, 1991. 542 pp. In Japanese and English.

The shapes and construction of the indigenous fishing boats that have been the mainstay of traditional fishing in Southeast Asia have recently begun to change as a result of the introduction of modern technology. Compiling a record of indigenous small fishing craft could play an important part in ensuring that the course of change moves in a direction appropriate to the region's culture and marine conditions.

It was with this in mind that from 1986 to 1990 the Working Group on Fishing Boats in Southeast Asia, working with local researchers, conducted a survey of the movements and types of indigenous small fishing boats used in the Philippines, in Indonesia, on the eastern coast of the Malay Peninsula, and in Papua New Guinea. A study of the traditional Japanese boats known as *wasen* was undertaken simultaneously for comparative purposes. The project was awarded research grants in fiscal 1985 and 1987.

The first half of this report presents the findings of the Southeast Asian survey, heavily illustrated with scale drawings and photographs. The second half presents the results of a similar survey of the Okinawan fishing boats called *sabani* and of experiments on the performance of *wasen*. Also included are the results of an unrelated survey of East and Southeast Asian "mud sleds" conducted by Keishi Shibata, who heads the Working Group on Fishing Boats in Southeast Asia.

The information in this volume, gathered during a time of transition, should be of great value in assisting the future advancement of fishing both in Southeast Asia and elsewhere.

Vegetation of Mount Kinabalu Park, Sabah, Malaysia: Map of Physiognomically Classified Vegetation. Kanehiro Kitayama. Honolulu: East-West Center, 1991. 45 pp. In English.

The centerpiece of this report is a map (scale



A view of the rich vegetation of Mount Kinabalu

1:100,000) of Mount Kinabalu Park, Sabah, Malaysia, showing the types and distribution of the vegetation found there.

Mount Kinabalu, the highest peak in Southeast Asia (4,101 meters), boasts more than four thousand species of flora, thanks to its geological complexity and the existence of habitats ranging from lowland to tropical montane. As a result of commercial excavation and logging, as well as the encroachment of swidden agriculture, however, Mount Kinabalu is rapidly being deprived of its diversity of flora and fauna. As the author points out, one reason for this is poor policy planning due to a lack of the basic ecological information essential for park management.

With the help of a fiscal 1989 research grant, the author conducted a survey of the species and stocks of vegetation on Mount Kinabalu and of its soil, climate, and other environmental features. His map of the mountain's vegetation, based on the findings of the survey, shows the distribution of twenty-one stocks. In addition to its potential for application in planning policies for the preservation of Mount Kinabalu's diversity of vegetation and its primeval ecosystem, the map is an important contribution to basic ecology.

Law and Politics of West-East Technology Transfer. Hiroshi Oda, ed. Dordrecht: Martinus Nijhoff, 1991. 274 pp. ISBN 0-7923-0990-1. In English.

This book originated in an international symposium on COCOM and export-control systems, organized by Hiroshi Oda and fellow researchers at the University of Tokyo in 1988. (For a report on this symposium, see *Occasional Report 9* [May 1989], pp. 7-8.) Both the symposium and the book grew out of

a joint international project awarded research grants in fiscal 1986 and 1987.

The book is divided into six parts. Part one discusses the legal system underlying the export controls in force at the time of the symposium. Parts two and three focus on the U.S. and Japanese systems of export regulation, respectively. Part four deals with West European countries' attitudes toward COCOM, the multilateral coordinating committee for the control of exports to communist countries. Part five discusses technology transfer and the law in the former Soviet Union and Hungary. Finally, part six addresses two considerations believed to have a major influence on export controls: economic profit and national security.

The book concludes that while the number of restricted items has decreased and COCOM has changed significantly in other ways as well, the stricter implementation of controls necessitates greater cooperation among member countries. Thus, despite worldwide changes in the political situation COCOM will continue to exist for some time to come.

Towards Self-Reliant Rural Development: A Policy Experiment in Sri Lanka. Piyadasa Ratnayake. Colombo: Karunaratne and Sons Ltd., 1992. 424 pp. ISBN 955-9098-07-1. In English.

The recent collapse of socialist countries in Eastern Europe on the one hand and the growing economic presence of South Korea and other industrializing countries in Asia on the other hand are the subject of great debate among economic development theorists. The unprecedented rapidity of the economic growth of Asian industrializing countries is attracting special attention. Economic growth used to be considered an effective means of eradicating poverty, but in fact the disparity in wealth between urban and rural regions is widening both among Asian countries and within individual countries. Many economists regard this disparity as evidence of the failure of economic policy.

This book, based upon the author's firsthand experience in Sri Lanka, examines economic policies designed to simultaneously sustain economic growth and do away with rural impoverishment in terms of both theory and practice. The author, whose aim is to encourage self-reliant rural economic policies, presents an intriguing analysis and critique of the gap between rural producers and the central government's development policy.

This book grew out of a project awarded a research grant in fiscal 1986.

Foundation Grants for Fiscal 1992

At its sixty-fifth meeting, held on September 28, the Toyota Foundation's Board of Directors approved 260 grants, totaling ¥440.26 million, for fiscal 1992. Following is a breakdown of the grants by program.

Research Grant Program: A total of 56 grants, worth ¥199.4 million, were approved: 27 grants for Category I (individual incentive) research, 19 for Category II (trial and preliminary) research, and 10 for Category III (comprehensive) research. Only 8.2 percent of the 681 applications were approved. As usual, the grant proposals approved address a wide variety of concerns under the rubric of the program's key theme, "In Search of a New Society." This is the fifth year in which priority has been given to projects focusing on two subthemes, coping with technologically advanced society and coping with multicultural society.

Grant Program for Citizen Activities: Applications for citizen-activity grants are accepted, reviewed, and approved twice a year, in September and March. In the first period this year 125 applications were received, and 10 grants, totaling ¥17.7 million, were approved.

International Grant Program: This program awards grants for research projects aimed at preserving and encouraging the indigenous cultures of Southeast Asia and conducted by indigenous researchers. A total of 82 grants, worth ¥113.65 million, were approved, including 5 incentive grants for young researchers in Southeast Asian studies.

Incentive Grants for Young Indonesian Researchers: This program, formerly a subprogram of the International Grant Program, became an independent program this year. It awards grants to young Indonesian researchers for research in the social sciences, broadly defined. A total of 815 applications were received this year, and 61 grants, worth ¥15.29 million, were approved.

"Know Our Neighbors" Programs: These programs award grants to assist the translation and publication of Southeast and South Asian books in Japanese and of Southeast and South Asian as well as Japanese books in Southeast and South Asian languages. Of the 33 grants, totaling ¥52.53 million, approved this year, 17 were for the Program in Japan and 16 for the Program in Other Asian Countries.

Other grant-making activities: A total of ¥41.69 million was approved for 18 grants in the Foundation Initiative Grant Program and the Communications-Supplement Grant Program.

About the Foundation

The Toyota Foundation, a private nonprofit, grant-making organization dedicated to the goals of realizing greater human fulfillment and contributing to the development of a human-oriented society, was endowed in October 1974 by the Toyota Motor Corporation.

The Foundation's total endowment is approximately ¥11.4 billion (roughly \$88 million). Chartered by the Prime Minister's Office, the Foundation relies on its endowment income. The decision making of the Foundation, governed by its Board of Directors, is independent of the corporate policies of the subscribing corporation or of any other institution.

Through its Research Grant Program and its International Grant Program, the Foundation provides grants for research and projects related to the human and natural environments, social welfare, education and culture, and other fields. The Research Grant Program is responsible for projects that are conducted mainly by Japanese nationals but also by non-Japanese who can complete the Japanese-language grant application form. Research grants give priority to projects that focus on coping with technologically advanced or multicultural society.

The International Division administers the International Grant Program and such other programs as the "Know Our Neighbors" Programs. The International Grant Program is directed mainly toward the developing countries and supports projects that best meet the needs of their present-day society. At present this program concentrates on projects aimed at preserving and encouraging the indigenous cultures of Southeast Asia and conducted by indigenous researchers. The "Know Our Neighbors" Programs support the translation and publication of Southeast and South Asian works in Japanese and vice versa, and of Southeast and South Asian works in other Southeast and South Asian languages.

The Toyota Foundation welcomes response from readers of the *Occasional Report*. Comments and questions should be addressed to the International Division, The Toyota Foundation, Shinjuku Mitsui Building 37F, 2-1-1 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 163-04, Japan. The articles in the *Occasional Report* reflect the authors' opinions and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Foundation.

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