Over 80,000 books are published every year in Japan, offering a diverse selection of information and ideas. In this great ocean of books, there are many works that can be enjoyed by a global audience, with troves of timeless knowledge amassed across the ages that both transcend history and cross borders. However, many such books remain largely unknown due to the language barrier and therefore limited number of translations.

JAPAN LIBRARY is a collection of specially selected Japanese works in English, providing a broad range of titles from the vast canon of nonfiction—politics, foreign policy, social sciences, culture, philosophy, science and technology, and more. We strive to provide the deft translations and worldwide distribution needed to make the best of these works more accessible to a wider audience. We believe these works provide a useful start in fostering mutual discussion and understanding, ultimately contributing towards the enrichment of a universal, global knowledge.
History, Memory, and Politics in Postwar Japan
Edited by IOKIBE Kaoru, KOMIYA Kazuo, HO SOYA Yuichi, MIYAGI Taizo, and the Tokyo Foundation for Policy Research’s Political and Diplomatic Review Project
Translated by Christopher F. Ryal

Memories can be shared—or contested. Japan and Korea, just one case in point, share centuries of intertwined history, the nature of which continues to be disputed, particularly with regard to World War II. The authors of History, Memory, and Politics in Postwar Japan explore Japan’s historical narratives, and their impact on both domestic politics and diplomatic relations, as they have evolved from 1946 to the present. Presenting the results of more than a decade of collaborative research, their book is a rich contribution to our understanding not only of Japanese politics, but also of how the historical narratives that we embrace have far-reaching consequences.

ABOUT THE EDITORS
IOKIBE Kaoru
Professor in the Faculty of Law at the University of Tokyo.
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Part-time lecturer at Aoyama Gakuin University, Komazawa University, and Seisho-University.
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Professor in the Faculty of Global Studies at Sophia University.

The Japan-US Alliance of Hope
Asia-Pacific Maritime Security
Edited by Nakasone Peace Institute
Supervised by KITAOKA Shinichi and KUBO Fumiaki
Translated by Charles Stewart and ANAI Ikuo

The Japan-US alliance has continued to deepen and develop for around sixty years, responding to the security environment of the times. But today, the security order of the Asia-Pacific region is at an important turning point. China’s maritime activities are only intensifying, causing growing instability in the regional maritime security environment. As the existing order of the Asia-Pacific region is now being threatened, the Japan-US alliance is an “alliance of hope” for peace and prosperity.

In this book, the authors analyze the present conditions of the alliance and discuss its future direction from this perspective of maintaining the maritime security order in the Asia-Pacific region. Together with the diplomatic and security policies of Japan and the US, and of China, their research subjects include the policies of India, Australia, South Korea, Russia, and ASEAN, which are the main players in the oceans of the region, and they derive important hints for the future of the Japan-US alliance.

ABOUT THE EDITOR AND SUPERVISORS
Nakasone Peace Institute
Nakasone Peace Institute (NPI) was founded in June 1988 by former Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone Yasuhiro for research and study, international exchange, and other activities.

KITAOKA Shinichi
President of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and emeritus professor of the University of Tokyo.

KUBO Fumiaki
Executive research director at Nakasone Peace Institute since 2018 and the A. Barton Hepburn professor of American government and history at the Graduate Schools for Law and Politics, the University of Tokyo.
The Era of Great Disasters
Japan and Its Three Major Earthquakes

IKOIBE Makoto
Translated by Tony Gonzalez
Forward by YAMAZAKI Masakazu

The Era of Great Disasters examines modern disaster response in Japan, from the changing earthquake preparations and regulations, to immediate emergency procedures from the national, prefectural, and city levels, and finally the evolving efforts of rebuilding and preparing for the next great disaster in the hopes of minimizing their tragic effects. This book focuses on three major earthquakes from Japan’s modern history. The first is the 1923 Great Kanto Earthquake, which struck the capital region. The second is the 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, striking the area between Kobe and Osaka. The third is the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, the magnitude 9.0 quake which struck off the Pacific coast of the Tohoku region, causing a devastating tsunami.

While the events of (and around) each of these earthquakes are unique, Professor Iokibe brings his deep expertise and personal experience to each disaster, unveiling not only the disasters themselves but the humanity underneath. In each case, he gives attention and gratitude to those who labored to protect and restore the lives affected, from the individuals on the scene to the government and emergency staff, in hope that we might learn from the past and move forward with greater wisdom, knowledge, and community.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
IKOIBE Makoto is chancellor, Prefectural University of Kumamoto and President of the Hyogo Earthquake Memorial 21st Century Research Institute. He is also professor emeritus of Japanese political and diplomatic history, Kobe University and former president, National Defense Academy of Japan.

Remnants of Days Past
A Journey through Old Japan

WATANABE Kyoji
Translated by Joseph Litsch

Remnants of Days Past, by WATANABE Kyoji, is an epic journey into Japan’s past. It is a comprehensive look at the Tokugawa rule and the Edo period (1603–1868), an age in which the civilization of “Old Japan” was still on display and which, for better or worse, ceased to exist with the advent of modernization. Watanabe covers in great detail several topics pertaining to this civilization, including the status and position of the various social classes, views of women and children, attitudes towards sex, labor, and the body and religious beliefs, as well as the unique cosmology behind this civilization. Watanabe makes use of a number of works written by foreign observers who visited Japan from the end of the Edo period to the beginning of the Meiji (1868–1912) to support his views. As the author writes in the book, “What is important in my mind is the reality that the civilization of ‘Old Japan’ developed through a universal desire, as well as the ideas behind this desire, to make it as comfortable as possible for human existence.” This is a massive work that takes an in-depth look at what modern Japan has lost.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
WATANABE Kyoji, a historian of modern Japan, was born in Kyoto in 1930. He has worked as a book review editor and is currently an instructor at the Kawai Education Center in Fukuoka.
Japan, a country where population decline is progressing and the number of workers is decreasing. While the fiscal deficit continues to expand, rural regions are in a crisis of disappearance. Isn’t the decline of the nation already inevitable? Versus such preconceptions, economics, which has struggled with population issues over many years responds “No!” Innovation holds the key to economic growth, and the fact that Japan is one of the world’s leading longevity societies poses an opportunity. This book sweeps away the “population decline pessimism” that has spread throughout Japan and approaches the real issues of the Japanese economy.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
YOSHIKAWA Hiroshi is the president of Rissho University. He was born in Tokyo in 1951, received his B.A. from the University of Tokyo Faculty of Economics and his Ph.D. from Yale University. He was a professor at the University of Tokyo Graduate School of Economics.

The influence of declining and ageing populations is a worldwide concern, one in which Japan has led but now many countries, most notably Germany, Italy, Russia and soon China, are destined to follow. The world has much to learn from Japan’s experience and from Professor Yoshikawa’s very thoughtful and insightful examination of the relationship between such demographic trends and economic prosperity.

Bill Emmott
Former editor in chief, The Economist

From its very origins, Ohmi was a highly developed region bordering Kyoto, the center of political power. For that reason, Ohmi is closely tied to the history of political, cultural, social and economic development in Kyoto and therefore Japan as a whole.

Ancient Ohmi was first developed by immigrants from the Korean Peninsula and China and was a vital crossing point connecting Kyoto with eastern Japan. The intersection of the Nakasendo Road and the Tokaido Road was located within its borders. The vital traffic of people and goods led to the early development of organizations and individuals engaged in the concentrated delivery of vast quantities of products. Ohmi merchants can be considered the very source of Japanese-style management. The key concepts that they developed underpinned the success of Japanese corporations for generations.

These include core concepts such as sanpo-yoshi or “three-way satisfaction” and corporate social responsibility (CSR), considering a third-person perspective, being a member of society, a healthy tension with society, customer satisfaction, contribution to society, the social consciousness of “good for the world”, appropriate profits, avoid waste and give your all, the spirit of the peddler, faith and devotion, talent and innovation, leveraging information, and investing in startup ventures. This book is full of useful ideas and methods that have helped Japanese corporations and individuals achieve success for generations.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
SUENAGA Kunitoshi received his doctorate in economic research from the Graduate School of Economics at Doshisha University. Currently, he is an emeritus professor at Doshisha University.
How Human Is Human?
The View from Robotics Research
ISHIGURO Hiroshi
Translated by Tony Gonzalez

How Human Is Human? presents an overview of various androids created by its author, ISHIGURO Hiroshi, along with episodes and difficulties encountered during their development. Unlike the industrial robots so commonly seen in today’s factories, Dr. Ishiguro’s androids are designed with a focus on providing new tools for human interaction and communication. Of particular note are his Geminoid series androids, which are designed to exactly duplicate the appearance of actual living beings (in the case of the latter, Ishiguro himself), providing insights into psychological phenomena arising from the experience of encountering one’s doppelgänger. These androids further allow for remote operations over the Internet, allowing users to project their voice and even movements, thereby establishing a sense of presence that is impossible through commonplace technologies such as video conferencing. These androids thus represent a first step toward telepresence technologies only encountered today in works of science fiction.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
ISHIGURO Hiroshi is currently a distinguished professor in the Department of Systems Innovation at Osaka University (2009-) and visiting director of Hiroshi Ishiguro Laboratories (2011-) at the Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute (ATR). His robots have been highlighted hundreds of times in the media.

Lost in Evolution
Exploring Humanity’s Path in Asia
KAWABATA Hiroto
Technical advisor KAIFU Yousuke
Translated by Dana Lewis

A book that will change how you think about humanity. Even as societies are beset with turmoil over insignificant human differences such as skin color, Homo sapiens are broadly homogeneous. We’re all basically the same. What’s more, we’re the only human species alive. Yet it has not always been that way. Eons ago, there were many different species in many different places. Not only the Peking Man and Cro-Magnons that school textbooks talk about but many more. It was, so to speak, “a world of diversity.” Now it is just us. How did this happen? Who were these people? Where did they live? And how did such species diversity end up being just Homo sapiens? With an unequaled focus on events in Asia, this exciting work takes you along on the exploration and the research to answer these questions. Providing new information and new insights, it is a thoughtful look at humanity’s evolutionary background.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Graduated from the University of Tokyo College of Arts and Sciences, KAWABATA Hiroto worked as a science reporter for the Nippon TV news dept before going independent in 1997.

ABOUT THE TECHNICAL ADVISOR
KAIFU Yousuke is currently group head for the Division of Human Evolution, Department of Anthropology, at Japan’s National Museum of Nature and Science, and leads the hands-on project to reenact the voyage to Japan 30,000 years ago.

**“We’re even further behind in understanding Asia,” said Dr. Kaifu. “We still don’t know when H. erectus disappeared in Asia, and the debate over when H. Sapiens arrived is also very much in flux.” As to the question of how long Flores Man or Java Man lived on, there is a strong possibility that our current dating will change in the future with further research and technology advances.”**
The Legacy of Kano Jigoro
Judo and Education
Edited by The Committee for the Commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the Birth of Jigoro Kano
Translated by Tom Kain

The founder of judo, KANO Jigoro, is a highly revered figure amongst those who pursue the sport. Little is known, however, about his various other achievements, from how he laid out the foundation for sports in Japanese education to his immense devotion and commitment to bringing the Olympic Games to Japan. Born in 1860, Kanō showed his brightness from a young age and studied hard from childhood. After graduating from Tokyo Imperial University, the most prestigious school, he embarked on a teaching career which eventually led him to become the headmaster of the Tokyo Higher Normal School for a total of twenty-three years. This was just one of the many roles he undertook; aside from this he was chairman of the Japan Amateur Sports Association and became the first Asian member of the International Olympic Committee. And all the while he never ceased to develop and promote his creation, judo.

For the first time, this comprehensive biography written by a team of Kanō experts and researchers sheds light on the many dimensions of the legendary figure. It depicts how he truly lived life to the fullest by living out his own words—seiryoku zen'yô (maximum efficient use of energy) and jita kyôei (mutual prosperity for self and others), which apply just as much today as they did nearly a century ago. As young people of today’s generation struggle to communicate, grappling with the isolation of modern-day society, Kanō’s tenets might carry more weight than ever before.

ABOUT THE EDITOR
The Committee for the Commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the Birth of Jigoro Kano compiled and published this book to give readers an illuminating introduction to KANO Jigoro’s life, achievements, and philosophies.

Flowers, Birds, Wind, and Moon
The Phenomenology of Nature in Japanese Culture
MATSUOKA Seigo
Translated by David Noble

Japanese culture is deeply rooted in nature—from literature to the visual arts, and from religious practice to daily life. How, when, and why this close association with nature developed is explored in this book by bestselling author MATSUOKA Seigo. Using ten key motifs—mountains, paths, deities, wind, birds, flowers, motifs, time, dreams, and moon—each of which serves as a lens on different aspects of Japanese culture, Matsuoka ranges from history and ethnology to the arts. He also explores the insights that emerge when traditional sensibilities are examined from the perspective of modern science. Japanese concepts of time, interval, and otherness, though arrived at intuitively, overlap with how contemporary fields such as quantum physics and relativity theory grapple with issues of uncertainty, indeterminacy, and ambiguity.

Matsuoka proposes that throughout history, the phenomena of nature and the kaleidoscope of seasonal change have functioned as a system of recombinant codes for the expression of the Japanese sensibility. This unique multimedia system for the cultural construction of nature has generated the essential creative motifs of Japanese literature, fine arts, and craft, which in turn have shaped every aspect of Japanese life and thought.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
MATSUOKA Seigo is executive director of the Editorial Engineering Laboratory (EEL) and president of ISIS (Interactive System of Inter Scores) Editorial School, in Tokyo. He developed a unique methodological worldview, which he calls “editorial engineering.” His ideas are published in innovative forms spanning the written word, film and video, multimedia, and the internet.

“At its very essence, what the appreciation of flowers, birds, wind, and moon—all the phenomena of nature that we have been examining in this book—offers us is a means to touch upon the boundaries of the world of the Other in search of that piece missing inside ourselves.”

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“At its very essence, what the appreciation of flowers, birds, wind, and moon—all the phenomena of nature that we have been examining in this book—offers us is a means to touch upon the boundaries of the world of the Other in search of that piece missing inside ourselves.”
The Japanese Linguistic Landscape
Reflections on Quintessential Words
NAKANISHI Susumu
Translated by Ryan Shaldjian Morrison
Photographs by NAKANISHI Kimiko

Beautiful words have an ageless quality, regardless of when they first appeared in a language. This book introduces a balanced mix of new and old words that reflect the singular beauty of the Japanese language. Only by submerging ourselves in a language can we perceive its splendid subtleties and appreciate its true beauty. This book offers readers an opportunity to delve into the nuances of Japanese, explore the language’s history, and savor its unique beauty.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
NAKANISHI Susumu is a leading scholar of Japanese literature. His previous academic positions include professor at the University of Tsukuba, professor at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken), president of Osaka Women’s University, and president of Kyoto City University of Arts.

Making Xavier’s Dream Real
Vernacular Writings of Catholic Missionaries in Modern Japan
Nanyan Guo

This book reveals how St. Francis Xavier’s (1506–1552) dream of evangelizing Japan has been realized by four Catholic missionaries: Aimé Villion (1843–1932), Sauveur Candau (1897–1955), Hermann Heuvers (1890–1977), and Georges Neyrand (1920–2011). All of them lived in Japan until death, and wrote and published widely in Japanese for the populace. Their writings are testimony to their endeavors to learn the language, understand the people, and enrich Japanese culture with Christianity.

This book re-examines Xavier’s proficiency in Japanese, investigates his influence on missionaries who followed his footsteps to Japan, and explores modern missionaries’ observations of Japan from their insider-outsider perspectives. Their works have fascinated millions of Japanese for their insightful interpretations of Japan and enlightening advice.

The literature penned by these missionaries not only enhances our understanding of the five-century long dialogue between Europe and Japan, but also enables us to recognize and appreciate the extremely important role that Christianity has played in shaping today’s Japanese culture.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Professor Nanyan Guo teaches at the Center for the Development of Global Leadership Education at the University of Tokyo. Born in Shanghai, she received both her MA and PhD degrees from Ochanomizu University (Tokyo), and taught for fifteen years at the University of Otago in New Zealand.
In recent decades, Okinawan cuisine has earned a place in the Japanese food scene due to its healthy diet. The recipes are the results of wisdom passed down through generations on the southern islands. Little is known, however, that their roots can be traced back to a nineteenth century guidebook on diet therapy which was written by a renowned doctor. TOKASHIKI Pechin Tsukan was the chief physician to the king of the Ryukyu Kingdom, as the islands were known for five centuries before they became Okinawa. Tsukan penned Gozen honzo in 1832, which can be directly translated as “medicinal foods placed on a tray and served to the king.” From grains and vegetables to meat and fish, he took up 300 traditional Ryukyu foodstuffs, explaining their medicinal effects, the preparations required, and their effective combinations.

This modern version of the Gozen honzo unveils the knowledge it contains, covering 60 ingredients and 70 recipes from the text to reproduce the various delicacies. The exceptional pictures radiate the richness of the dishes, and the additional commentary on culture provides deep insight into how people lived on the islands. This reading experience will lead you to understand that the Okinawan saying “food is kusuimun (medicine)” is truly so.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
TAKAGI Rin was born in downtown Tokyo in 1947. She is an acclaimed screenwriter for television and radio dramas, and her works have received many prizes, among them the Grand Prix for the prestigious Galaxy Award. Her strong connection with Okinawa began when she was recuperating from a severe illness. On visiting the islands and mingling with the locals, she became deeply attracted to its people, culture, and especially the food.

The Kidai Shôran Scroll
Tokyo Street Life in the Edo Era
OZAWA Hiromu and KOBAYASHI Tadashi
Translated by Juliet Winters Carpenter

The Kidai Shôran is a magnificent painted Japanese scroll, an artistic rendering of one of the most iconic streets of Edo (as Tokyo was then called) at the beginning of the nineteenth century. It covers five blocks of the main shopping thoroughfare leading south from the Imagawa Bridge to the bridge at Nihonbashi. Though it is believed to have been painted by a well-known artist, its provenance is shrouded in mystery. But over its more than 12-meter length, the artist has given us an almost cinematic look at urban life during the Edo period (1603–1868). More than 1,600 people are depicted here, coming from every walk of society, from samurai to student, hairdressers, minstrels, and geisha. Their activities are portrayed in rich and loving detail: here a young pilgrim receives alms; there a blind masseur rushes to his next appointment; on the other side of the street, a construction crew raises the framing that will become a new shop. In this fascinating book, the authors bring these details to life with expert commentary and knowledgeable analysis of the times when the scroll was created.

Making an appearance in the scroll are:
• 88 Shops • 32 Children • 4 Oxen • 1,439 Men • 20 Dogs • 2 Falcons • 200 Women • 13 Horses • 1 Monkey

ABOUT THE AUTHORS
OZAWA Hiromu received his graduate degree in literature from Meji University. He is a professor of Japanese and Japanese Culture at Chofu Gakuen Junior College, and an honorary researcher at the Edo-Tokyo Museum, focusing on Japanese culture and Japanese art history.

KOBAYASHI Tadashi received his graduate degree in art history from the University of Tokyo. He was formerly a professor, faculty of literature, at Gakushuin University, and is now chief curator at the Chiba Art Museum. His research subjects are centered around Japanese art history.
The World of Ito Jakuchu
Classical Japanese Painter of All Things Great and Small in Nature
SATOH Yasuhiro
Translated by Michael Brase

Jakuchu lived during the eighteenth century, the golden age of art in the Edo period (1603–1868), a time when some of the greatest artistic names vied for originality in the pictorial arts. Born into a family of vegetable retailers, Jakuchu developed an interest in painting and began his self-education in the art by studying the Kano style then predominant in Japan as well as old Chinese classics from the Yuan and Ming dynasties. He also studied the meticulously depicted bird-and-flower paintings of the Qing dynasty, and taking nature as his teacher, he began making thoroughgoing sketches of natural phenomena. He eventually established his own richly colored style of painting that portrayed the multitudinous plants and animals of the natural world. This style is firmly based on the Japanese art of his period and geographical area, but it also, as the author states, “marks a certain high point in the history of East Asian painting.”

The present book includes full-color illustrations of Jakuchu’s work, accompanied by commentary from a variety of perspectives.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
SATOH Yasuhiro served as a technical official at the Tokyo National Museum and at the Fine Arts Division of the Agency for Cultural Affairs. He retired from his position as professor at the University of Tokyo in March 2020. His principal areas of research are genre paintings from the end of the Muromachi period in the sixteenth century to the beginning of the Edo period in the seventeenth as well as other important paintings, arranged chronologically and accompanied by commentary from a variety of perspectives.

Japan’s Approach to Legal and Judicial Development in Developing Countries
Building Trust and Partnership
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

Beginning with the drafting of Vietnam’s civil law in 1996, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has supported the “making of laws” in developing countries including Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar. JICA has collected documents relating to its 20 years of work, along with interviews with those involved in rule of law promotion from Japan, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, and more.

Clashes over wariness towards foreigners and differences in understanding of legal terminology—this is a record of the obstacles overcome by the people of developing nations who wanted to draft their own national laws, and the Japanese lawyers who supported them, as well as their sincere efforts, struggles, and challenges. This is a recommended book for those interested in international cooperation, as well as those who want to know more about the rule of law promotion process.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is the executing agency of Japanese Official Development Assistance (ODA). Under its vision, “Leading the world with trust,” JICA is strengthening its efforts to realize human security while also leveraging the value of innovation and partnerships in order to tackle the challenges of today.

The Sea of Japan
Unraveling the Mystery of Its Hidden Depths
GAMO Toshitaka
Translated by Gen Del Raye

Why is the Sea of Japan garnering the attention of oceanographers and nature lovers from around the world? Among other surprises, the Sea of Japan has its own distinct water mass, internal circulation, and an “activation device” that operates only in winter. Around 20,000 years ago, the deep waters of the Sea of Japan were a “dead” zone. Now, they are a dynamic treasure trove of life. A 1000-m thick water mass hidden deep beneath its surface holds the key to this incredible transformation. How did this distinct water mass form? And how do the major changes occurring in the Sea of Japan foretell future environmental changes across the global ocean?

A leading oceanographer with 40 years of field experience reports this oceanographic detective story to reveal the amazing secrets of the “Mother Sea.”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
GAMO Toshitaka, University of Tokyo professor emeritus, has dedicated his career to developing and using new observation technologies for chemical oceanography, particularly studies on deep ocean circulation and seafloor hydrothermal activity.
**Fifteen Lectures on Showa Japan**

Road to the Pacific War in Recent Historiography

Edited by TSUTSUI Kiyotada
Translated by NODA Makito and Paul Narum

Why did Japan rush to war in the early twentieth century? Where did Japan fail? This compilation of the most up-to-date studies by 15 leading Japanese historians tries to find answers to these questions. The contributions by leading experts on important issues in Showa history offer a nuanced understanding of Japanese history from prewar developments through the American occupation that challenges the stylized discourse about Showa Japan prevalent in recent historiography. This book is a quest for the truth about Showa history at a time when differences in perceptions of history have become a major diplomatic issue. Each chapter contains a list of selected reference books with brief annotations for further study.

**About the Editor**

Born in 1948, TSUTSUI Kiyotada is professor and dean of the Department of Japanese Culture and the Faculty of Literature at Teikyo University. He is also a senior fellow at the Tokyo Foundation.

**Friendship across the Seas**

The US Navy and the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force

AGAWA Naoyuki
Translated by YABUKI Hiraku

This book recounts the history of the relationship between the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force, the heir to the Imperial Japanese Navy, and the United States Navy. It provides insight into this alliance and the shift from mutual misgivings and apprehension about collaborating with a former enemy to shared feelings of respect, trust and reliance. Once fierce enemies, these two navies joined forces during the Cold War, and the maritime alliance between Japan and the United States is one of the most successful naval partnerships in the world and has greatly contributed to the stability and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific region over the last seventy years.

**About the Author**

Professor AGAWA Naoyuki is distinguished visiting professor of law at Doshisha University in Kyoto and teaches American constitutional law and history. He previously held several positions in the Faculty of Policy Management at Keio University in Tokyo, and served as minister for public affairs in charge of public diplomacy and press relations at the Embassy of Japan in Washington, D.C.

**The History of US-Japan Relations**

From Perry to the Present

Edited by IOKIBE Makoto
English Translation edited by Tosh Minohara

The evolution of the 160-year relationship between America and Japan is examined in depth, from the first encounter in the early nineteenth century through the major international shifts in the post 9/11 era. Contributions by scholars at leading Japanese universities, think tanks and research centers trace this relationship from various perspectives from the 1905 Russo-Japanese War through WWI, the difficult period of US-Japan relations in the Pacific War through the Occupation to the country’s postwar resurgence, democratization and economic recovery, as well as the various challenges facing the current bilateral relationship as it further progresses into the twenty-first century.

**About the Editor**

IOKIBE Makoto is chancellor of the Prefectural University of Kumamoto and president of the Hyogo Earthquake Memorial 21st Century Research Institute. He is also professor emeritus of Japanese political and diplomatic history at Kobe University, and former president of the National Defense Academy of Japan.

**Japan-China Relations in the Modern Era**

KOKUBUN Ryosei, SOEYA Yoshihide, TAKAHARA Akio, KAWASHIMA Shin
Translated by Keith Krulak

A rich flow of interaction between Japan and China predates recorded history, with both sides exchanging information and learning from each other. However, in the twenty-first century, China’s rapid rise as an economic powerhouse has created a power-shift in Japan-China relations, and there are signs that bilateral tensions are rising and relations are worsening. Written by a team of internationally renowned Japanese scholars and based on sources not available in English, this volume provides a cogent analysis of the politics of the bilateral relationship in the modern era, explaining the past, present, and future of Japan-China relations during a time of massive political, social, and economic changes.

**About the Authors**

KOKUBUN Ryosei is president of the National Defense Academy of Japan.

SOEYA Yoshihide is a professor in the Faculty of Law, Keio University.

TAKAHARA Akio is a professor at the Graduate School of Law and Politics, University of Tokyo.

KAWASHIMA Shin is a professor at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, University of Tokyo.

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ISBN: 978-1-138-71460-1 (PB)
The Remarkable History of Japan-US Relations
KOSAKA Masataka
Translated by Terry Gallagher

This book is a collection of essays that illuminate the changing relationship between Japan and the United States from the mid-nineteenth to the early twentieth centuries. The fundamental question behind the wide-ranging episodes and observations is how two countries with such vast differences would come to forge such a close relationship in such a short time following the Pacific War. It recounts the saga from the Russo-Japanese War and Japanese expansion in Manchuria to the brink of war with the United States, and provides insight into the series of events that eventually led to Japan’s attack on Pearl Harbor, starting with the arrival of American “black ships” in 1853.

About the Author
KOSAKA Masataka (1934-1996) was a professor of international politics at Kyoto University. A graduate of Kyoto University and its Law School, he was a visiting scholar at Harvard University for two years. He was an extremely influential scholar of international relations and a prolific writer whose work had a major impact on the discussion of democracy in postwar Japan.

Self-Respect and Independence of Mind
The Challenge of Fukuzawa Yukichi
KITAOKA Shinichi
Translated by James M. Vardaman

As Japan is currently experiencing its so-called third opening to the outside world and finds itself feeling trapped with a sense of despair, it should turn to the topic of inspiration to its first opening and the Meiji Restoration—an enormous reform that was initiated and carried out by the Japanese themselves. And more than to anyone else, the person we should turn to is FUKUZAWA Yukichi (1835–1901). Fukuzawa was a world-class intellectual who wrote in order to rouse the people of his country. This volume brings together the results of the present-day research into the accomplishments of Fukuzawa as part of an overall appraisal of the man himself.

About the Author
KITAOKA Shinichi studied at the University of Tokyo, where he also taught and is professor emeritus. He has held professorships at several prestigious universities and is president of the Japan International Cooperation Agency. He has served on many councils and advisory boards for prime ministers and foreign ministers, is the author of numerous books, and is the recipient of several distinguished awards, including the Imperial Medal with Purple Ribbon.

Security Politics in Japan
Legislation for a New Security Environment
HOSOYA Yuichi
Translated by Tara Cannon

How can peace be realized in the modern world? And how can Japan ensure its own security? Despite the intense debates over Japan’s recent security-related legislation, such vital issues as these were never explored. To give proper consideration to these thorny questions, it is indispensable to have both a knowledge of history indicating the circumstances in which wars occur and a real recognition of the security environment of the twenty-first century. This work explores hotly debated security-related matters from a standard viewpoint on international politics and diplomatic history. It also advocates in a bold yet level-headed manner the form Japan’s security should take and the path Japan should follow to make that a reality.

About the Author
HOSOYA Yuichi is a professor of international politics at Keio University. He is also senior researcher at Naka- sone Yasuhiro Peace Institute, senior fellow at the Tokyo Foundation for Policy Research, and adjunct fellow at the Japan Institute of International Affairs. His research interests include postwar international history, British diplomatic history, Japanese foreign and security policy, and East Asian international politics.

Toward Creation of a New World History
HANEDA Masashi
Translated by NODA Makito

This is a book about world history that aims to overturn the conventional common sense regarding world history as we know it. It first questions the perception we have of world history and what is wrong with it, followed by investigating what kind of new world history is called for and how it can be created. As more and more people are behaving with an awareness of themselves as inhabitants of this earth, willing to mutually transcend differing views in order to defend our one and only earth, the author proposes a world history for inhabitants of the earth from the viewpoint that “there is one world.”

About the Author
HANEDA Masashi is executive vice president of the University of Tokyo and a professor at the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia at the University of Tokyo, specializing in global and world history. He has studied and held a number of academic positions in Japan and abroad. He is a prolific author and editor in several languages.
History

Toward the Meiji Revolution
The Search for “Civilization” in Nineteenth-Century Japan
KARUBE Tadashi
Translated by David Noble

In the latter half of the Tokugawa period (1603–1868), Japan faced many possible alternate paths as it gradually advanced toward its encounter with “civilization”—which could also be described as an encounter with the unknown. This book offers the reader a bird’s-eye view of this process of encounter, which provides a fascinating model for the advancement of understanding and coexistence among the world’s diverse cultures. Exploring the legacy of Japan’s quest for “civilization” in the nineteenth century thus serves as a lens for examining our world today, while also suggesting an alternative narrative to the conventional success stories of Japan’s modernization.

About the Author
KARUBE Tadashi is a professor in the School of Legal and Political Studies at the University of Tokyo. He is a specialist in the history of Japanese political thought, and his published works include Utsunyuku kyo’yō (Cultivation of Humanity and Its Changing Forms) and Kagami no naka no hakumei (Through a Glass Darkly), winner of the Mainichi Book Review Prize.

Understanding History in Asia
What Diplomatic Documents Reveal
HATTORI Ryuji
Translated by Tara Cannon

It is said that the twentieth century was a century of war. At times, there were attempts at reconciliation and improvements in the relations between Japan and China, as well as Japan and South Korea. However, these problems heated up in the twenty-first century, impacting not only relations with China and South Korea but also ties with the United States, Southeast Asia, and Europe. This book examines the period from the International Military Tribunal for the Far East (the Tokyo Trial) to the normalization of relations between Japan and South Korea and between Japan and China.

About the Author
HATTORI Ryuji is a professor in the Faculty of Policy Studies at Chuo University. His books include Hitoshi Ajia kokusai kankyō no hendō—nichū rekishi (Understanding Sino-Japanese History: Conflict over the Tanaka Memorial, 1927–2010).

What Is Japanese Cinema?
A History
YOMOTA Inuhiko
Translated by Philip Kaffen

YOMOTA Inuhiko provides a concise and lively history of Japanese film that shows how cinema tells the story of Japan’s modern age. Alongside a larger thematic discussion of what defines and characterizes Japanese film, Yomota provides insightful readings of canonical directors including Kurosawa, Ozu, Suzuki, and Miyazaki as well as genre movies, documentaries, indie film, and pornography. He considers films in light of both Japanese cultural particularities and cinema as a worldwide art form, and shows how Japanese film has been shaped by traditional art forms such as kabuki theater as well as foreign influences spanning Hollywood and Italian neorealism.

About the Author
YOMOTA Inuhiko is an acclaimed Japanese essayist, cultural critic, and poet. He taught film studies and comparative literature at Meiji Gakuin University, and was either a guest professor or researcher at Konkuk University, Columbia University, the University of Bologna, and Tel Aviv University. The author of numerous publications, he also translated a number of works into Japanese.

Unsung Heroes of Old Japan
ISODA Michifumi
Translated by Juliet Winters Carpenter

I n an age when the pursuit of self-interest seems poised to overtake all else, these true stories of three little-known Japanese of the Edo period (1603–1868) who lived lives of selflessness and purity blur the boundary between self and others. Recounted here are the tales of a merchant who rescues his dying town through a brilliant and risky scheme, a prodigious scholar and Zen monk who chooses abject poverty over a government post, and a noted Kyoto beauty who feeds the hungry and builds a bridge across the Kamo River. We are challenged to live up to the their spirit and to judge others not by how much they have accumulated, but by how much they have given.

About the Author
ISODA Michifumi received a Ph.D. in history from Keio University and is currently an associate professor at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies in Kyoto. His award-winning works recreate the spirits and minds of figures from Japan’s past. His bestselling novel Bushi no kakeibo (A Samurai’s Account Book) won the 2003 Shinchō Document Prize, and was subsequently turned into a movie.

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The Burden of the Past
Problems of Historical Perception in Japan-Korea Relations
KIMURA Kan
Translated by Marie Speed, Foreword by Gi-Wook Shin

The Burden of the Past reexamines the dispute over historical perception between Japan and South Korea, going beyond the descriptive emphasis of previous studies to clearly identify the many independent variables that have affected the situation. From the history textbook debates, to the Occupation-period exploitation of “comfort women,” to the Dokdo/Takeshima territory dispute and Yasukuni Shrine visits, Professor Kimura traces the rise and fall of popular, political, and international concerns underlying these complex and highly-fraught issues. By seeing behind the public discourse and political rhetoric, this book offers a firmer footing for a discussion and the steps toward resolution.

About the Author
KIMURA Kan is a professor at the Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies at Kobe University, and has previously been a visiting scholar at Harvard University, the Sejong Institute, and the University of Washington. He has published more than seventeen books and numerous articles and is an expert on the relationship between Korea and Japan.

Japan in Asia
Post-Cold-War Diplomacy
TANAKA Akihiko
Translated by Jean Connell Hoff

This is a history of post-Cold-War international politics, the themes of which are crises, responses to crises, and institution-building to prevent crises before they happen, aimed to provide an overview of political trends in Asia and Japan’s diplomatic response to them. TANAKA Akihiko traces the role of diplomacy in redefining the role of Japan in Asia from the 1977 Fukuda Doctrine between Japan and its Southeast Asian neighbors to the Abe administration’s negotiations with the Republic of Korea. He examines the role of Japan in an increasingly interconnected Asia, and what Japan has achieved, or failed to achieve, in Asia.

About the Author
TANAKA Akihiko is president of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies in Tokyo. His academic specialties include international political theory, contemporary international relations in East Asia, and Japanese foreign policy. In 2012 he received the Medal of Honor with Purple Ribbon for his academic achievements.

Perspectives on Sino-Japanese Diplomatic Relations
The Yomiuri Shimbun Political News Department
Translated by John Rossman

In East Asia, the growth center of the post-Cold War world, two regional powerhouses survey one another from opposite sides of the Japan Sea. China, a rising power with tremendous economic clout and an increasingly assertive foreign and military policy, and Japan, a respected leader in the region and a mature nation enjoying its greatest political stability in many years, must coexist for the peace and prosperity of East Asia and the Asia-Pacific. But just how well can these neighbors—and oftentimes rivals—get along? What stands in the way? And who else is caught up in their volatile relationship?

About the Author
The Yomiuri Shimbun Political News Department

Japan’s Quest for Stability in Southeast Asia
Navigating the Turning Points in Postwar Asia
MIYAGI Taizo
Translated by HANABUSA Midori

More than any other region in the world, Asia has witnessed tremendous change in the post-war era. A continent once engulfed by independence and revolution, and later by the Cold War and civil war, has been transformed into the world’s most economically dynamic region, due in large part to the path taken by the maritime nation of Japan. This book provides a comprehensive account of post-war maritime Asia, illustrating the hidden trail left by Japan during the period of upheaval that shaped today’s Asia—an era marked by the American Cold War strategy, the dissolution of the British Empire in Asia, and the rise of China.

About the Author
MIYAGI Taizo is a professor in the Faculty of Global Studies at Sophia University. He has won the Suntory Prize for Social Sciences in Humanities and the Yasuhiro Nakasone Award for Excellence. His recent publications include Gendai Nihon gakko-shi (History of Contemporary Japanese Diplomacy, 2016).

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The Happy Youth of a Desperate Country

Yong people in present-day Japan, a socially-polarized society, have been reportedly “unhappy.” According to statistics, however, 80 percent of them are currently “satisfied” with life. By drawing attention to this very fact, *The Happy Youth of a Desperate Country*, a magnum opus by acclaimed sociologist FURUICHI Noritoshi, has revolutionized the discourse on youth theory in Japan. Containing more than six hundred footnotes, this work offers a probing examination of the portrait of “young people” and serves as the definitive edition for anyone seeking to attain a wide-ranging grasp of Japan and its “young people,” from a defining moment two decades ago.

*FURUICHI Noritoshi, has revolutionized the discourse on youth theory in Japan. Concerning more than six hundred footnotes, this work offers a probing examination of the portrait of “young people” and serves as the definitive edition for anyone seeking to attain a wide-ranging grasp of Japan and its “young people,” from a defining moment two decades ago.*

### About the Author

FURUICHI Noritoshi is a sociologist and a senior researcher at the Keio Research Institute, Shonan Fujisawa Campus. His *Zetsubô no kuni no shukyo shakaigaku* (The Sociology of Religion as Seen in Holy Places and Tourism) and *Seichi to inori no shukyo shakaigaku* (The Sociology of Religion as Seen in Holy Places and Pray and Edo Tokyo no seichi o anuku (Visiting Tokyo’s Sacred Sites from the Edo Period) have made Japanese culture and design the envy of the world—and that signal a roadmap for “innovation of the mind”—essential knowledge that could guide Japan out of the economic and psychological doldrums that have held sway for the past two decades.

### About the Author

An acclaimed author, playwright, theater director, translator and journalist who has immersed himself in Japanese culture for half a century, Roger Pulvers has published more than forty books in Japanese and English, and has translated prose, drama and poetry from Japanese, Russian and Polish. Awards include the Kenji Miyazawa Prize and the Noma Award for the Translation of Japanese Literature.

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**About the Author**

OKAMOTO Ryosuke is an associate professor of media and communication studies at Hokkaido University. He specializes in religious studies and the sociology of tourism. His books include Seichi to inori no shukyou shakaigaku (The Sociology of Religion as Seen in Holy Places and Pray and Edo Tokyo no seichi o anuku (Visiting Tokyo’s Sacred Sites from the Edo Period), Edo Tokyo no seichi o anuku (Visiting Tokyo’s Sacred Sites from the Edo Period), The Amazing Recovery of One of Japan’s Largest Paper Mills Following the 2011 Earthquake and Tsunami, and Pilgrimages in the Secular Age: From El Camino to Anime.
The Entrepreneur Who Built Modern Japan

Shibusawa Eiichi

SHIMADA Masakazu

Translated by Paul Narum

This penetrating biography of SHIBUSAWA Eiichi (1840–1931), one of Japan’s foremost entrepreneurs, traces Shibusawa’s youth, when he witnessed the decay of Japan’s feudal society and experienced the benefits of modernization firsthand in Europe; his service in the Ministry of Finance in the early years of the new Meiji government; and his venture into business and involvement in hundreds of companies as he set about building the roots of modern corporate Japan. It also looks closely at Shibusawa’s social activities and his insistence that economics and morality are inseparable. In troubled times like the present, when the limits of capitalism are being seen around the world, Shibusawa’s vision is as relevant as ever.

About the Author

SHIMADA Masakazu is a professor of business administration at Bunkyo Gakuin University. His graduate degrees in economics and management are from Waseda University and Meiji University. His primary research is conducting historical studies on the corporate activities of Shibusawa Eiichi, as well as research on the optical instrument industry.

Global Class Japanese SMEs

KUROSAKI Makoto

Translated by Larry Greenberg

Japan’s economic heyday as the world’s second-largest economy is long over, dreams of Japan as Number One have faded as China has overtaken Japan as Number Two, and yet Japan remains near the top as the third richest economy in the world despite the fallout from scandals and the disappointing performance from some of Japan’s former giants. How can this be? What is the true source of strength of the Japanese economy? Who are the real little giants who continue to sustain Japan? Read about 24 amazing Japanese SMEs that have left footprints far beyond their corporate size.

About the Author

KUROSAKI Makoto is a professor in the Faculty of Economics at Teikyo University. Formerly a journalist at Iji Press covering the business beat, he reported on institutions like the Japan Business Federation, the Bank of Japan and the Ministry of Finance. Kurosaki headed the Miyazaki and Fukushima bureaus and served as commentator and editor-in-chief.

Heritage Culture and Business, Kyoto Style

Craftsmanship in the Creative Economy

MURAYAMA Yuzo

Translated by Juliet Winters Carpenter

What is the essence of the Kyoto style of management, where world-class high-tech industries exist alongside heritage industries, and highly competitive strength is achieved by keeping a step ahead of the global standard while maintaining the spirit of harmony? A thorough study of various unique approaches, based on interviews with managers and craftspeople, Murayama’s work covers everything from distinct management styles aimed at increasing workforce motivation to the development of capabilities that yield products with high cultural value and innovation for the sake of business continuity.

About the Author

MURAYAMA Yuzo is a professor at Dashisha Business School and a recognized authority on business aspects of heritage industries. He is an independent director of JR West and a member of the Kyoto Chamber of Commerce and Industry Smart Business Support Team. His Tekunoshiaitemu tenkan no senryaku (Strategy of Techno System Conversion) received the Fujita Future Management Economic Award.

Human Resource Development in Twentieth-Century Japan

INOKI Takenori

Translated by Tony Gonzalez

In Japan, where natural resources are scarce, the importance of human resources cannot be overstated. It is the person, and the person only, that determines economic wealth. This book reviews the economic development of modern Japan from the Edo period (1603–1868) to the present age to uncover how human resources developed in Japan. It examines the formation and allocation of human resources that brought about economic growth, focusing on the form of education and training in schools, companies, and the military. In particular, it reveals how knowledge and skills are delivered in a “have-not” country like Japan.

About the Author

INOKI Takenori has served as dean of economics at Osaka University and director of the International Research Center for Japanese Studies. His many publications in English and Japanese include Skill Formation in Japan and Southeast Asia, College Graduates in Japanese Industry, and Keizai seicho no kajitsu (Fruits of Economic Growth).

About the Author

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Tree-Ring Management
Take the Long View and Grow Your Business Slowly
TSUKAKOSHI Hiroshi
Translated by Hart Larrabee
TSUKAKOSHI Hiroshi is of the opinion that the happiness and well-being of employees is more important than rising sales and profits. His unique management principles include such ideas as "rapid growth is the enemy" and "the essence of management is creating fans." His approach has resulted in rising sales and profits for half a century since the founding of his kanten company, and his company welcomes a steady stream of visiting executives and analysts from major corporations, including Murata Manufacturing and the Toyota Group. His philosophy of seeking steady growth over the long term will enlighten businesspeople around the world about a better way to manage corporations.

About the Author
TSUKAKOSHI Hiroshi is chairman of the Ina Food Industry Company. His numerous awards include the Medal of Honor with Yellow Ribbon from the Japanese government, recognizing his pioneering achievements in the kanten market. In 2011, he received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette from the Government of Japan. He is of the opinion that the happiness and well-being of employees is more important than rising sales and profits. His unique management principles include such ideas as "rapid growth is the enemy" and "the essence of management is creating fans." His approach has resulted in rising sales and profits for half a century since the founding of his kanten company, and his company welcomes a steady stream of visiting executives and analysts from major corporations, including Murata Manufacturing and the Toyota Group. His philosophy of seeking steady growth over the long term will enlighten businesspeople around the world about a better way to manage corporations.

Listen to the Voice of the Earth
Learn about earthquakes to save lives
OKI Satoko
Translated by IWAKI Takako
It might be surprising to hear that there are scientists who listen to the Earth, but the Earth does talk in many different voices—the voice of the air, the voice of the sea, the voice of volcanoes, and the voice of the Earth. Seismologists listen to the voice of the Earth using high-performance seismometers that do not miss the slightest muttering that human ears cannot hear. This book is about understanding what is happening inside the Earth, why earthquakes and tsunamis happen, and how we can be prepared by listening to the Earth and taking steps in advance to prepare for the seismic events that are sure to be part of our future.

About the Author
OKI Satoko is an associate professor in the Faculty of Environment and Information Studies, Keio University, specializing in seismology, disaster information, and disaster prevention education.

Wasan, the Fascination of Traditional Japanese Mathematics
SAKURAI Susumu
Translated by Emma Ford, with Gaynor Sekimori
Wasan, a unique form of Japanese mathematics, was developed during the Edo period (1603–1868) when Japan was isolated from the rest of the world. Mathematics was enjoyed as a form of entertainment by adults and children alike and by people of all social classes. This book explores the beauty and fascination surrounding wasan by providing a guided tour that goes back in time over three hundred years and navigates through the mysterious and incredible world of mathematical wizardry found during the Edo period of Japan.

About the Author
SAKURAI Susumu graduated from the Department of Mathematics and the Graduate School at the Tokyo Institute of Technology. He is a science navigator and lectures all over Japan.
Mixing Work with Pleasure
My Life at Studio Ghibli
SUZUKI Toshio
Translated by Roger Speares

SUZUKI Toshio has devoted himself to Studio Ghibli for some thirty years. Early in his career he met the two genius directors MIYAZAKI Hayao and TAKAHATA Isao and gained their confidence. Working with these two inimitable directors, he experienced the joys and sorrows of filmmaking, and he continues today to guide the studio. Based on his inherently inquisitive nature and resources accumulated over the years, Suzuki recounts not only the stories of Miyazaki and Takahata, but also the other figures working at Studio Ghibli or in connection with it. It is a fascinating tale, told with penetrating insight and heartwarming humor.

About the Author
SUZUKI Toshio is producer and chairman of Studio Ghibli and has produced such world-renowned animated classics as Princess Mononoke and Spirited Away. His other publications include Eiga donaku (Mixing Film with Pleasure), Kaze ni fukarete (Blown by the Wind), and Aburi no tetsugaku (Ghibli’s Philosophy).

Mutsu Munemitsu and His Time
OKAZAKI Hisahiko
Translated by NODA Makito

MUTSU Munemitsu is known as the statesman who shouldered the fate of Japan as a foreign minister during the critical years of the late nineteenth century. He worked to revise unequal treaties with Western powers as foreign minister and to end the First Sino-Japanese War, and helped Japan to ride out the subsequent wave of Tripartite Intervention from Russia, France, and Germany. The author, a career diplomat himself, traces the footsteps of modern Japan’s diplomacy by reviewing the philosophical and political journey of this extraordinary diplomat who protected the dignity of Japan as a modern nation throughout his professional life.

About the Author
OKAZAKI Hisahiko (1930–2014) entered the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1952. He was appointed the first director-general of the Information Analysis, Research, and Planning Bureau in 1984 and served as ambassador to Saudi Arabia and Thailand before retiring in 1992. He was the director of the Okazaki Institute until his death in 2014.

Every Day a Good Day
Fifteen lessons I learned about happiness from Japanese tea culture
MORISHITA Noriko
Translated by Eleanor Goldsmith

Reporter and essayist MORISHITA Noriko reflects on twenty-five years of studying the Japanese Way of Tea, from her first uncertain steps as a college student to her gradual discovery of freedom within the very rules that once seemed to hold her back. Through the trials and triumphs of adult life, Tea was always there to remind her that simply being present in the moment is enough. In this memoir, Morishita vividly connects the Way of Tea to the full span of human experience—humor and heartbreak, despair and determination—culminating in the exhilarating realization that “I’m alive, right now!”

About the Author
MORISHITA Noriko is a graduate of the Department of Japanese Literature in the Faculty of Humanities, Japan Women’s University and has worked as a reporter for Shukan Asahi magazine’s popular Dekigotology column. Since publishing her experiences researching the column in the 1987 book Mori-yakko Dosu, she has enjoyed a flourishing career as an essayist and reporter.

Edo Japan Encounters the World
Conversations Between Donald Keene and Shiba Ryotaro
DONALD KEENE and SHIBA Ryotaro
Translated by Tony Gonzalez

Do Japan Encounters the World continues the conversation, begun nearly twenty years earlier in The People and Culture of Japan, between scholar of Japanese literature DONALD KEENE and historical novelist SHIBA Ryotaro. In discussions that took place in Osaka and Kyoto from 1989 to 1996, these two penetrating and original observers of Japanese culture turn their attention to the long peace of the Edo period (1603-1868), when Japan developed in relative isolation from outside influence. From analysis of literary masters like Basho and Chikamatsu to critiques of the repressive aspects of Edo life, their exchanges bring much insight to this often romanticized period of Japanese history.

About the Authors
Donald KEENE (1922–2019) was a professor of Japanese literature at Columbia University for over 50 years. He learned Japanese during World War II and served as a translator and interpreter during the war. He continued to translate Japanese literature and to write about Japanese culture throughout his life. SHIBA Ryotaro (1923–1996) received the Naoki Prize for his first novel Fukurou no shiro (Castle of Owls), and received many other awards, including the Japan Art Academy’s Imperial Award, for his many historical works such as Kûkai the Universal, Scenes from His Life.
An Introduction to Yōkai Culture
Monsters, Ghosts, and Outsiders in Japanese History
KOMATSU Kazuhiko
Translated by YODA Hiroko and Matt Alt

S
ince ancient times, the Japanese have lived with superstitions of strange presences and phenomena known as “yōkai,” creating a culture by turns infused with unease, fear, and divinity. Tsukimonono spirit possessions. Fearsome kappa, oris, and tengu. Yamauba crones. Ghostly yorei. Otherworldly yin . . . Where did they come from? Why do they remain so popular? Written by Japan’s premier scholar of yōkai and strange tales, this book is both an introduction to the rich imagination and spirituality of Japan’s yōkai culture and a history of the authors and writings that have shaped yōkai studies as a field.

About the Author
KOMATSU Kazuhiko is a folklorist and cultural anthropologist and is director-general of the International Research Center for Japanese Studies. He was awarded the Order of the Purple Ribbon for scholarly achievement by the government of Japan, and was further recognized as a Person of Cultural Merit by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

Kabuki, a Mirror of Japan
Ten Plays That Offer a Glimpse Into Evolving Sensibilities
MATSUI Kesako
Translated by David Cran dall

I
n this delightfully engaging look at Japan’s traditional dance-drama, MATSUI Kesako approaches kabuki in the same way a paleontologist might examine geological layers, with each play revealing a fascinating story about the time and place in which it was created and performed. Matsui artfully traces the origins and evolution of many of kabuki’s defining characteristics while linking them to larger patterns of cultural development in Japanese society. Her keen insights, encyclopedic knowledge, and easy writing style bring this centuries-old theatrical tradition to life, rendering it readily accessible to those who may have no prior knowledge of the subject.

About the Author
MATSUI Kesako is a novelist with a background in theater. She has planned and produced kabuki’s defining characteristics while linking them to larger patterns of cultural development in Japanese society. Her keen insights, encyclopedic knowledge, and easy writing style bring this centuries-old theatrical tradition to life, rendering it readily accessible to those who may have no prior knowledge of the subject.

The Lure of Pokémon
Video Games and the Savage Mind
NAKAZAWA Shinichi
Translated by Ted Mack

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AKAZAWA Shinichi shows how the Pokémon series of video games seeks to represent the true, hidden essence of the natural world. He demonstrates how games like Pokémon recreate deep-rooted social patterns through close analysis of the history of video games in Japanese culture. Drawing on mythology and Freudian and Lacanian psychoanalysis, he explores cultural touchstones like Space Invaders and Ultraman, showing how their rich, direct expression appeals directly to the urges and impulses of children, helping them come to terms with their place in the world. This book is both a work of game criticism revealing la pensée sauvage within today’s video games and an examination of the Japanese popular culture from which the Pokémon phenomenon was born.

About the Author
NAKAZAWA Shinichi is an anthropologist and philosopher and currently directs the Institut pour la Science Sauvage at Meiji University. Since his bestselling debut Tibetno mósa ruuto (Mozart in Tibet), based on his own experiences studying Buddhism in Tibet, he has written dozens of works exploring the relevance of non-modern thought to contemporary life.

The People and Culture of Japan
Conversations Between Donald Keene and Shiba Ryotaro
Donald Keene and SHIBA Ryotaro
Translated by Tony Gonzalez

T
his book features conversations between Donald Keene, a preeminent scholar of Japanese literature, and SHIBA Ryotaro, the author who continued to contemplate the human condition through his original and distinctive lens of history. These talks—which mainly explore the foundation of Japanese culture—took place in Japanese on three occasions in 1971, in the historic cities of Nara, Kyoto and Osaka. Drawing on their profound insights into Japan’s relations with foreign cultures over the course of Japanese history, the two engage in a passionate discussion of their first-hand impressions and observations of Japanese culture.

About the Authors
Donald Keene (1922–2019) was a professor of Japanese literature at Columbia University for over 50 years. He learned Japanese during World War II and served as a translator and interpreter during the war. He continued to translate Japanese literature and to write about Japanese culture through his life.

SHIBA Ryotaro (1923–1996) received the Naoki Prize for his first novel Fukurô no shiro (Castle of Owls), and received many other awards, including the Japan Art Academy’s Imperial Award, for his many historical works such as Kûkai no fûkei (Kûkai the Universal: Scenes from His Life).

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The Art of Emptiness

SAKAIDA Kakiemon XIV
Translated by Gavin Frew

For several hundred years, Japanese porcelain has been highly acclaimed and sought after around the world. Sophisticated porcelain ware has long been produced in the Arita area of Kyushu, and artisans from the Kakiemon family have gained particular renown for their skill in enamels and their artistic designs. Now, for the first time, the tradition and techniques behind the creation of their ceramic works are disclosed through the words of the late Kakiemon XIV. With more than twenty color plates depicting Kakiemon pieces from museums and private collections, this volume provides rare insight into one of the world's most famous kilns.

About the Author
SAKAIDA Kakiemon XIV (1934–2013) was the eldest child of ceramicist Kakiemon XIII. He graduated from the nihonga department of Tama Art University before apprenticing at his family’s kiln, later succeeding to the family name and becoming the fourteenth-generation Kakiemon. He was designing a Living National Treasure and awarded the Third Class of the Order of the Rising Sun.

The Book of Urushi

Japanese Lacquerware from a Master

MATSUDA Gonroku
Translated by Michael Brase and KOMADA Makiko / Supervised by MUROSE Kazumi

Urushi, Japanese lacquerware, is perhaps the oldest and most sublime of all the Japanese arts and crafts. Its history back goes back more than 7,000 years, and it is still vibrantly alive today. It is practiced by craftsmen working in time-honored techniques and by modern artists forging the future. Valued for its utilitarian durability, urushi developed into an incomparable art, adorning a multitude of objects from luxurious palaces to lavish murals and exquisitely crafted fountain pens. The present book, written more than fifty years ago by the Living National Treasure MATSUDA Gonroku, has long been a must-read for collectors, researchers, and laypeople. It is the “bible” of urushi, covering every conceivable aspect of the subject.

About the Author
MATSUDA Gonroku (1896-1986) was designated a Living National Treasure by the Japanese government at the age of fifty-nine. He was a lecturer at the Ishikawa Prefectural Wajima Lacquer Technology Research and Training Institute and participated in the repair of the National Treasure Chusonji Konkikido, among other projects.

The Japanese Sense of Beauty

TAKASHINA Shûji
Translated by Matt Treyvaud

Art critic and historian TAKASHINA Shûji reflects on the aesthetic and philosophical sensibilities underlying Japanese art throughout its history, from the earliest calligraphy and painted screens to modern masters. He explores themes such as the relationship between subjective perspective and “flat” composition and the playful intermingling of word and image throughout the plastic arts of Japan. He also offers fresh critical perspectives on many individual artists, and the essays in this wide-ranging collection touch on everything from the symbolism of Mount Fuji to the ancient music known as gagaku, showing how even the most disparate topics can shed new light on what is essential to Japanese culture.

About the Author
TAKASHINA Shûji studied in France on the invitation of the French government after graduating from the University of Tokyo’s College of Arts and Sciences. A specialist in Western art from the Renaissance onwards, he is also deeply versed in the art of Japan, and is the director of the Ôhara Museum of Art.

Designing Japan

A Future Built on Aesthetics

HARA Kenya
Translated by Maggie Kinser Hohle and NAITO Yukiko

In this frank discussion on design, HARA Kenya offers his vision on how his industry can support Japan in crafting a future founded on a unique philosophy of beauty including wisdom from around the world. Hara recounts the history of professional Japanese design from its beginnings in the sixteenth century to the impact of the 2011 Tohoku earthquake, but his focus is the future and aesthetic inquiries into how this island nation will proceed as its population ages, other nations take over manufacturing, and technology develops. Designing Japan serves as a foundation course on the essence of Japanese aesthetics while maintaining a practical approach to Japan’s circumstances and future possibilities.

About the Author
HARA Kenya is an internationally acclaimed graphic designer and professor at Musashino Art University who not only designs objects but creates designs that elicit experiences. He is art director for MUJI and general producer of the JAPAN HOUSE project, an initiative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
The Music of Color

SHIMURA Fukumi
Translated by Matt Treyvaud
Photographs by INOUE Takao

Living National Treasure SHIMURA Fukumi is well known in Japan for her essays on color, nature, and the work of weaving and dyeing. The Music of Color collects some of Shimura’s most insightful writing together with INOUE Takao’s stunning photographs of her art and the natural world that inspires it. Shimura initiates the reader into a facet of Japanese culture where the boundary between craft and art is blurred. Her insight into the sources and uses of natural color, along with her decades of experience in the world of Japanese textiles, are on full display in this rich collection.

About the Author

SHIMURA Fukumi received her first lessons in weaving from her mother at the age of 17. She began working with plant-based dyes in 1955. Recognized as a Living National Treasure by the Japanese government, she has also received the Ōura-gi Jiro Prize and other literary awards for her writing on art. Photographer INOUE Takao (1940–2016) was a graduate of Kyoto City University of Arts. Folk crafts, Buddhist art, the city of Kyoto, and the natural world were among his favorite subjects.

Soetsu Yanagi

Selected Essays on Japanese Folk Crafts

YANAGI Soetsu
Translated by Michael Brase

The common utilitarian objects depicted in this book were considered aesthetically insignificant until the appearance of YANAGI Soetsu. It was Yanagi who discovered the beauty that could only be produced by simple, humble craftsmen repeatedly and unselfconsciously working on the same objects day after day. From this quasi-mythical world emerged a distinctive beauty—wholesome, free, and devoid of self-awareness, and Yanagi established the Japan Folk Crafts Museum in 1936 to bring these crafts to the notice of the world. In the essays, Yanagi expounds on his philosophy of folk crafts and highlights particular pieces. Altogether, the book constitutes a penetrating insight into the world of Japanese handicrafts.

About the Author

YANAGI Soetsu (1889–1961) discovered the beauty of utilitarian objects produced by anonymous provincial craftsmen during his travels across Japan and gave these unrecognized works the name mingei (“folk craft”). He proposed a folk craft museum and served as its first director. Yanagi was designated as a Person of Cultural Merit by the Japanese government.

Contemporary Japanese Architects

IGARASHI Taro
Translated by David Noble

This book is a consideration of contemporary Japanese architects from the postwar decades to the present, and explores how architects in Japan have responded to the demands of their times and how they continue to engage with new economic realities and the shifting global order. Contemporary Japanese architects have pioneered developments in sustainability and introduced engineering innovations that have changed not only the look of modern buildings but the ways in which they can be constructed. Japanese design concepts, realized in major public buildings around the world, communicate with a global audience and contribute toward shaping our shared future.

About the Author

IGARASHI Taro, architectural historian and critic, is a professor in the Graduate School of Engineering at Tohoku University. He served as commissioner for the Japan Pavilion at the Venice Biennale of Architecture in 2008 and artistic director of the Aichi Triennale in 2013. He has written and edited a number of volumes on contemporary architecture.
Japan’s Wooden Heritage
A Journey Through a Thousand Years of Architecture
FUJIMORI Terunobu and FUJITSUKA Mitsumasa
Translated by Hart Larrabee

Japan’s Wooden Heritage: A Journey Through a Thousand Years of Architecture brings together essays by architectural historian FUJIMORI Terunobu, photographs by FUJITSUKA Mitsumasa, and commentary by structural engineer KOSHIHARA Mikio that originally appeared in Kateigahô, Japan’s premier magazine of art and culture, supplemented with additional essays by FUJITSUKA Mitsumasa. Aside from the selection of 23 locations—well-known temples and shrines as well as lesser-known structures that represent a broad scope of architectural styles, functions, and time periods—what distinguishes this work is the outstanding photographs and the distinct approaches taken by each of the three essayists.

About the Authors
FUJIMORI Terunobu is professor emeritus at the University of Tokyo and director of the Edo-Tokyo Museum. FUJITSUKA Mitsumasa is a photographer known for his dynamic, journalistic shots of structures and environments. KOSHIHARA Mikio is a professor at the University of Tokyo Institute of Industrial Science and director general of Team Timberize.

Flower Petals Fall, but the Flower Endures
The Japanese Philosophy of Transience
TAKEUCHI Seiichi

Life is short and transient. The feeling that this evokes is called mujôkan in Japanese. Rather than falling into the despair that is so prevalent in the present day, mujôkan allows one to accept transience proactively as a sign of vibrant life. In this book, TAKEUCHI Seiichi examines this view of life from the perspectives of philosophy, literature, art, and religion. He delves into the Japanese concepts of grief and pain, life and death, reaching to the very core of the Japanese spirit. This book presents a full record of Takeuchi’s valedictory lectures in commemoration of his retirement from the University of Tokyo.

About the Author
TAKEUCHI Seiichi is professor emeritus at the University of Tokyo. He specializes in ethics and Japanese intellectual history, and has served two terms as the chairperson of the Japanese Society for Ethics. His primary interest is the spiritual history of Japan and how that history is reflected in the lives of modern Japanese. His numerous books include “Kanashimi” no tetsugaku (The Philosophy of “Sorrow”) and Aritenakereba Flower Petals Fall, but the Flower Endures (As Fleeting as a Dream).

Bushido and the Art of Living
An Inquiry into Samurai Values
Alexander Bennett

What is Bushido? What is Budo? How are the culture and traditions of the samurai connected with modern martial arts? Is the ancient wisdom of Japan’s feudal warriors truly relevant in the twenty-first century? If so, how can it be accessed? This collection of personal thoughts on the substance and relevance of samurai culture today addresses these questions, based on the author’s three decades of experience in the dojo. It is a must-read not only for martial artists, but also for those who want to know more about the enigmatic Japanese mind and notions of self-identity.

About the Author
Alexander Bennett is a professor at Kansai University’s Division of International Affairs. He is vice president of the International Naginata Federation and holds a number of other similar offices. Recent publications in English include Hagakure: The Secret Wisdom of the Samurai, Kendo: Culture of the Sword, and Naginata: History and Practice.
Myth and Deity in Japan
The Interplay of Kami and Buddhas
KAMATA Tōji
Translated by Gaynor Sekimori

Shinto is a tradition native to Japan that arose naturally on the eastern fringe of the Eurasian continent and was woven over many years into the fabric of people’s everyday lives. When Buddhism entered the country in the sixth century, the two religions coalesced,embracing many other folk deities as well to create a singular combinatory religious culture that continues to permeate Japan’s cultural life today. This book by one of the country’s most knowledgeable,penetrating,and eclectic scholars of Japanese religion and spirituality presents an engaging overview of the country’s religious legacy,as well as offering insights into how religion can become a force for peaceful coexistence,rather than violent extremism.

About the Author
KAMATA Tōji is professor emeritus at Kyoto University,and guest professor at the Sophia University Institute of Care. His research interests include religion,folklore studies,Japanese intellectual history,and comparative civilizations. He is qualified to hold Shinto rituals and is a Shinto song-writer,and performs on the stone flute (waabue),horizontal flute,and conch shell (horagai).

Words to Live by
Japanese Classics for Our Time
NAKANO Kôji
Translated by Juliet Winters Carpenter

NAKANO Kôji opens the door to the Japanese classics by introducing six writers who are his personal favorites. The writers,three poets and three who wrote timeless prose,span the twelfth to the nineteenth century. The hermit-monk Ryôkan teaches the value of living with a spirit of play. Kenkô offers trenchant comments on the aesthetics of life. Kamo no Chômei found happiness late in life by flouting convention. Dôgen, the founder of Sôtô Zen, takes us on a mind-bending trip to the Dharma, the ultimate truth. Saigyô, the itinerant monk-poet, explores his own wayward heart. Buson the haiku poet uses his painter’s eye to capture cosmic vistas as well as moments of poignancy in poems of seventeen syllables.

About the Author
NAKANO Kôji (1925–2004) studied German literature at the University of Tokyo. In 1966, he went to western Europe as a visiting scholar from Kogakuin University. On his return to Japan, he immersed himself in Japanese medieval literature and began writing literary criticism, novels, and essays including Seihin no shisô (The Concept of Honest Poverty).

ENGLISH TITLE:
Maritime Asia vs Continental Asia: Thinking about Japan’s National Strategy
ORIGINAL TITLE:
Kaiyō Ajia vs. Tairiku Ajia: Nihon no kokka senryaku o kangaeru
AUTHOR:
SHIRAISHI Takashi
KEYWORDS:
China, ASEAN, Asian Geopolitics, Commerce & Trade

ENGLISH TITLE:
International Politics and the Problem of Peace
ORIGINAL TITLE:
Kokusai seiji: Kyôfu to kibô
AUTHOR:
KOSAKA Masataka
KEYWORDS:
International Relations, World Peace, Disarmament, Economics

Philosophy & Religion
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