Historical Dialogue and Reconciliation in East Asia:
Recent practice and future prospects

A symposium of the Harvard Yenching Institute, with sponsorship and support of Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University Asia Center
Tsai Auditorium, CGIS South Building, 1730 Cambridge St., Cambridge, MA 02138
September 12-13, 2008

Tentative schedule

Session One: Initiatives led by Overseas Scholars

Friday, September 12: 1:30-5:30 pm

Welcome and introductory comments:
Elizabeth Perry, Director, Harvard Yenching Institute
Andrew Gordon, History Department, Harvard

Presentations
Liu Jie, Waseda University
The simultaneous publications in China and Japan of Contentious issues in Sino-Japanese relations: toward a history beyond borders

Lee Sung-si, Waseda University
Activities and accomplishments of Japan-Korea cooperative studies, publication of “Perspectives from colonial modernity,” and beyond

Yang Daqing, George Washington University
History Dialogue and Reconciliation in Comparative Perspectives

[Break, 3:15-3:30]

Discussant comments and general discussion: 3:30-5:30
1. Joshua Fogel, York University
2. Bu Bing, Institute for Modern History, Beijing
Session 2: Contentious issues: current interpretative debate

Continental breakfast (8:15-8:45) and a lunch buffet (12:00-1:30) will be served.

September 13 (Saturday morning): 9:00-12:00 pm

Presentations

Mitani Hiroshi, The University of Tokyo
Contemporary political context of the historical issue in East Asia

Shi Gui Fang, Capital Normal University
[tentative title] Recent studies of Resistant War against Japan in contemporary China

Murai Ryota, Komazawa University
Memorial service issue and Yasukuni Shrine in Japan

[Break, 10:00 – 10:10]

Discussant comments and general discussion 10:15 – 12:00

1. Thomas Berger, Boston University
2. Park Jihang, Seoul National University
3. Carter Eckert, Harvard University

Session 3: Furthering historical studies in East Asia and prospects for the future

September 13 (Saturday afternoon): 1:30 –5:00 pm

Presentations

Lim Jie-Hyun, Hanyang University
Mourning Nations: Victimhood Nationalism and Historical Reconciliation

Chen Hongmin, Zhejiang University
Historical materials and new interpretations in modern Chinese history

[Break: 2:10 - 2:20]

Sang Bing, Zhong Shan University
Prospects for the studies of modern history of China and Sino-Japanese relations

Kawashima Shin, The University of Tokyo
Extending cooperative studies of modern history of East Asia

[Break: 3:00 – 3:10]
Discussant comments and general discussion 3:10 – 5:00

1. Andrew Gordon
2. Elizabeth Perry

Concluding remarks

Ezra Vogel

Mitani Hiroshi

Note: The conference will be conducted in three languages—English, Chinese and Japanese. There will be simultaneous interpretation of all three languages and headsets will be provided for all participants.
**Brief Biographies**

Elizabeth Perry, professor, Harvard University, Chinese politics. Has written historical studies of the politics of Chinese labor and rural social protest, as well as study of contemporary Chinese political and social life. Director from July 2008 of the Harvard Yenching Institute, and served as president of the Association for Asian Studies in 2007.

Andrew Gordon, professor, Harvard University, Japanese History. Has written on the history of labor, politics and society in 19th and 20th century Japan, and currently working on the emergence of a mass consumer society in the 20th century in Japan. Author of widely used survey text on modern Japanese history.

Carter Eckert, professor, Harvard University, Korean history. Has written on Korean economic and political history of the colonial era, and the origins and character of modern Korean nationalism. Currently writing a biography of Park Chung Hee.


Mitani Hiroshi (三谷博), professor, The University of Tokyo, 19th century history of Japan and East Asia; political and diplomatic history, history education and methodology of historical research. Studied at the University of Tokyo; the author of ‘Escape from Impasse’ and a co-editor of ‘Contentious issues in Sino-Japanese relationships’

Liu Jie (劉傑), professor, Department of Social Sciences, Waseda University; modern Sino-Japanese relations. Originally from Beijing. Studied at the University of Tokyo as undergraduate and graduate student, PhD from the University of Tokyo in 1993; leader of the research group on modern Sino-Japanese relations that published the ‘Contentious issues.’

Yang Daqing (楊大慶), associate professor, George Washington University; modern history of Japan and East Asia. Grew up in Nanjing, graduated from Nanjing University, PhD from Harvard University; co-founder of the Memory and Reconciliation in the Asia Pacific program at George Washington University and the co-editor of ‘Contentious issues’.

Lee Sung-si (李成市), professor, Waseda University, ancient Korean history based on epigraphs and critical historiography of colonial Japan and Korea. Korean resident in Japan, graduated from Waseda University, undergraduate and PhD; one of the leaders of post-colonial historical study group between Japan and Korea.
Joshua Fogel, professor, York University, specializes in the history of Sino-Japanese relations. He is presently writing a comprehensive history of Sino-Japanese relations.

Bu Bing（歩平）, Dean, Center for Modern History in Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Researcher of the damage caused by poison gas Japanese army left, the Chinese chair of official Sino-Japanese cooperative history research committee.

Murai Ryota（村井良太）, associate professor, Komazawa University, Japanese modern political history. Undergraduate degree and PhD from Kobe University. His book on Japanese party politics during 1920s was awarded Suntory prize in 2006.

Shi Gui Fang (史桂芳), professor, Capital Normal University, she focuses on Japanese Asian-ism, its changes after WWII, the relationship between China and Japan, the role of traditional culture in the development of the Sino-Japanese relations.

Thomas Berger, associate professor, Boston University, political scientist who studies historical memories and trauma in East Asia.

Park Jihang (朴枝香), Seoul National University, Korea, a historian who works on British and Japanese imperialisms and a leading academic in post-nationalist historiography.

Kawashima Shin（川島真）, associate professor, The University of Tokyo, modern Chinese international relations. Graduated from Tokyo Foreign Language University, PhD from The University of Tokyo; A leading younger scholar in Japan of modern history of East Asia. His first book was awarded Suntory prize in 2004.

Chen Hong Min (陈红民), professor, Zhejiang University, PhD from Nanjing University, where he taught for many years. Focuses on the political history of Republican China, more recently focusing his research on Chiang Kai-shek.

Sang Bing（桑兵）, professor, Zhongshan University, historian studying intellectual history during late Qing and Republican era of China.

Lim Jie-Hyun（林志弦）, professor, Hanyang University, Polish history, comparative studies of nationalisms, leading figure in Korea who devotes himself in developing transnational history, director of the Research Institute of Comparative History and Culture(RICH).

Yang Qun（杨群）, Assistant to Editor-in-Chief: Social Sciences Academic Press, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; Major books he edited were ‘The History of the Republic of China’ 10 vols., ‘China 1920s’ and the CASS series of Historical Research on the Sino-Japan relations; the publication in Chinese was only possible due to his efforts.