



Asian Studies Notes

NEWSLETTER OF THE ASIAN STUDIES PROGRAM OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO

Vol. 7, No. 3 / November, 2001

Website: www.wings.buffalo.edu/asian/asn

亞細亞學研究

Notes on a Different Ground Zero

Michael Frisch, Professor of History/Senior Research Scholar

It is proving hard for any of us to move very far from the shadow of September 11, which shapes my contribution to this space. I lived and taught in American Studies in Korea for a Fulbright year in the 1970s, lecturing in Japan as well, and I returned in 1990 for a short lecture tour. This past June I returned to Asia again for three weeks of lectures in Japan and Korea. My opportunity this year gave me a useful vantage on change over time, and on the evolving place of cross-cultural American studies in these countries.

There was one particular

experience on my recent trip that has been very much on my mind in the aftermath of September 11, and Asian Studies invited me to share that experience with readers of *Asian Studies Notes*.

The last leg of my tour involved a short visit to Okinawa, where I lectured at the University of the Ryukyus and where I met, among other faculty members, Gaylene Levesque—a former member of UB's international studies staff who sends her regards to Buffalo friends and colleagues. On the morning before my talk, my host, Professor Akamine Kenji, took me for a tour, one feature of which was a visit to the Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum.

This imposing structure tells the story of the March, 1945 battle for Okinawa, in which well over 200,000 died, the majority of them Okinawan civilians. Overlooking the site of the American landings, the museum is surrounded by acres of memorial gardens. Gardens and museum comprise a unique battlefield monument that shifts the focus from war to peace, but in some surprisingly ways.

Outside, arrayed in ranks and joined in death are tablets inscribed with the names of Japanese soldiers, American soldiers, and Okinawan civilians—all of those who died in the battle for Okinawa. Americans familiar with the emotional power of the Vietnam memorial in Washington might well reflect on how different its powerful statement would be were equal place given to villagers and Viet Cong soldiers as well as to American GI's.

Inside, in the museum presentation itself, this inclusiveness led me to expect a generalized history focused on the tragic costs of war and an abstract call for peace, as if it were the dimension of tragedy, not its concrete agents and embodiments, that mattered today as the war recedes from memory. Instead, to my surprise, I found some-

See NOTES p. 2

NYCAS Holds Successful Conference at

The New York Conference on Asian Studies held its annual meeting at Cornell University, October 26-27. With a registration of 150, the conference featured 37 panels reporting on research in various fields of Asian studies. A Book Exhibit displayed recent publications from leading academic publishers. Other features included film showings; a gallery tour of Asian art; and "Asia in Bits and Bytes," a workshop on online resources for Asian research.

Two members of the UB Asianist community presented papers at the conference. Professor Margherita Long of the Department of Comparative Literature gave a paper on "Nakagami and Tanizaki: Knowing the Kii Peninsula," in a panel on Japanese literature. André Foisy, a senior undergraduate student in the Department of Anthropology, presented his study, "Free Aceh Movement: A Nosological Problem." Foisy's piece was also awarded the Marleigh Grayer Ryan Student Prize for the best undergraduate paper in a NYCAS competition, and he was duly recognized at the conference banquet. Thomas Burkman, Director of Asian Studies, represented UB on the NYCAS Executive Board.

NYCAS provides excellent opportunities for Asian studies faculty and graduate students to present their research and to interface with Asian scholars from a variety of institutions in the Northeast. Next year's meeting will be held October 25-26 at Skidmore College. Watch ASN for the Call for Papers in the spring.

The Ryan prize competition for 2002 is underway. Excellent papers in any field related to Asia should be submitted to the Ryan Prize Committee, c/o Asian Studies at UB. The competition awards prizes at the undergraduate and graduate levels. For a full description, contact Asian Studies.

1- Minute Interview with Piyasuda Pangsap

(Assistant Professor, Women's Studies)

Q: Your impression about Asian Studies at UB? Its perspectives and future?

A: I feel that the Asian Studies Program has great potential, especially in its proposal of a new major in Asian Studies. Its interdisciplinary orientation will attract a large number of undergraduate students from various disciplines within both the humanities and the social sciences. The development and expansion of the program at the undergraduate level from crosslisting courses with other departments, sponsoring events and cultural programs, film series, and through Study Abroad programs will certainly help to establish solid ground for Asian Studies and to attain greater visibility within the larger UB community. As a new faculty member at UB whose work focuses on urban industrial labor in the East Asian region, I look forward to being a part of this exciting development.

NOTES (cont. from p.1)

- thing like the opposite—exhibits that spoke with the bluntest language about specific actions and specific agents, about both Japanese atrocities and the oppression of US occupiers, about the concrete engines of history, that is, producing tragedy. The museum presentation is defined by a striking attentiveness to issues of responsibility and accountability, issues of continuing contemporary relevance in an Okinawa still uncomfortably if less catastrophically caught between the power of the US and Japan.

My host pointed out numerous places where exhibits had included, often over great opposition, specific elements illustrating this agency—about Japanese troops forcing civilian mass-suicides in caves, or US torpedoing of refugee ships headed for Japan. Considering the continuing delicacy of the US presence, and considering the island's no

less uncomfortable pre- and post-reversion history as a part of Japan, this insistence on “speaking truth to power”, historically and by implication in the present, struck me as quite remarkable.

In the now six weeks since September 11, as the US response has taken shape, I have found myself, somewhat to my surprise, returning again and again to this visit. For we seem so much in need of precisely the combination the Okinawa Peace Memorial Museum brings into focus. We need to see power in the fact that tragedy connects with many others around the world, at the most human level—people and communities for whom terrorism has been a too-constant companion for years, including many of those we are too quick to objectify as our enemies. And yet, it seems to me, as left and right fall into too-familiar and too-predictable postures of war or peace without always reflecting on what either of those really can mean

in this highly specific context, we need as well the kind of focused courage displayed in the Okinawa exhibits: the courage to name the actions and agents of tragedy with specificity, to see the strictest accountability as necessary to prevent crimes against humanity in the future, and to make this the defining axis of more deliberate policy. But combining these two perspectives is not proving easy so far, with ominous implications.

This, in any event, is one of the ways my recent visit to East Asia has been speaking to me in these disturbing, confusing times. I look forward to the chance, at a spring semester brown bag, to discuss some others reflections bearing on American studies abroad as a locus for cross-cultural dialogue, and on the complex evolving space this dialogue occupies, from what I could see on my return visit, in contemporary Korea and Japan.

ASIAN STUDIES NEW COURSES SPRING 2002

ELP 574: EDUCATION IN ASIA

Dr. Yoshiko Nozaki

Registration number: 342252

Monday, 16:00-18:50, 213 O'Brian Hall

This course explores a variety of educational and research issues emerging in the area of Asian education studies. In this course, students will learn not only educational institutions, systems, processes, and issues of several Asian countries and regions (e.g. Japanese and South Korean education), but also various approaches and methods that have been employed to study them. The course will have a good mixture of discussion about theory, methods, and examples of educational studies on specific Asian countries in the field of comparative and international education. The course will focus (though not exclusively) on Japanese education as it is one of the most researched educational entities in the area, and use it to identify, examine, and understand the theoretical/methodological issues and tensions in conducting comparative and cross-cultural education research in Asia.

TH 460: ASIAN PERFORMING ARTS

Dr. Maria S. Horne

Registration number: 062968

Monday & Wednesday, 11:00-12:00, 190 Alumni Arena

Comprehensive study of a wide range of Asian performing arts, from theatre and dance to ritual and popular entertainment, including Chinese Opera, Kyogen, Noh, Kabuki, Butoh,

Bunraku, Sanskrit Drama, Cambodian Classical Dance, Masked Theater of Bali and research on the historical and contemporary context; in-depth performance analysis; directing, choreography, design and performance approaches. This advanced course, targeted to juniors and seniors, is both intercultural and interdisciplinary, drawing on the arts, humanities and social sciences. There are some theater pre-requisites for theatre majors but others may enroll with the permission of the instructor. Auditors would also be welcomed.

WS 375: WOMEN IN CONTEMPORARY ASIA

Dr. Piya Pangsapa

Registration number: 293058

Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 13:00-13:50, 250 Park Hall

This course will introduce students to the various approaches and perspectives surrounding the social, economic, and political conditions of women in developing countries in Asia. It places emphasis on the experience of women in the industrial and non-industrial, rural and urban sectors, including the changing nature of gender relations and the impact on women's social and personal lives. The literature also emphasizes the growth and acceleration in women's poverty and the struggles of women in both the paid and unpaid work force. Readings will include journalistic and scholarly accounts, theoretical discussion papers, empirical case studies, and in-depth investigative research work that document the lives of women in a wide range of work situations and social settings.

ASIAN STUDIES DIRECTORY

Thomas W. Burkman, Director (burkman@buffalo.edu)

Pat Kratz, Office Manager (kratzpg@buffalo.edu)

Ngoc Le, Graduate Assistant (ngocle@buffalo.edu)

714 Clemens, University at Buffalo, NY 14260/ Tel: (716) 645-3474 / Fax: (716) 645-3473

Academic Concentrations in Asian Studies

UB undergraduates have a number of avenues for pursuit of majors and minors in Asian Studies at UB. The Asian Studies program will counsel any student interested in exploring ways to focus their UB degree on Asia.

Special Major. Some students have utilized UB's flexible Special Major program to create majors in East Asian Studies, Japanese Studies, and Chinese Studies.

International Studies. This major, offered through Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Programs, has the option of an Asian track. Three years of and Asian language are required.

Minors. Students may enrich a major in any of the disciplines with a Minor in East Asian Studies, Chinese language, Japanese language, or Korean language.

Other Asia-centered academic concentrations are in the planning stage. The Asian Studies program is formulating an interdisciplinary Major in Asian Studies. The Department of Linguistics is at work on a Major in East Asian Languages. At the present time, students interested in these fields must go the route of the Special Major.

Mark Selden to Speak at UB

Mark Selden is an established name in revisionist history of Asia. He will make two presentations at UB on Friday, November 30, co-sponsored by the History Department and the Asian Studies program.

Selden holds a joint appointment in History and Sociology at the Binghamton University. He is also a Professorial Associate of the East Asian Program at Cornell University. He has published widely in the fields of Chinese rural revolution and rural development, Southeast Asian society and politics, and US-Japanese relations and historical memory. His recent books include *China in Revolution: The Yanan Way Revisited* (Sharpe, 1995); *Reinventing Vietnamese Socialism: Dai Moi in Comparative Perspective* (co-editor, Westview, 1993); and *Censoring History: Citizenship and Memory in Japan, Germany, and the United States* (co-editor, Sharpe, 2000).

Professor Selden will speak at *Asia at Noon* on Friday, November 30, at 12:00 in Park 280. His topic is "Reflections on the Nanjing Massacre."

At 3:00, he will be featured in the History Department's Colloquium series. He will lecture on "The United States, Japan, and the Noncombatant in Twentieth-Century Wars in Asia: Reflections on Responsibility, Reparations, and Reconciliation." The event, open to the campus community and public, will take place in the History Conference Room, Park 532.

Asia at Noon in November

Asia at Noon is an ongoing series of brown bag meetings which provide UB faculty and students, as well as visiting scholars, the opportunity to share their research with the Asianist community of students and faculty. AAN meets on Fridays at 12:00 in Park 280. Three more meetings will take place in the Fall Semester. Please note the new dates for the Selden and Zarembka presentations.

November 2. **David M. Engel**, Professor of Law. "Injury Narratives: Law and Social Change in Thailand." Professor Engel's experience in Thailand began as a Peace Corps volunteer. He continued his study of Thailand in the Master's Program in Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Michigan. Engel is immediate past chair of the Asian Studies Advisory Council. The November 2 event is co-sponsored by the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy.

November 16. **Paul Zarembka**, Professor of Economics. "Reflections on Marxism in China." Professor Zarembka is the editor of *Research in Political Economy*, an annual yearbook on Marxist theory and empirical work published in the Netherlands. His teaching in the UB Economics Department includes courses on Marxist theory and socialist economics. This year he participated in a conference in Kunming, China, on the theme of *Marxism in 2001*. This parlay was comprised of thirty scholars from China and fifteen from Europe, the Middle East, and the United States, all addressing the current state of theory and practice of Marxism.

November 30. **Mark Selden**, Professor of History and Sociology, Binghamton University. "Reflections on the Nanjing Massacre." (See article on the left.)

Library and Web Resources

A guide that identifies the wealth of East Asian research material available through the University Libraries and the World Wide Web will be distributed soon. This guide will describe print as well as electronic materials and will identify resources in English as well as in Asian languages. For now, we call your attention to two very different resources that may be of interest: the Bibliography of Asian Studies (<http://ets.umdl.umich.edu/b/bas/>) and CIAO: Columbia International Affairs Online (<http://www.ciaonet.org/>).

The former is produced by the Association for Asian Studies and provides over 410,000 bibliographic references to western-language monographs (through 1991), articles, and edited volume book chapters on topics in the arts, humanities, social sciences, sciences, and technology. All references in the printed editions of the bibliography (the printed editions cover publishing output for 1971-1991) are included, along with thousands of additional citations. The humanities and social sciences are especially well represented and East, Southeast, and South Asia are covered. While retrospective coverage is

See **RESOURCES** p.4

NOVEMBER 12-16

International Education
Week

Jin Hi Kim Return Engagement

Jin Hi Kim is a unique musician who combines a thorough grasp of traditional Korean music with cutting edge composition and performance. The Asian Studies program brought Kim to the University at Buffalo for a return engagement October 9-11.

Kim is a performer on the *komungo*, a six-stringed, fretted board zither which was born in Korean court music of the fourth century. She pursued *komungo* in her undergraduate years as a music student at Seoul National University in her native Korea. A resident of the United States for the last twenty years, Ms. Kim has been a major communicator of traditional music and culture to audiences across North America and Europe. She has performed *komungo* at Royal Festival Hall in London, Carnegie Hall, and the Kennedy Center, and in a joint performance with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. During the decade of the 1990s she co-developed the experimental electric *komungo*, a computer-assisted instrument that greatly expands the sound capacity of the original instrument. She has teamed up with jazz musicians of percussion, saxophone, and other musical media to create unique sound sets which challenge standard perceptions of tone and harmony and spread a feast of sound.

Ms. Kim first performed at the University at Buffalo in the fall of 2000. A year later, she returned for a three-day residency in the Department of Music. She conducted master classes for UB students in composition, where she critiqued the compositions of UB students from her cross-cultural vantage point. In her public concert on October 11, she performed both on the traditional *komungo* and on its electric counterpart, to the fascination and enjoyment of an overflow crowd in the Baird Recital Hall.

The Kim residency was co-sponsored by the Birge-Cary Chair in Music, the Korean Language and Culture Program, the Dae-Han Foundation, and the Asian Studies program. By bringing such artists as Jin Hi Kim to the UB campus, Asian Studies opens another bridge between East and West.



Nearly 300 people attended the Jin Hi Kim performance

Local Press Helps Promote Korean Literature

Established in 1973, White Pine Press is a non-profit literary press, publishing poetry, fiction, essays, short stories and literature in translation from around the world.

White Pine Press took an active role in the 10th International Association of Comparative Korean Studies (IACKS) Conference last July hosted by the UB Office of International Education, the Asian Studies program, and the International Association of Comparative Korean Studies. In 2001, supported by the Dae-han Foundation, the Korean Literature Translation Institute, and the Korean Culture and Arts Foundation, White Pine Press has released a Korean Literature in Translation Series. It includes:

The Snowy Road and Other Stories; An Anthology of Korean Fiction

Heart's Agony: Selected Poems of Chiha Kim

A Sketch of the Fading Sun: Stories of Wan-suh Park

Strong Wind at Mishi Pass: Poems by Tong-gyu Hwang

Brother Enemy: Poems of the Korean War (May 2002)

Shrapnel and Other Stories (June 2002)

This series will be added to the East Asian Collection at the University at Buffalo. For more information, contact: White Pine

RESOURCES (cont. from p.3)

uneven, an expedited effort is well underway to provide complete retrospective and current indexing of 100 of the most influential journals.

CIAO is an extensive online full-text collection of working papers, books, conference proceedings, policy briefs, and maps. Publishers represented include: the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, the American Enterprise Institute, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the Council on Foreign Relations, and the Brookings Institution. Recent searches for CIAO documents relating to China, Japan, and Korea retrieved respectively nearly 2,500, 2,000, and 1,500 documents.

For more information on library/web resources, contact:

Charles A. D'Aniello, Lockwood Memorial Library
State University of New York at Buffalo

Buffalo, New York 14260

Office: TEL: 716-645-2323/424, FAX: 716-645-3859

Email: lccharl@acsu.buffalo.edu

CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/MEETINGS

■ NYCAS 2002

The annual meeting of the New York Conference on Asian Studies will take place at Skidmore College, October 25-26, 2002. The annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies will take place in Washington DC April 4-7, 2002.

■ "The 1946-1949 Tokyo War Crimes Trial's View of the Second World War and the Three Japanese Nationalist Schools of History" will be presented by Kiyoshi Ueda (Ph.D. Candidate), Department of History, University of Toronto, Canada on December 12, 2001, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

This event is in the History Graduate-Faculty Colloquium Series for the school year 2001-2002.

More information: Website: <http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/history/events/colloquium.html>

■ **Hawaii International Conference on Social Sciences** (June 11-15, 2002) - Sheraton Waikiki Hotel, Honolulu Hawaii, USA. Call for papers. Pre-session workshops will be held on June 11, with the concurrent sessions to start on Wednesday, June 12, 2002. The Conference will provide many opportunities for academicians and professionals from social sciences and related fields to interact with members inside and outside their own particular disciplines. Cross-disciplinary submissions are welcome. This conference is sponsored by University of Hawaii - West Oahu; and College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources-University of Hawaii.

Topic Areas (All Areas of Social Sciences are Invited)

*Anthropology

*Area Studies (African, American, Asian, European, Hispanic, Islamic, Jewish, Middle Eastern, Russian, Women's and all other areas of cultural and ethnic studies)

*Communication

*Economics

*Ethnic Studies/International Studies

*Geography

*International Relations

*Journalism

*Political Science

*Psychology

*Public Administration

*Sociology

*Urban and Regional Planning

*Women's Studies

*Other Areas of Social Sciences

*Cross-disciplinary areas of the above related to each other .

Submission Deadline: January 16, 2002

More information:

Web: http://www.tapacom.net/hcsocial/cfp_ss.htm

Email: social@tapacom.net



GRANTS/ FELLOWSHIPS/PROGRAMS

■ 2002-2003 Japan Exchange and Teaching Program

The government-sponsored JET (Japan Exchange and Teaching) Program hires college graduates from the United States, as well as 38 other countries, to work in Japan as Assistant Language Teacher (ALT) and Coordinator for International Relations (CIR). In July 2001, approximately 135 new JET participants departed for Japan through the Consulate General of Japan in New York. Major eligibility criteria: US citizenship at the time of application (in order to apply from the US) and a Bachelor's degree by June, 2002. While the CIR position requires advanced proficiency in Japanese, Japanese language is NOT required for the Assistant Language Teacher position. Five sets of application materials are available at Asian Studies Program. Contact Ngoc Le, 645-3474, ngocle@acsu.buffalo.edu. A copy of JET 2002 application may also be downloaded from the Embassy of Japan's website at <http://www.embjapan.org/jet>. Application deadline: December 5, 2001 for positions beginning in July, 2002.

More information: JET 212-371-8222 x 461 or Nancy Cotham, JET Program Coordinator at nancy@ny.cgi.org.

■ Jacob K. Javits Fellowship Program/ U.S. Department of Education (USDE)

Purpose: to award fellowships to eligible students of superior ability, selected on the basis of demonstrated achievement, financial need, and exceptional promise to undertake graduate study leading to a doctoral degree or a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) at accredited institutions of higher education in selected fields of the arts, humanities, or social sciences.

Selected fields in arts: creative writing, music performance, music theory, music composition, music literature, studio arts (including photography), television, film, cinematography, theater arts, playwriting, screenwriting, acting, and dance.

Selected fields in humanities: art history (including architectural history), archeology, area studies, classics, comparative literature, English language and literature, folklore, folklife, foreign languages and literature, history, linguistics, philosophy, religion, speech, rhetoric, and debate.

Selected fields in social sciences: anthropology, communications and media, economics, ethnic and cultural studies, geography, political science, psychology but not clinical psychology, public policy and public administration, sociology but not the masters or Ph.D. in social work.

Estimated Available Funds: The Administration has requested \$10,000,000 for this program for 2002. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$31,672.

Estimated Number of Awards: 60 individual fellowships.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: November 30, 2001.

More information: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/HEP/iegps/javits.html>. Information Line: (202) 502-7542.

E-mail Questions: OPE_Javits_Program@ed.gov

Asian Studies Calendar

November

- Nov. 1, Thu. 9:00-4:00. *Red Cross Blood Drive. Malaysian Student Association.* Student Union 210. To make an appointment, contact: gyeoh@buffalo.edu or sheaulim@acsu.buffalo.edu.
- Nov. 2, Fri. 12:00. *Asia at Noon. David M. Engel, "Injury Narratives: Law and Social Change in Thailand."* Park 280. Cosponsored by the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy.
- Nov. 2, Fri. 12:00. *Poetry Reading. Myung Mi Kim* (San Francisco State University). Capen 120.
- Nov. 8, Thu. 6:30. *Snow Falling on Cedars (A movie about the Japanese in internment camps and the prejudice that they received.)* Sponsored by Alpha Kappa Delta Phi (Asian-American Interest Sorority). Student Union 210.
- Nov. 12-16. *International Education Week.* (See details on the right.)
- Nov. 16, Fri. 12:00. *Asia at Noon. Paul Zarembka, "Reflections on Marxism in China."* Park 280.
- Nov. 30, Fri. 12:00. *Asia at Noon. Mark Selden* (Binghamton Univ.), "Nanjing Massacre." Park 280.

東

NOVEMBER 12-16

International Education Week

- Nov. 12, Mon. 2:00-3:00. *Study Abroad Roundtable: Past Participants Discuss.* Student Union Theater.
- Nov. 12, Mon. 3:00-4:00. *Spotlight on Japan.* Student Union Theater.
- Nov. 12, Mon. 4:00-5:00. *Mandala: A Short History of Hinduism. Dr. Jeannette Ludwig* (Modern Languages Instructor of World Religions). Student Union Theater.
- Nov. 13, Tues. 12:00-1:00. *Percussion Performance. Korean Folk Art Club.* Student Union Lobby.
- Nov. 14, Wed. 7:00. *Movie: "In The Mood for Love" (China, 2001). Chinese Students & Scholars Association.* Woodman Theater, 112 Norton, North Campus.
- Nov. 15, Thu. 1:00-2:30. *Fulbrighters Abroad: An Alumni Roundtable. Dr. Stephen C. Dunnett, Japan (1984-85), Prof. Judy Scales-Trent, Senegal (2000-01), Dr. Marybeth Boger, Germany (1999-2000).* Student Union 145B.
- Nov. 15, Thu. 3:00-4:30. *Towards an Understanding of Islam. Thierno Muhammad Diallo, Iman.* Student Union 145D.
- Nov. 16, Fri.. 10:00-4:00. *Taste of Asia. Asian student associations.* Student Union Lobby.
- Nov. 16, Fri.. 2:00-3:30. *Visiting Fulbright Scholars: Perspectives on the U.S.* Student Union 145A.



Asian Studies Notes

Asian Studies Program

714 Clemens Hall
Buffalo, NY 14260-4610
Tel.: (716)645-3474 Fax:(716)645-3473
Email: asian-studies@buffalo.edu
Homepage: <http://wings.buffalo.edu/asian>

CAMPUS

Asian Studies Notes is published 6 times yearly by the Asian Studies Program, SUNY at Buffalo.

Ngoc Le, Editor