Commemorative International Conference for the 50th Anniversary of Japan Association for African Studies Second Asian Conference on African Studies

African Studies meets Asian Studies



This year marks the 50th year since the founding of the Japan Association for African Studies. Tireless scholarly activities and contributions by members since its establishment have positioned this association as a leading Japanese academic society for regional studies. After 50 years, the time has come to share with the rest of the world the cumulative achievements in African studies in Japan. At the same time, as globalization continues apace and several Asian countries assume a significant presence on the world stage, the need for African studies becomes more important. Challenges for the future include utilizing the international changes in African studies as a source of energy in the development of African

studies in Japan. Also, research activities in Africa will require more contributions in the future. In the 60 years that have passed since the Bandung Conference, the relationship between Asia and Africa continues to change form as it continues to deepen. As one of the countries of Asia, we would like to take this delightful opportunity to celebrate the 50th year of JAAS. With the coming together of major Asian researchers on African studies and African scholars of Asian regional studies to share experiences in their respective streams of study, we commence this international conference in the hope of gaining common ground upon which we could base future cooperation for trans-continental research.

Program

23rd May 2014

Room (333) on the 3rd floor of Inamori Foundation Memorial Hall, Kyoto University 13:00 Opening remarks: Shuhei Shimada (President of JAAS, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies)

Welcome speach: Shigeki Kaji (Director of The Center for African Area Studies, Kyoto University)

13:15 1st session: African Studies in Asia and Asian Studies in Africa

Chair: Yoichi Mine (Doshisha University)

"Korean African Studies and Its Discontents, Facing with Societal Ignorance and Academic Marginalisation" Scarlett Cornelissen (University of Stellenbosch, South Africa)

"Asian Studies in South Africa: Reflections on the Past, Present and Future"

Masahisa Kawabata (Ryukoku University)

"The Foundation of the Japan Association for African Studies and the Dawn of African Studies in Japan" Xiaomen Sun (Beijing University of Foreign Studies, China)

"African Studies in China: Opportunities and Challenges"

Ajay Dubey (Jawaharlal Nehru University, India)

"African Studies in India: Geopolitics and Challenges"

Yongkyu Chang (Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, South Korea)

15:15 Poster session

16:30 2nd session: History of Relationship between Africa and Asia

Chair: Takuo Iwata (Ritsumeikan University)

Aparajita Biswas (University of Mumbai, President of African Studies Association of India)

"Burgeoning Trade and Investments Relations between India and Africa in Contemporary Times"

Kyudeug Hwang (Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, South Korea)

"Revisiting Developmental State in South Korea: Some Implications for Africa"

Gebre Yntiso (Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia)

"The Developmental State in Ethiopia:Inspirations from Asia, Achievements and Challenges"

2nd session: History of Relationship between Africa and Asia

Chair: Takuo Iwata (Ritsumeikan University)



Aparajita Biswas

firector of the Centre for African Studies, University of Mumbai. M.A. in nternational Relations from Jadavpur University, Kolkata (erstwhile Calcutta). President of African Studies Association of India. India-Africa relations, Africa's oil sector, Energy Security, Regional organizations in Asia and Africa, Africa and the Indian Ocean region and South and Southern Africa. Main works: India-Africa Enduring Partnership: Emerging Areas of Cooperation. Gyan Publishing House, 2013. / India-East Africa: Security Relations. Published from Nairobi University, 2013.

"Burgeoning Trade and Investments Relations between India and Africa in Contemporary Times"

Although Indo-African relations can be traced to ancient times. one notices the changing dynamics of India's engagement with Africa, in recent times that is

rapidly expanding relations. In 2010/11 Indo-African trade reached US\$45 billion and is expected to grow beyond US\$75 billion by 2015. There are structural changes in trade patterns. In 2012, the value of Indian imports from Africa exceeded the value of Indian exports to Africa by approximately US\$ 14 billion. Another measure of the India-Africa economic story is investments that have seen an upward trend in recent years. Particularly, Indian investments in Africa have grown substantially across the continent and sectors. Today, Indian Multinational Companies have made considerable investments in sectors like mining, telecommunications, IT -enabled services to apparel, retail ventures, fisheries, food processing, as well as finance. Indian conglomerates like the Tatas, the Kirolaskars, pharmaceutical firms like Cipla and automobile companies like Mahindra have all undertaken profitable projects in Africa. Although data on Indian investments to Africa remain sketchy, some sources estimate the stock of investment at over US\$ 32 billion. African MNCs, particularly from South Africa, have also ventured into India over the past decade with presence in infrastructure development, breweries, financial and insurance services. In the light of these points, this article seeks to provide an insight into structural changes of India's trade and investments relations with Africa in contemporary times.

"Revisiting Developmental State in South Korea: Some Implications for Africa"

South Korea has been considered as a developmental state model, which is characterized by state's proactive role in economic growth and industrialization. In this sense, this study attempts to illustrate the historical trajectory of the South Korean developmental state since the early 1960s. By focusing on the role of the state

Kvudeug Hwang

Ph.D. in Political Science and International Relations Professor, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (HUFS), Korea. Director of Institute of African Studies, HUFS. Main works: "The Evolution of Trade Reform in South Africa: Coherence or Complexity?" Journal of the Korean Association of African Studies, Vol. 36, August 2012. / "Some Reflections on African Development Strategies in the 21st Century: From the LPA to NEPAD," Journal of International and Area Studies, Vol. 16, No. 2, December 2009. / "Constructing Politico-Security Regionalism in Southern Africa: The Case of SADC." Journal of International and Area Studies, Vol. 14. No. 1. June 2007.



becoming more important in some respects as a way of responding to the forces of globalization, it tries to critique the role and nature of the developmental state of South Korea in order to search for some implications for Africa.



Gebre Yntiso

Ph. D. in Social Anthropology, Associate Professor of Anthropology at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia.

Main works: Gebre Yntiso, Fekade Azeze, and Assefa Fiseha. Customary Disnute Resolution Mechanisms in Ethiopia, volume I & II. The Ethiopian Arbitration and Conciliation Center, 2011, 2012. / Ohta, I. & Gebre, Y. D., Risks in Africa: Refugees, Resettlers and Their Host Population, Trans Pacific Press, 2005. / Shigeta, M. & Gebre, Y. D., African Study Monographs, Supplementary Issue No. 29. Environment, Livelihood and Local Praxis in Asia and Africa. The Center for African Area Studies, Kyoto University, 2005.

"The Developmental State in Ethiopia: Inspirations from Asia. Achievements and Challenges"

The term developmental state is used to refer to the East Asian development model characterized by high state autonomy in planning, guiding and balancing economic and social development. There were arguments that this model, which worked under unique Asian contexts, cannot be replicated. Moreover, there were insinuations that the implementation of the model would be impossible in Africa due to

cultural and structural reasons. Against these backdrops, Ethiopia became one of the few African countries inspired by the Asian experiences. This paper examines the lessons that Ethiopia learnt from Asia. One of the defining qualities of developmental state is the ability to attain national consensus and forge strong coalition with local partners to ensure popular participation. The paper sheds light on the achievements and challenges associated with the social contract between the state and the citizens. There exists a debate that developmental state and democracy are incompatible, and that the legitimacy of autonomous states comes from achievements in service delivery rather than from democratic elections. However, Ethiopia claims to be a democratic developmental state arguing that, as a multi-ethnic and multi-religious nation, it cannot afford to be undemocratic. This paper inquires, both at conceptual and practical levels, whether state autonomy and democratic values are incompatible or complementary.





1st session: African Studies in Asia and Asian Studies in Africa

Chair: Yoichi Mine (Doshisha University)

"Asian Studies in South Africa:

Reflections on the past, present and

There has been an upsurge in interest in

recent years in establishing stronger

scholarly and academic institutional

links between Africa and Asia. This

parallels observably closer economic

and diplomatic interaction between

"Korean African Studies and Its Yongkyu Chang Discontents: Facing with Societal Ph.D. in Anthropology, Associate Professor, Hankuk University of Foreign Ignorance and Academic Margin-

Main works: "Beyond Swahili Myth: Migration and the Formation of Modern Swahili Identity," Journal of International Area Studies, Vol. 12, no. 4, 2009.



future"

Korean Association of African Studies "Modernity of Witchcraft: Cultural-economic Perspectives of African (KAAS), a nation-wide academic Witchcraft," African Affairs, Vol.22, 2007. / The Business of Divining: a association for the study, just turned study of healing specialists at work in a culturally plural border community 30 years last year. Neither official of KwaZulu-Natal. Ph.D., thesis. Durban: University of Natal (2003) celebration nor memorial conference was held, and it, I think, shows the

current stagnant state of African studies in Korea. African studies in Korea has long been marginalized in academia and, in the presentation, I will attempt to interpret this stagnant situation of African studies in Korea by indicating two aspects, societal ignorance and academic marginalization, as the major hindrance. Societal ignorance towards African continent is mainly caused by the lack of national interests both on economic and political (diplomatic) perspectives. Korea and African continent have virtually no historical relations until before the middle of 20th century. Even after that, Korea-Africa relation has always been the last consideration of diplomacy to Korean government. In like wise, Korea's economic interest on African continent has occupied the least attention. Academic research funds in Korea, particularly of international area studies, sensitively reflect the diplomatic policy of Korean government. Therefore, naturally, African Studies, as a branch of international area studies, has seldom being given serious attention in academia. Registered member of KAAS outnumbers one hundred, however, members' royalty to the association is weak, since they take African studies as the secondary or supplementary research fields. To overcome these difficulties, I suggest in this presentation, Korean Africanists need to be 'transnational' by building up academic networks out country, which is the mandatory for the development of African studies



alisation"

Scarlett Cornelissen

Ph.D. (University of Glasgow, UK), Professor, Stellenbosch University, South Africa. Visiting Professor at the Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies, Kyoto University,

Main works: Cornelissen, S., F. Cheru, F. & T. M. Shaw, (eds.), Africa and International Relations in the 21st Century, Palgrave Macmillan. 2012. / Shaw, T.M, A.J. Grant & S. Cornelissen, (eds.), The Ashgate Research Companion to Regionalisms, Ashgate, 2011, / Cornelissen, S., The Global Tourism System: Governance, Development and Lessons from South Africa. Ashgate, 2005.

African countries and Asia's rising powers - in particular China and India - and is perhaps driven by a desire to understand the impetuses and implications of these newer types of engagement. How has greater interaction between Africa and Asia found reflection in scholarship, what are the identifiable lines of investigation, and to what extent can discrete subfields of study be discerned? Further, what are the foundations on which current scholarly works build and what tendencies can therefore be identified in each region as regards the study of the other? In this paper I trace the origins and development of 'Asian Studies' in South Africa, with the aim of outlining the prevailing institutional conditions, scholarly concerns and the epistemological and methodological features of research conducted on the Asian region over the years. I focus on questions such as 'what constitutes "Asian Studies" within the South African context?': 'how does the study of Asia fit into the broader development of area studies and disciplinary fields in South Africa?' and, 'what factors have underpinned this development?' In addition to looking at the contents and emphases of the scholarly literature on Asia. I also consider the epistemologies underpinning those works. The paper aims to draw conclusions about the future of Asian Studies in South Africa given present conditions.



Masahisa Kawabata

Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Law, Ryukoku University, Japan. Former President of the Japan Association for Africa Studies (April 2011 - March 2014)

Main works: An Overview of the Debate on African State. Afrasian Centre for Peace and Development Studies, Published from Ryukoku University, 2006. / An Awakening of Africans: A History of Nationalism in Tanganyika. Houritsu Bunka Sha, 2002 (in Japanese). / African Renaissance: A Course of Africa in the 21st Century. Houritsu Bunka Sha. 2003 (in Japanese).



I would like to discuss the dawn of African studies at the time of the foundation of the Association for African Studies. The Japan Association for African Studies was founded in April 1964. At the time, African studies of Japanese scholars were at the dawn stage. I will present the overview on the beginning of African studies in 1950s, 1960s and 1970s, and explain

the creation of academic groups and research institutions for African studies. I will also trace the experiences of field researches of Japanese scholars in Africa and the formation of educational institutions for African studies in Japan, commenting characteristics and tasks of Japan's African studies in the following topics. (1) Human Sciences: cultural and social anthropology, history, linguistics, thought and religion, human geography, art, and literature. (2) Social Sciences: political science, economics, agricultural area, international relations, development and cooperation, education, and women.

(3) Natural Sciences: primatology, medical science and pharmacy, geology, natural geography, ecological anthropology, animal and botany, archaeology, agriculture, and engineering.

(4) Associations and institutions of African Studies: Area studies, African studies, the Association for African Studies, academic groups and institutions for African studies.

"African Studies in China: Opportunities and Challenges"

In the year 2000, Sino-African relations entered the new phase of comprehensive upgrading and China began to foster mature African policy. The establishment of Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) has provided mechanism for the development of

Xiaomena Sun Ph.D. in Literature, Associate Professor and Vice Dean, School of Asian and

African Studies, Beijing Foreign Studies University, China. Main works: Language and Power: the Application of Hausa during British Colonial Administration in Northern Nigeria, Social Science Academic Press. 2014 (in Chinese) . / Rubutaccen Wasan Kwaikwayo a Rukunin Adabin Hausa: Muhimmancinsa da Habakarsa, Kano Nigeria, 2013 (in Hausa), / "An analysis on Hausa and Nation Building in Nigeria." International Forum. Vol.89, 2013 (in Chinese).



bilateral relations. As China's presence in Africa has grown, it created opportunities for Chinese Africanists, African studies in China since witnessed a boom. My paper studies African studies in China, its development, the achievements, trends and features, problems and challenges. In conclusion, African studies in China are essential to the healthy and comprehensive development of China-Africa relations and pave the way for future cooperation, it is a promising field, but there is space for more effort and collaboration for the upcoming years.

Ajay Dubey

Master's degree in Political Science, M.Phil. and Ph.D. in International Studies. Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India. Visiting Professor of Kansai University, Japan, International Studies, Poreign Policy, African Affairs and Diasporas Studies.

Main works: Trends in Indo-African Relations, Manas Publications, 2010. / India and Francophone Africa under Globalisation, Kalinga Publications, 2009. / Indian Diaspora in Africa: A Comparative Perspective. MD Publication, 2009. / Indo-African Relations in the Post-Nehru Era, Kalinga Publica-

"African Studies in India: Geopolitics and Challenges"

African studies as a systematic academic subject was initiated and promoted by Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Indian Prime Minister. He visualized the importance of understanding Africa under his plan for Afro-Asian resurgence and Non-alignment during cold war. In the immediate aftermath of Nehru era, there was an Indian push

towards Africa to tap it as an important and large region for economic cooperation under South-South framework. New centre came primarily focusing on this issue. Under globalization, a fast growing India looked towards Africa as an important source for supplying energy products and raw materials and as a region with crucial voting power required in restructuring institutions of global governance and international negotiations. India responded by massive injection of public money through a bureaucratic set up which is known for corruption and lack of its integrity. Most of the Indian academicians and their academic institutions refused to accept the dole to appreciate the misconstrued Indian engagement in Africa which became a den of corruption and was therefore eroding historical goodwill of India in Africa. As a result, Indian bureaucracy launched massively funded pseudo academic initiative of conference, research and publications by its fully controlled and funded outfits in name of tract two initiatives (sic) to justify and publicize its controversial economic operation in Africa. However, the independent public funded Indian academic institutions came together under Pan Indian African initiatives to carry on studies of Africa and Indo-African engagements in long term interest of India, Africa and above all African studies as an academic discipline largely supported by University Grant Commission of India. The paper intends to analyze the genesis and evolution of African studies in India as an academic discipline with its strength, weakness, opportunities and challenges.