

〈諸事項の報告・紹介〉

JINA Bulletin no.33 (May/2009)

JIFAC lecture series, no.1 (Spring 2009) Prof. Fujita, Aichi University

The Development of Toa-Dobun-Shoin College at Shanghai from 1901 to 1945, and Their Great Journeys for Regional Researches on China

Fujita Yoshihisa (Aichi University, Japan)

The aim of this presentation is to make clear the development process and characteristics of Toa-Dobun-Shoin College, established in 1901 at Shanghai, China, and also to show the system and results of the “great journeys for regional research” on China and Southeast Asia, which will give us the opportunity to study the basic regional structures and problems of modern China.

[1]. There were three key persons in the establishment of the Toa-Dobun-Shoin College in Shanghai. The first person was ARAO Sei, who became very interested in China through the information on China that he encountered during his service in the new Imperial Army, just after the Meiji Restoration. Arao had the opportunity to go to Shanghai and Hankou in China, supported by a Japanese merchant in China, and gathered a lot of information there. He also found many new materials and goods to be imported to Japan. After returning to Japan, he published a great book on China that included not only trade information but also historical and cultural information based on his experiences in China. This book was very popular, showing many Japanese people the real features of China in those days. Furthermore, he strongly recommended trade with China in a political climate that instead favored trade with western European countries and the United States. For this purpose, in 1890 he devised a plan to establish a new business school in Shanghai to educate and nurture business professionals for trade with China. However, he failed to keep this school running through the war between Japan and China that broke out in 1894.

After this war, he had a new plan again to establish a business school to nurture trade with China. This plan was developed to establish the new school of Toa-Dobun-Shoin college at Shanghai. The second key person was NEDU Hajime. He was a friend of Arao and supported the edition of the book mentioned above and was asked by Arao to manage the new school of Toa-Dobun-Shoin as president. However, he had the difficult problem of attracting talented students from Japan to educate in this new college at Shanghai. So he created a new idea to get students from each prefecture through a recommendation system that also covered the tuition fee and the students' living expenses. This idea was very successful in attracting excellent students. President Nedu gradually became a very strong leader of

JIFAC lecture series, no.1 (Spring 2009) Prof. Fujita, Aichi University

this school and, at the same time, was respected by the students and teachers of Toa-Dobun-Shoin College. He was also a philosopher based on the spirit of tolerance. Thus, he created the financial and spiritual base of Toa-Dobun-Shoin College, and became its symbol.

The third key person was KONOE Atumaro. He was an aristocrat and held the position of chairman of the Diet in the Meiji era. As he had the experience of studying and traveling abroad, he was seen as a liberalist. At the same time he was very active, and he became the representative of the new political organization of Toa-Dobun-Kai, which was not radical, and oriented to the educational and cultural exchange between Japan and China. He proposed, established and managed the Toa-Dobun-Shoin College. He hoped to develop this college more, but he died some years later. However, he contributed to the developmental direction of the Toa-Dobun-Shoin College.

[2]. Thus, Toa-Dobun-Shoin College was founded. The main object of Toa-Dobun-Shoin College, influenced by the ideas of Arao, was to educate and nurture professional businessmen dealing with trade between Japan and China. For this purpose, the study of the Chinese language was necessary for all students, and the first textbook of the Chinese language for Japanese was made and completed. Furthermore, fieldwork for the research and study of Chinese customs of commerce was also necessary. All of the students each conducted fieldwork in Shanghai, Nanqing and other commercial centers. These studies were published in the first great books of the "Economic Encyclopedia on China, 12 volumes," written by the students of Toa-Dobun-Shoin College.

[3]. One more very important educational system was the big trips for regional research in China and Southeast Asia conducted by the students of the Toa-Dobun-Shoin College from 1907 to 1942 (and partly into 1943). The students conducted these journeys in the last year of their program. For this purpose, they organized freely in 10 to 20 groups each year, and each group consisted of 2 to 5 or 6 students. Every group was free to decide and discuss their study subjects and courses by themselves. They started in May and came back to college between the end of August and October, conducting their research mainly through walking. They took long courses to go to their study areas because it was a very big and rare chance for them to get to know the real China. In those days, China was mostly rural, so their courses mainly passed through rural and mountain areas, and they met many kind Chinese farmers. As a result, many students were fond of Chinese

JINA Bulletin no.33 (May/2009)

JIFAC lecture series, no.1 (Spring 2009) Prof. Fujita, Aichi University

farmers and rural areas.

During these trips, they each kept diaries along their courses and wrote research reports for their graduate papers. For me, their diaries were very interesting, with lot of information on the topography, land use, local peoples' lives, foods, houses, products, customs, news of bandits, and so on. These documents showed each local economic, social, geographical, and historical features. I will show you some of them concretely in this presentation. I already published four volumes of these diaries and one study book by using their document materials. Please look at these in the exhibition room of the Sheraton Hotel from March 26 to 29 and my lecture room at the University of Chicago (Library) on the 30th of March.

In the case of research reports, during the first stage their main subjects were local commerce, traditional trade customs, finance, and economic items. However, their concerns gradually changed to wider fields; for instance, geography, education, social system, urban system, local language, traffic network, political system, and so on. This means that their study subjects developed to the level of comprehensive and academic approaches to China. Their results also created the first new series of regional books, which included 18 volumes by each province starting in 1918. Later, a second version was published beginning in 1939.

[4]. The total number of journeys reached to 700. They covered all over the mainland of China, Manchurian area and Southeast Asia on foot, and huge documents were written and stocked by the students of Toa-Dobun-Shoin College. In those days, China had experienced remarkable and severe changes under very unstable conditions; the fall and the end of Qing Dynasty, the birth of the Republic of China, severe wars among local military cliques in local independent areas, wars between the national party and communist party, as well as the war with Japan.

Under these dangerous situations, about 5000 students of Toa-Dobun-Shoin College succeeded in their journeys in spite of facing occasional difficulties. For instance, when two groups of students were dragged into the battle between the troops of the Qing Dynasty and rebel forces in 1911, they were caught by both forces. However, they were soon respectfully released because they proved to be students of the Toa-Dobun-Shoin College.

In the beginning half of the 20th century, during this very confused state in China as mentioned above, not only the Chinese government but also the western countries and the U.S. that advanced in China could not conduct research covering the whole of China. So, the comprehensive regional reports on China by the students of Toa-Dobun-Shoin College are very



Architect Helmut Jahn's rendering of the view of the Joe and Rika Mansueto Library (center) and the Joseph Regenstein Library (right) University of Chicago

Japan Information Forum at Chicago

(JIFAC)

by John Person

The Japan Information Forum at Chicago (JIFAC), held at the Joseph Regenstein Library on the University of Chicago campus and organized by Mr. Okuizumi Eizaburo, the Japanese Studies Librarian at the university, brought together many publishers, librarians, professors and students for the purpose of exchanging information regarding new materials and tools that are now becoming available to researchers in the humanities and social sciences. During the first half of the forum representatives from leading academic publishers and media outlets presented to students, faculty members and their peers some of the new products that their companies had to offer. The numerous companies that attended included booksellers Japan Publications Trading Company, Maruzen and Kinokuniya; publishers such as Bunsei Shoin, Kuresu Shuppan, Ozora-sha, Yushodo Shoten, Kashiwa-shobo, Yumani-shobo, Fuji Shuppan, and Nihon Tosho Senta; the Asahi and Yomiuri Newspapers; and research tool developers such as NetAdvance.

Participants were introduced to a vast array of reprints and studies of important archival material, which included interesting collections such as Kuresu Shuppan's compiled works of the founders of Religion Studies in Japan; Ozora-sha's sets containing children's literature from the prewar period; and the reprints of prewar US intelligence concerning major Japanese trading companies in the United States, presented by Nihon Tosho Senta. Faculty and students alike were captivated by the new DVD-ROM containing images of the hand-written letters of Goto Shimpei, who was at different times medical doctor, director of civilian affairs of the colony of Taiwan, head of the South Manchurian Railway and pioneer of mass communications in Japan. His list of contacts being so broad, many participants were interested in viewing specific letters written by dignitaries, intellectuals and politicians. The scanned images of the internal records of Kaizo-sha, the leftist publisher of books

JINA Bulletin no.32 (April/2009)

and the monthly *Kaizo*, also presented by Yushodo, were similarly met with much enthusiasm. The DVD will give researchers interesting insight into the everyday finances and distribution practices of one of the most important publishers of the prewar era. As a portion of the presentation by the publishers, Mr. Onuma Yoshishige of Bunsei Shoin, gave the audience an update on the state of the Tokyo Association of Dealers in Old Books, a union comprised of used book sellers for which Mr. Onuma serves as the administrative director. These presentations by various publishers of research media not only updated the audience on the new research tools available for research, but also educated them on the inner-workings of the academic publishing industry in Japan.

The second half of the forum featured presentations by Professor Fujita Yoshihisa, who serves as the Director of the Toa Dobun Shoin Memorial Center at Aichi University, and Naruse Kayoko, who serves as the Center's librarian. Toa Dobun Shoin College was a school established in Shanghai for the purpose of educating and training Japanese students in matters pertaining to economic exchange between Japan and China. During the final year of the program, students would travel by foot to all corners of the Asian continent, including China, Manchuria, Mongolia and even Southeast Asia. The Memorial Center on the campus grounds of Aichi University in Toyohashi, Japan, houses many of the diaries and reports written by the students during these expeditions. These materials contain a wealth of information pertaining to the geography, economy and culture of various areas that these travels took them. Professor Fujita gave a lecture describing the events that led up to the first student travels, as well as his own research in China studies based upon the works from the Toa Dobun Shoin archives. Mrs. Naruse followed with a presentation that introduced a new on-line database that has made the navigation of the vast Toa Dobun Shoin archives a lot easier for researchers. The University of Chicago East Asian Library was presented with a complete set of the collected research trip diaries of the students of the Toa Dobun Shoin College by the delegation from Aichi University. The set will serve as important research material for students interested in pursuing a transnational approach to the political economy in Asia during the early half of the 20th Century.

The forum for information exchange was capped off with a dinner at the Faculty Club on the University of Chicago campus. Professor Nambu Yoichiro, 2008 winner of the Nobel Prize in Physics, joined participants in a festive evening where new contacts were established between various members of the publishing industry as well as librarians, professors and graduate students.

JIFAC lecture series, no.1 (Spring 2009) Prof. Fujita, Aichi University

important in covering unstudied aspects of China. And these reports can also make clear the basic structure of present day China.

[5]. After World War II, Japanese researchers of modern and present day of China had ignored the existence and huge results of the Toa-Dobun-Shoin College until the end of the 1980s, because Toa-Dobun-Shoin College was located outside of Japan in Shanghai. Also their activities were connected to the colonialism of prewar Japan. This situation dramatically changed after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. The reality of the Cultural Revolution of China was gradually disclosed, and it became clear that a lot of the works by Japanese researchers on the modern and present days of China were based on a particular ideology.

In my case, I started the study on these journeys in China in 1982, based on the documents written by the students of Toa-Dobun-Shoin College, and wrote some papers on them. At first, my research and results received no response. However, after 1990 my papers attracted the attention of other researchers and the media. Four or five new papers printed special issues on my studies, and N.H.K. broadcasted a special television program on my subject. Through this process, new approaches were brought to the studies of Toa-Dobun-Shoin College with results based on empirical research. Nowadays, younger Chinese researchers also come to our institute to study the historical function of the Toa-Dobun-Shoin College from the viewpoints of the roles played between Japan and China and local documents on the modern age of China written by the students of Toa-Dobun-Shoin College.

[6]. Aichi University, where I work, was established in Japan in 1946, only one year after the end of World War II, mainly by the professors and students of Toa-Dobun-Shoin College from Shanghai. The last president of Toa-Dobun-Shoin University, Honma, hoped to succeed the name of Toa-Dobun-Shoin. However, G.H.Q. did not permit his request because this name was connected to China. So president Honma named this new university Aichi University, after the name of Aichi prefecture and its meaning, "love of wisdom." Aichi University has more than 35,000 books and materials brought from the Toa-Dobun Association. During these twenty years, members who graduated from Toa-Dobun-Shoin College and the University donated many books and materials on China to Aichi University. Aichi University opened the institute and memorial museum of Toa-Dobun-Shoin College, and have received, shown and studied these books and materials of the modern age of China that were written and published by Toa-Dobun-Shoin College. If you have a chance to come to Japan, please visit our institute and museum.