New Titles
Autumn 2018-Spring 2019

Renaissance Books publishes both monographs and major collections for the scholarly market in East Asian and Central Asian Studies

KOREAN SHAMAN GODS
Responding Spirit (Ganeung Sâijeong)
SEE PAGE 2
Culture, Power and Politics in Treaty-Port Japan, 1854–1899
Key Papers, Press and Contemporary Writings

J. E. Hoare, Research Associate, SOAS

This two-volume collection, supported by an in-depth, contextualized introduction, brings together contemporary documentation, including the original treaties, and more recent scholarship to give a broad, overall picture of the ports – their development, culture, trade and political status in the second half of the nineteenth century.

The material selected also shows how the ports’ existence and the Japanese struggle to end their special status, impacted on many aspects of modern Japan beyond their primary role as trading stations.

The thriving modern cities of Yokohama and Kobe had their origins as treaty ports. Nagasaki, a major centre of foreign trade since at least the sixteenth century, may not have owed so much to its treaty-port status, but it was a factor in its modern development.

The Paintings of Korean Shaman Gods
History, Relevance and Role as Religious Icons

Kim Tae-gon (1937–1996) Kyunghee University
[Translated by Christina Han]
Renaissance Books Korean Literature Series.
ISSN 2398-9866, Vol.2

This is the first comprehensive, fully illustrated study of Korean shaman gods to be published in English; it includes 130 full-colour plates of shaman gods, many dating back to the eighteenth century.

In addition to the plate section, the volume comprises three texts:

- An illustrated introductory chapter by Christina Han on shamanism – its origins and its significance in Korea as the most ancient form of spirituality framed by the shaman paintings, followed by two further contextualising essays – ‘Reflections on Shaman God Paintings and Shamanism’ by Kim Tae-gon, and ‘The Shaman God Paintings as an Icon and Its Artistic Qualities’ by Bak Yong-suk, both distinguished authorities in the study of Korean shamanism.

The Private Diplomacy of Shibusawa Eiichi
Visionary Entrepreneur and Transnationalist of Modern Japan

Shibusawa Masahide
Shibusawa Eiichi Foundation

“This book offers an account of the life of Shibusawa Eiichi, who may be considered the first ‘internationalist’ in modern Japan, written by his great grandson Masahide and published in 1970 under the title, Taiheiyo ni kakeru hashi (Building Bridges Over the Pacific).

Japan had a tortuous relationship with internationalism between 1840, when Shibusawa was born, and 1931, the year the nation invaded Manchuria and when he passed away. The key to understanding Shibusawa’s thoughts against the background of this history, the author shows, lies in the concept of ‘people’s diplomacy,’ namely an approach to international relations through non-governmental connections. Such connections entail more transnational than international relations. In that sense, Shibusawa was more a transnationalist than an internationalist thinker.” [Akira Iriye]
The Ghost of Namamugi
Charles Lenox Richardson and the Anglo-Satsuma War

Robert Fletcher, University of Warwick

In 1862, a British merchant was killed by samurai, in uncertain circumstances, at Namamugi, a quiet village near Yokohama. One year later, a British fleet bombarded the port of Kagoshima to extract reparations, reducing much of this south-western city to ash.

The Ghost of Namamugi is a captivating re-telling of this story, locating it firmly within the wider context of British imperial expansion in East Asia.

For the first time and in full, the volume includes Richardson's personal correspondence home. Written across ten years spent living and trading at Shanghai, the Richardson letters give readers a chance to form their own judgement of the man at the centre of a nineteenth-century 'outrage'.

Unbeaten Tracks in Japan
Revisiting Isabella Bird
New Abridged Edition with Notes and Commentaries by

Kiyonori Kanasaka, University of Kyoto (Emeritus)
[Translated by Nicholas Pertwee]

Isabella Bird's best-selling book on Japan is republished here, but with a difference: for the first time, it is now fully annotated with supporting commentaries, providing the twenty-first century reader with an enhanced informed view of the new 'modern Japan' as Bird experienced it in 1878.

Originally published as a two-volume work in 1880, this later abridged version, first published in 1885 and promoted as 'a tale of travel and adventure', became one of the best-selling travel books published by John Murray; it was reprinted numerous times and by different publishers. This volume is the original 1885 edition. It is not a facsimile, but has been reprocessed digitally to enable the annotations to be inserted, as well as the 40 copperplate illustrations to be restored to their original quality.

The commentaries and notes have been written by Kiyonori Kanasaka, Japan's leading expert on Isabella Bird. (See Isabella Bird and Japan: A Reassessment, Renaissance Books 2017.)

British Royal and Japanese Imperial Relations, 1868–2018
150 Years of Association, Engagement and Celebration

Peter Kornicki, University of Cambridge (Emeritus)
Antony Best, LSE
Hugh Cortazzi, (GCMS, 1924–2018)

This new study examines the history of the relations between the British and Japanese monarchies over the past 150 years. Complemented by a significant plate section, with many rarely seen historical photographs and illustrations, together with supporting chronologies, British Royal and Japanese Imperial Relations, 1868–2018, will become a benchmark reference on the subject.

The volume is divided into three sections. Part I, by Peter Kornicki, examines the 'royals and imperials' history during the Meiji era; Part II, by Antony Best, examines the first half of the twentieth century; Part III, by Sir Hugh Cortazzi (Ambassador to Japan 1980–1984), focuses on the post-war history up to the present day.

Co-published with the Japan Society, its appearance marks the abdication of Emperor Akihito and the ascent to the throne of Crown Prince Naruhito in May 2019. It is also a memorial volume to the late Sir Hugh Cortazzi who died in August 2018, shortly after completing his own contribution to this volume.
Kyoto’s Renaissance
Ancient Capital for Modern Japan

John Breen Nichibunken, Maruyama Hiroshi Meijo Univ.
Takagi Hiroshi, Kyoto Univ. (eds.)

Drawing on a significant archive of primary sources and critical writings, Kyoto’s Renaissance is the first volume in English to take an in-depth look at Kyoto’s modern transformation – how it came to reinvent itself after its ‘collapse’ at the time of the Meiji Restoration of 1868 and relocation of the imperial court to Tokyo.

Following a contextualised introduction, which also includes a scholarly appraisal of recent and contemporary studies on the city - in both English and Japanese – nine chapters focus on the most notable historical elements that sustain Kyoto as a quintessentially modern ‘ancient capital’ today. The topics examined are the Emperor System, Festivals and Pageants, Buddhism, the Reorganization of Urban Space, Celebrating Heian, Kyoto’s Forest Policy, Industrialization, Nihonga and trends in Modern Pottery.

Kyoto’s Renaissance represents current Japanese scholarship at its best and will be welcomed both as an informed reference book on today’s city and as a benchmark reference for further wide-ranging research.

Huffman is the author of eight acclaimed books, including A Yankee in Meiji Japan: The Crusading Journalist Edward H. House; Japan: A History in Documents and most recently Down and Out in Late Meiji Japan. Supported by an introductory mini memoir; this collection of Jim Huffman’s writings, comprises thirty journal papers and scholarly essays, thematically structured under (1) Media, (2) Society, Culture and Environment, (3) Democracy, Government and Nationalism. Part 4 offers a selection from his portfolio of book reviews.

The Rise and Evolution of Meiji Japan offers a valuable one-stop access to the scholarship of Jim Huffman that both complements and enhances his existing published works.

A History of Discriminated Buraku Communities in Japan

Teraki Nobuaki Momoyama Gakuin (Emeritus) & Kurokawa Midori Shizuoka University

At the heart of modern Japan there remains an intractable and divisive social problem with its roots in pre-history, namely the ongoing social and state discrimination against the Do-wa communities, otherwise known as Buraku. Principally identified with ‘unclean’ work linked to the leather industry and Japan’s abattoirs and meat processing factories, their resulting marginalization and isolation within society as a whole remains a veiled yet contested issue.

Buraku studies, once largely ignored within Japan’s academia and by scholarly publishers, have developed considerably in the first decades of the twenty-first century, as the extensive bibliography provided here clearly demonstrates, thereby ensuring that the authors of the present study (2016), translated by the Oxford scholar Ian Neary, have been able to access the most recent data.

Because of its importance as the first broadly-based Buraku history, a wider readership was always the authors’ principal focus. Yet, it also provides a valuable source book for further study by those wishing to develop their knowledge about the subject from an informed base.

This history of the Buraku communities and their antecedents is the first such study to be published in English.
RECENTLY PUBLISHED

British Foreign Secretaries and Japan, 1850–1990
Aspects of the Evolution of British Foreign Policy
Co-published with the Japan Society, London
Antony Best, LSE & Hugh Cortazzi, GCMG, 1924–2018 (Eds)

June 2018
Hardback (xxiv, 310pp.)
List price £85.00

This book reviews the role of British Foreign Secretaries in the formulation of British policy towards Japan from the re-opening of Japan in the middle of the nineteenth century to the end of the twentieth century. It also takes a critical look at the history of British relations with Japan over these years.

[Co-published with the Japan Society, London]

The State of the Japanese State
Contested Identity, Direction and Role
Gavan McCormack, Australian National University (Emeritus)

April 2018
ISBN 978-1-898823-71-1
Hardback (x, 236pp.)
List price £65.00

In this his latest work, Gavan McCormack argues that Abe Shinzo’s efforts to re-engineer the Japanese state may fail, but his radicalism continues to shake the country and will have consequences not easy now to predict. The significance of this book will be widely recognized, particularly those researching contemporary world politics, international relations and the history of modern Japan.

The Japanese and German Economies in the 20th and 21st Centuries
Business Relations in Historical Perspective
Kudo Akira, University of Tokyo (Emeritus)

February 2018
Hardback (xiii, 597pp.)
List price £95.00

Supported by a number of high-profile case-studies, this volume offers a comprehensive exploration of Japanese-German economic relations through the whole of the twentieth and beginning of the twenty-first centuries. It also provides clarification on the structure and processes of the world economy in the same period.

Drawing on both unpublished discussion papers as well as previously published essays, the reader will find much of interest in the wide-ranging scholarship contained in this work, structured as follows: Part I, Japanese-German Business Relations; Part II, Trajectory of Japanese-German Business Relations; Part III, The Japanese and European Business and Economies.
China’s Naval Operations in the South China Sea
Evaluating Legal, Strategic and Military Factors
Bruce Elleman, Center for Naval Warfare Studies, U.S. Naval War College

In this new history of the South China Sea conflict, the author lays out the stakes for each of the bordering states and China’s interaction with them – namely, Vietnam, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia, Taiwan, and Indonesia; it also examines the U.S. government’s role in the region. It also considers the U.S. government’s role in the region and its views on the main issues.

Consul in Japan, 1903–1941
Oswald White’s Memoir ‘All Ambition Spent’
Hugo Read (Ed.)

Here is a rare first-hand account by a foreigner living and working in Japan in the first half of the twentieth century which provides a unique insight into this critical period of Japan’s history, and complements the existing archival material. Beginning life as a student interpreter, White went on to become an assistant in Korea, Vice-Consul in Yokohama and Osaka, Consul in Nagasaki and Dairen, then Consul-General in Seoul, Osaka, Mukden and Tientsin.

Like others who had lived and worked in Japan, White sought to come to terms with what had happened to the country in which he had spent so much of his adult life. Along the way he provides fascinating vignettes of his colleagues, some well known, others less so, while his service in Seoul, Mukden (now Shenyang) and Tianjin provides fresh material on the Japanese colonial empire.

A.B. Mitford and the Birth of Japan as a Modern State
Letters Home
Robert Morton Chuo University

Drawing on his (unpublished) letters to his father, this new study on A.B. Mitford (the first Lord Redesdale) focuses for the first time on his life in Japan from 1866 to 1870 and examines the part he played during one of the great turning points in world history: the 1868 revolution that saw the demise of Japan’s 250-year feudal dynasty ruled over by a Shogun and its replacement by a modern state – the so-called Meiji Restoration. An accomplished linguist and writer, Mitford was the outstanding chronicler of the Meiji Restoration, complementing the writings of his contemporary Ernest Satow.

This book will be of particular interest to students and readers of Japanese history, as well as readers of nineteenth-century biography in general. It will also have special appeal to those who are familiar with the Mitford family history.

Isabella Bird and Japan
A Reassessment
Kiyonori Kanasaka Kyoto University (Emeritus)

Written by Japan’s leading scholar on Isabella Bird, this book places Bird’s visit to Japan in the context of her worldwide life of travel and gives an introduction to the woman herself. Supported by detailed maps, it also offers a highly illuminating view of Japan and its people in the early years of the ‘New Japan’ following the Meiji Restoration of 1868, as well as providing a valuable new critique on what is often considered as Bird’s most important work.
A Unique Banchado
The Documentary Painting of King Jeongjo’s Royal Procession to Hwaseong in 1795
TRANSLATED BY EUNSUN CHUNG

Han Young-woo

Fully illustrated in colour, here is the first introduction in English to one of Korea’s outstanding cultural assets – the banchado (‘painting of the order of guests at a royal event’) relating to all those taking part (1800 people) in the eight-day royal procession to Hwaseong (Gyeonggi Province) organized by King Jeongjo in 1795 in order to visit the tomb of his father and to celebrate his mother’s sixtieth birthday.

The banchado is an example of the meticulous record-keeping of the period (known as uigwe) and the skills of the court painters at that time. The author provides a full analysis of the context, planning, execution and significance of the event.

Wars and Rumours of War,
1918–1945
Japan, the West and Asia Pacific, 1918–1945
Selected Contemporary Readings on Crises and Conflict
Series 2: 1937–1945. From Manchuria to Tokyo Bay

Roger Buckley (Ed.)

Supported by an in-depth Introduction and contextual analysis, this six-volume set complements Series I (1918–1937 – From Armistice to North China), addressing the history between 1938 and 1945. Despite the widespread operation of war-time censorship and surveillance, publishers in the West and, to a lesser degree in East Asia, put out a range of material that remains of considerable value and deserves to be consulted and debated by today’s researchers and students. Greater attention is given to American and British literature rather than Chinese or Japanese simply by virtue of the practical realities.

Carmen Blacker
Scholar of Japanese Religion, Myth and Folklore
Writings and Reflections

Hugh Cortazzi (Ed.) with James McMullen & Mary-Grace Browning

Carmen Blacker was an outstanding scholar of Japanese culture, known internationally for her writings on religion, myth and folklore – her most notable work being The Catalpa Bow: A Study of Shamanistic Practices in Japan. Importantly, a third of the volume comprises significant extracts from the author’s diaries covering a period of more than forty years, together with a plate section drawn from her extensive photographic archive.

The volume includes a wide selection of writings from distinguished scholars such as Donald Keene, John Breene and her former pupil Peter Kornicki in celebration of her work and legacy, together with various essays and papers by Carmen Blacker herself that have hitherto not been widely available.

Cantankerous Essays
Musings of a Disillusioned Japanophile

Ron Dore Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences

In this his last published work, Dore describes the evolution of his cognitive and evaluative/emotional perceptions of Japan, and explains why he can no longer be described as a ‘Japanophile’. There are also Essays on more general current issues, such as Japan and China, Japan and North Korea and the ‘new Cold Wars’.
Japanese Studies in Britain
A Survey and History
[Co-published with The Japan Society, London]
Hugh Cortazzi and Peter Kornicki (eds)

This book takes an in-depth look at the study of Japan in contemporary Britain, offering a valuable historical record of the origins and development of Japanese Studies at British universities and other institutions.

Comprising essays written by scholars from universities throughout Britain, it also offers a wider perspective on the role, relevance and future direction of Japanese Studies for academia, business and government, students planning their future careers and more generally the world of education.

The History of Manchuria, 1840–1948
A Sino-Russo-Japanese Triangle
Ian Nish

The History of Manchuria, 1840–1948 is the first fully researched and documented history of its kind, representing a significant benchmark in scholarly studies of the region. Ian Nish provides valuable new perspectives on the turbulent times suffered by the three north-eastern provinces of China, generally called ‘Manchuria’, over the last two centuries.

Crucially, from 1932, Manchuria played a significant role in world affairs, when the Japanese government declared the state of Manchukuo, based at Changchun. It was to be short-lived, being brought to an end by the punitive incursion and occupation of the country by Soviet forces in August 1945.

Thereafter, the devastated country was fought over in a brutal civil war by Chinese Nationalist and Communist armies until Mukden (Shenyang) fell to the Communists in October 1948.

Volume 1 - Historical Narrative – comprises ten chapters, supported by a 12-page colour plate section of rarely seen images, plus bibliography.

Volume 2: Primary Sources - Importantly, this work is supported and enhanced by extracts from a wide selection of contemporary documents from the archives of the parties concerned, including the full report of the Lytton Commission (1932).

Britain & Japan
Biographical Portraits – Volume X
[Co-published with The Japan Society, London]
Hugh Cortazzi (ed.)

This tenth volume in the series, comprising a total of sixty-nine essays, offers a further wide-ranging selection of portraits and themes that celebrate the life and work of men and women, both British and Japanese, whose contributions are worthy of being remembered in the history of Anglo-Japanese relations, ranging from Sir Stamford Raffles in the nineteenth century to Lady Sainsbury in more recent times.

The volume is organized thematically as: Personalities and Entrepreneurs, Writers and Broadcasters, Missionaries, Politicians, Officials and Diplomats, Scholars, Business, Trade and Investment and Culture.

Also included is an extensive eighteen-page Select Bibliography of Works in English relating to Anglo-Japanese relations, together with a list of works in Japanese.

ANJIN – The Life & Times of Samurai William Adams, 1564–1620
As Seen Through Japanese Eyes
Hiromi T. Rogers

This is a highly readable account of Adams’ voyage to and the twenty years he spent in Japan, told for the first time from a Japanese perspective, and enriched by detailed observations of Japanese culture and society at this time.

‘Hiromi Rogers reveals a far more detailed and complex picture of Adams as a man and of the turbulent times he lived in…[contains] many fascinating nuggets of information…[and] can be strongly recommended.’ The Japan Society Review
The Thames and I
A Memoir of Two Years at Oxford
Prince Naruhito Crown Prince of Japan

Translated by the late Sir Hugh Cortazzi and first published in hardback in 2006, this reprint in paperback is published to mark the ascendancy to the imperial throne of Crown Prince Naruhito in 2019.

Prior to becoming Crown Prince in 1989, following the death of his grandfather Emperor Showa, Prince Naruhito studied at Merton College, Oxford, from June 1983 to October 1985. His research topic was the River Thames as a commercial highway in the eighteenth century. This marked the first time that anyone in direct succession to the throne had ever studied outside Japan.

In 1992, he published a record of his time at Oxford under the title Thames no tomo ni. The memoir, which includes a colour plate section incorporating photographs taken by the Prince, explores his daily life, studies and recreational experiences, including discovering beer and being banned from entering a disco because he was wearing jeans.

The Thames and I will be of special interest to those wishing to know more about the future emperor of Japan.

[Co-published with the Japan Society]

The Life of Nobuko
Words, Works and Pictures of an Ordinary but Remarkable Japanese Woman, 1946–2015
Kiyonori Kanasaka (Ed.)
TRANSLATED BY NICHOLAS PERTWEE

Born into the post-war American Occupation of Japan, Nobuko Kanasaaka (née Fujimoto) emerged as a woman of her time, both tempered and inspired by the vicissitudes and challenges of occupation life (up to 1952), followed by the hazards of the early post-occupation growth of the economy, the ‘miracle’ years and finally the ‘post-bubble’ years. This illustrated volume comprising over 400 photographs and illustrations, tracks both Nobuko’s life experiences from early childhood and celebrates her achievements as an amateur artist, calligrapher and writer – allowing us insights into aspects of everyday life in Japan during this highly significant period in Japanese history.

It is, therefore, both a book of reference for a readership wishing to access a personal history of another culture and a tribute to a life well lived and loved. Nobuko having travelled much of the world thanks to her scholar husband’s interests as one of Japan’s leading geographers and a specialist in the writings and travels of Isabella Bird.

European History
Northern Light
Norway Past and Present – A Critical Assessment
Nils-Johan Jørgensen

Here is a new, challenging appraisal of Norway - the author’s country of birth, that redefines its history, culture and heritage – ‘after Ibsen’ – and looks, with a degree of ominous foreboding, at its future and the future of Europe.

Ex-diplomat and widely published author Jørgensen explores an array of topics, from Norway’s Viking past, its pursuit of independence, the German occupation, its politics and cultural heritage, the defence of NATO, the relationship with Europe, and the challenge of Russia, concluding with ‘self-image and reality’.

In Northern Light, former Norwegian ambassador to Bonn and Tokyo, challenges many existing perceptions and stereotypes, making this an essential reference for anyone interested in Norway and its people, international affairs, European history and its cultural legacy.
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