

INTRODUCTION

The expansion of Asian studies in institutions of higher learning constitutes an exciting new chapter in American intellectual history. It is evidence that the schools are breaking out from the shell of Western ethnocentrism. A decade ago Asian studies programs in the United States were heavily concentrated along the East and West coasts in the major universities. Between the Allegheny and Rocky mountains few schools offered courses on Asia taught by specialists. Today, schools which do not offer solid courses on Asia are becoming increasingly aware of their deficiencies and genuine efforts are being made to update their curricula. Asian courses are no longer considered to be esoteric; rather, they are being recognized as an essential part of a well-rounded liberal education program.

Evidence of the growing importance of Asian studies in American education is provided by the roster of contributors to this volume. It is to be noted that most of the writers are relatively young scholars and that, with one exception, they are affiliated with universities and colleges in mid-America, the heartland of this country. The opinions they express, often controversial, the questions they raise, and the problems they tackle show a vigorous spirit of inquiry which augurs well for the future of American scholarship on Asia.

The first four articles are concerned with historical perspective, socio-anthropological concepts, and literary techniques. Martin Deming Lewis, who argues for an integral approach to Asian history, has been teaching at Baldwin-Wallace College until his recent appointment as associate professor at Sir George Williams University, Montreal. He is the author of "One Hundred Million Frenchmen: The 'Assimilation' Theory in French Colonial Policy" (*Comparative Studies in Society and History*, IV, Jan., 1962), and editor of *The British in India: Imperialism or Trusteeship?* (Boston: D. C. Heath & Co., 1962). Frank B. Bessac, assistant professor of anthropology at Lawrence College, spent several years (1945-1950) in China and Inner Asia and

received his doctoral training at the University of Wisconsin. Assistant Professor Harumi Befu is a recent addition to the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Missouri. Roy E. Teele discusses the construction of a *noh* play from a background of language training initially undertaken in the naval language program (Chinese) at Boulder, Colorado, 1944-1945, and reinforced by frequent and extended stays in China and Japan where he taught English and studied the various forms of Oriental poetry. He is presently visiting associate professor of English at the University of Texas.

Along with the studies of Befu and Teele, those of Grant K. Goodman, Mikiso Hane, and Robert K. Sakai also pertain to aspects of Japan. Goodman is associate professor at the University of Kansas. He is presently preparing a book-length study of the Japanese penetration of the Philippines, 1931-1941. Professor Goodman spent the year 1959-1960 at the University of the Philippines on a Fulbright lectureship. Dr. Mikiso Hane received his degree from Yale University where he wrote his dissertation on the influence of English liberalism on early Meiji Japan. He is assistant professor of history at Knox College. Sakai, professor of history at the University of Nebraska, has been doing research on the biography of Saigo Takamori and on the history of Satsuma-han for several years. He recently returned from several months of study in Japan.

Winston L. King, the author of "The Way of the Tao and the Path of Nirvana," is a previous contributor to *Studies on Asia* ("Buddhism and Political Power in Burma," 1962). He has also written numerous other articles on Buddhism and has published a book, *Buddhism and Christianity* (Westminster Press, 1962). King is dean of the chapel and professor of philosophy and religion at Grinnell College. The article on religious parties in Israel by Scott D. Johnston is also his second in *Studies on Asia* ("The Multi-Party System of Israel," 1962). He is professor and head of the department of political science, Hamline University. Since 1954 he has been an active participant in the cooperative area study program of the four colleges in the Saint Paul area. In addition to a trip to the Middle East in 1954, he spent the sum-

mer and fall of 1960 in Israel and returned there the following summer to observe the national election campaign.

Dr. Harold A. Gould of the department of anthropology, University of Pittsburgh, gives an interesting description of village India in political transition. His report is based on field research. Professor Richard Butwell, political scientist at the University of Illinois, is no stranger to students of Southeast Asian politics nor to readers of *Studies on Asia* ("Civilians and Soldiers in Burma," 1961). Professor Butwell has published widely on Southeast Asia. Among his books are *Southeast Asia Today* (New York: Praeger, 1961) and *Southeast Asia Among the World Powers* (Lexington: University of Kentucky Press, 1958), the latter with Amry Vandenbosch as coauthor.

One of the most prolific scholars in the United States on Chinese studies is Professor Ssu-yu Teng, Department of History, Indiana University. Professor Teng has been immersed in research on the role of secret societies in the Chinese republican revolutionary movement, and *Studies on Asia* is privileged in having received a product of his endeavors. Dr. Sun Yat-sen's connections with the secret societies are often mentioned by other writers, but Professor Teng is the first to attempt a definition of these relations for the Western reader. Among his varied writings are *Chang Hsi and the Treaty of Nanking, 1842* (Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 1944), *New Light on the Taiping Rebellion* (Cambridge: Harvard Univ. Press, 1950), *The Nien Army and their Guerilla Warfare, 1851-1868* (Paris: Mouton, 1961), and *China's Response to the West* (Cambridge: Harvard Univ. Press, 1954), which he translated and edited with John K. Fairbank.

David Wurfel, assistant professor of political science at the University of Missouri, presents a provocative study of Taiwanese nationalism with some pointed comments about United States policy for Taiwan. Dr. Wurfel has spent some time in Taiwan and taught at International Christian University, Tokyo, 1959-1962. During his sojourn in the Japanese capital he met and interviewed several leaders of the Taiwanese nationalist movement. Dr. Wurfel has contributed articles to *American Political*

Science Review, Pacific Affairs, Asian Survey, Foreign Policy Bulletin, Christian Century, and other journals.

All the studies in this volume were initially presented at the Eleventh Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs which met at Saint Louis, October 19-20, 1962. Publication of a selection of papers from these annual conferences, it is hoped, serves as a stimulus for further research and increasing scholarship on Asia. At the same time, it is believed that the annual publication of *Studies on Asia* provides an important vehicle for the dissemination of such scholarship. While this series will continue to give primary consideration to papers presented at the annual Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, the editor invites the contribution of scholarly articles on Asia in general. As the contents of this volume indicate, *Studies on Asia* is not restricted to any single disciplinary approach.

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