

Southeast Asia and Japan: Bonds and Connections towards 2030
7th Biennial International e-Conference of the Japanese Studies Association for Southeast Asia
15 – 17 December 2021

Day 1 (15 December 2021)

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting Id: 891 6504 0020

Password: 197785

Time is according to Philippine Standard Time

3:00 pm – 3:15 pm **Welcome Remarks**

Karl Ian Uy CHENG CHUA

JSA-ASEAN Steering Committee Member

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm **Opening Remarks**

Dr. SATO Yuri

Executive Vice President

The Japan Foundation

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm **Keynote Address**

Japan's Aging Peace: Demographics, Security and Justice

Tom Phuong LE

Pomona College

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm **Plenary Session**

*Early Twentieth Century Vietnamese Intellectuals' Perceptions of the Meiji Restoration and its Lessons for
Manpower Cultivation*

Phan Hai LINH

Vietnam National University – Hanoi

Reformist and Revolutionaries: Filipinos view Meiji Japan, 1880s – 1912

Ricardo Trota JOSE

University of the Philippines – Diliman

Discussants:

Timothy David AMOS, National University of Singapore

Akiko ISHII, National University of Singapore

Yuriko YOKOYAMA, National Museum of Japanese History

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Keynote Address:

Japan’s Aging Peace: Demographics, Security, and Justice

This talk challenges the conventional “normal nation” narrative in international relations scholarship by explaining why Japan has not remilitarized despite the changing international context. By way of examining Japan Self-Defense Forces (JSDF) recruitment limitations to peace monuments, the talk reveals how Japanese security policy is shaped by the interaction of ideas and the material world, such as demographics, gender norms, and technology.

Tom Le is an associate professor of politics at Pomona College and a research associate at the PRIME Institute at Meiji Gakuin University. Le is the author of [Japan’s Aging Peace: Pacifism and Militarism in the Twenty-First Century](#) (Columbia University Press, June 2021). Le received a PhD in political science from the University of California, Irvine, and BAs in history and political science from the University of California, Davis.

Plenary Session:

Early Twentieth Century Vietnamese Intellectuals' Perceptions of the Meiji Restoration and its Lessons for Manpower Cultivation

Manpower autonomy and cultivation are crucial achievements of the Meiji Restoration. They laid a foundation for sustainable development in modern Japan. Success of the Meiji Japan was indirectly perceived by Vietnamese intellectuals via foreign books and magazines, especially Chinese “new books” which were understood in their own historical contexts. With a desire to rescue the country from poverty and dependence, many Vietnamese intellectuals were inspired and sought to explain the success of Japan. These intellectuals had their own ideologies before they learned about Meiji Restoration and suggested specific paths of action to strive for the goals they perceived to be underpinning Meiji success. More specifically, there were two different trends in viewing Japan as a successful model, one that emphasized reform and the other violence.

This paper focuses on the perceptions of the Meiji Restoration's lessons on manpower autonomy and cultivation among Vietnamese intellectuals in the first two decades of the twentieth century, explains of the strengths and weaknesses of each movement, using materials related to Dong Du movement led by Phan Boi Chau in Japan, as well as the Dong Kinh nghia thuc movement led by Phan Chu Trinh in Vietnam, in addition to some articles in journal *Nam Phong tap chi*.

Phan Hai Linh is Associate Professor of the Department of Japan studies, Faculty of Oriental studies, University of Social Sciences and Humanities (USSH), Vietnam National University Hanoi (VNU Hanoi). She currently serves as Chair of the Science and Education Council of the Faculty of Oriental studies. Her field of speciality is medieval manors (*shōen*), history of Japan-Vietnam exchange, preservation of cultural heritages. She had served as a visiting scholar at Osaka University, Nichibunken. She also had been invited as a visiting lecturer of National University of Singapore, Summer Institute hosted by The Japan Foundation, Vietnam Japan University. She holds undergraduate degree from Showa women's University (Japan) and graduate degrees from VNU Hanoi.

Reformists and Revolutionaries: Filipinos View Meiji Japan, 1880s-1912

The Meiji Restoration coincided with the development of nationalist movements and consciousness in the Spanish-colonized Philippines in the late nineteenth century. Filipino reformists - who sought peaceful change within the Spanish colonial system - and revolutionists - who sought a violent overthrow of the Spanish yoke - both eyed Meiji Japan as a source of inspiration and moral and physical aid. The Philippine Revolution that broke out in 1896 did actively solicit Japanese aid. Even as the United States' war against Spain thwarted Philippine independence and resulted in a new colonial order, Filipinos continued to look at Meiji Japan as an ally and a source of inspiration in building the Philippines. This chapter examines Filipino views of Japan at that time, and segue over to impressions of the Meiji Restoration as a model for Philippine development.

Ricardo Jose is Professor of History in the Department of History, College of Social Sciences and Philosophy, University of the Philippines (Diliman). He has specializations in World War II in the Philippines, Military History, Diplomatic History, and Japanese History. He was awarded the Metrobank Foundation Prize for Outstanding Filipinos in 2019.