

Japanese Section Newsletter

Department of Chinese, Translation and Linguistics

City University of Hong Kong

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ニュースレター発刊にあたって

みなさん、こんにちは！

新しい年、新しいスタート。日本語セクションも、この新しい気運に乗り、はじめてのニュースレターを発行することになりました。

香港における日本語ブームは、ここ数年強まる一方で、一向に衰える気配はありません。その理由として、ポップカルチャーや、ファッションの流行だけではなく、背後に日本文化そのもののへの関心があり、原動力として挙げられましょう。これは、日本語を教える者、日本文化を研究する者にとって、うれしいことです。

「異文化」という言葉がよく使われますが、文化の交流が盛んとなっている昨今では、始め「異」と見なされていた文化も、知らず知らずのうちに、自分の一部となり、「異」から「同」へと変わります。これは、我々のまわりに毎日起きていることです。

では、「異文化」への接近法は何でしょうか。言うまでもなく、ことばです。ことばは、すべての文化のエッセンスを伝える、もっとも大事なものです。日本人は、漢字ということばを学ぶことによって自分の文明を築きました。近代のアジアは、西洋のことばを通して、「民主」、「科学」の概念を知りました。ですから、ことばを学ぶことは、コミュニケーションだけではなく、ある文化のエッセンスを知り、我が物にすることもあります。

日本語は美しいことばです。その中に、日本文化のエッセンスがたっぷり含まれていますから、一緒に学んでみませんか。

ようこそ、日本語のクラスへ！

王 小林
中文・翻訳・言語学学部・准教授

Foreword

Welcome to the First Edition of the Japanese Section Newsletter

Hello, Dear All!

A New Year is a new beginning. Together with the coming of the New Year, we are pleased to announce the launch of the first edition of our Japanese Section Newsletter.

The Japanese language boom in Hong Kong has continued to grow in recent years and it shows no signs of subsiding. There are several reasons contributed to this language boom. No doubt Japanese popular culture and fashion play important roles in the boom. However, the driving force behind is Hong Kong people's interest in Japanese culture itself. It is joyful news to people teaching Japanese language and scholars studying Japanese culture.

The word "intercultural" is used frequently in our society. Nowadays, cultural exchanges have become more frequent and cultures which until now had been considered as "foreign" became part of "our" culture, without being realized by us. This phenomenon happens every day all around us.

If so, then how should we approach a foreign culture? It goes without saying that language is the key. Language, which reveals the essence of a culture, is the most important thing for us. Japanese people had built a culture of their own by studying the Chinese characters. In modern times, people in Asia learned the ideas of "democracy" and "science" through western languages. Thus, language learning not only helps us in communication but to understand and even possess the essence of a culture.

Japanese is a beautiful language and it contains many Japanese cultural essences. Would you like to study Japanese language with us?

Welcome to our Japanese language class!

Wang Xiaolin (PhD)
Associate Professor and Program Leader of Japanese Studies
Department of Chinese, Translation and Linguistics

About the Japanese Section

The Japanese section aims to provide students with a firm grounding in language skills and equip them for future career. At the same time the Japanese culture courses build on this linguistic knowledge by developing a historically contextualized understanding of Japan.

As one of the largest and most research-active academic institutions for the study of Japan in Hong Kong, we provide quality learning experience that we make available to our students. No matter you are a full-time or an international student, our vision is to assist and resource you to develop the knowledge and skills that will help you to understand more about Japan.

Our teachers of Japanese section are committed to enhance quality of teaching and impact of research in Japanese studies. In order to develop creative and interactive teaching and learning experience, this newsletter serves as an extra channel to help our students understand more about Japanese language and culture.

Members of our Japanese Section:

Dr. Wang Xiaolin
Dr. Dennitza Gabrakova
Mr. Okada Norimichi
Dr. Chong, Pui Man Melody
Miss Hatazawa Keiko
Miss Chan Yan Chuen
Miss Law, On Pik Heidi
Mr. Kwong Yan Kit

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Editors:

Dr. Wang Xiaolin
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MINOR IN JAPANESE STUDIES

DEPARTMENT OF CHINESE, TRANSLATION & LINGUISTICS
2011/2012 SEMESTER B

The minor degree in Japanese Studies has been offered under the department of CTL since 2004. The aims of the program are to develop students' proficiency in Japanese as well as their understanding in Japanese culture.

Upon completion of this minor program, students should be able to perform proficiency of Japanese when communicating with Japanese people and apply traditional and modern Japanese cultures to their professional careers in the future.



For further information,

please visit: <http://ctl.cityu.edu.hk> (Programs and Courses)

The Ninth International Symposium on Japanese Language Education and Japanese Studies

(第9回国際日本研究・日本語教育シンポジウム)

Our university will host The Ninth International Symposium on Japanese Language Education and Japanese Studies in November 2012 and the Japanese Section of the Department of CTL will be responsible for the organization of this symposium. It is one of the most important academic events on Japanese studies and scholars from all over the world will gather at our university to share their research findings and expertise. You are most welcome to come along! Further details will be announced later.

Japanese Language Courses and Activities

Our Japanese language courses, which are aimed at students who want to communicate in Japanese in any situation, are designed to make the study of Japanese as enjoyable and interesting as possible for students.

We provide Japanese language courses (from elementary to advanced level) to students who are interested in learning Japanese as a foreign language. The following two courses are **elementary courses** provided by the Department of Chinese, Translation and Linguistics to our students:

CTL2930 Elementary Japanese I and CTL2931 Elementary Japanese II: you will learn the pronunciation, writing systems, basic grammar and conversations of the Japanese language in this course. Upon successful completion of this course, you should be able to demonstrate knowledge of elementary level of Japanese grammar and an elementary-level of listening comprehension. You should be able to engage effectively in simple conversation.

Apart from language courses, we offer GE courses on Japan so as to allow students from different academic areas to understand Japanese culture and Japan's role in Asia.



GE 3102 CULTURAL FLOWS IN EAST ASIA

TO BE OFFERED IN SEMESTER A
2012/2013



In addition, we organize a vast of students' activities such as Japan week, Japanese summer study tour, traditional performances, and internship at Japanese companies.



The Japan Week enhances students' knowledge about the different facets of Japan.

This event was supported by the Consulate General of Japan in Hong Kong, Japan Airline, and Japan National Tourism Organization.

Intermediate Level Courses:

After completing the two basic courses, you will be ready to take **CTL3932 Integrated Japanese I** and **CTL3933 Integrated Japanese II** to further your study in Japanese. These two intermediate level courses aim to train students to communicate in Japanese in areas concerning personal, social, cultural issues and current affairs. After completion of the course, students should be able to use Japanese to express themselves in daily life conversation and be capable of differentiating different levels of politeness of Japanese.

Advanced Level Course:

CTL4935 Practical Japanese I is the highest level language course for the minor program. This course aims to build students' confidence in listening, reading and speaking ability. After completing this course, you should be able to apply different expressions and skills in oral communication and demonstrate proficiency of Japanese at advanced to more advanced level.

Japan Summer Study Tour

The Japan Study Tour program incorporates company visits, government briefings, language training, cultural education, and introductions to modern and traditional aspects of Japanese society for a well-rounded study abroad experience. Details of the study tour will be announced once the schedule is available (normally around April of each year).



Greetings from Our Japanese Language Instructors

やまぐちすみよせんせい
山口純代先生



がくせい
学生のみなさん、こんにちは。わたし
は シティー大学に来て、もう、6年
です。一緒に日本語や日本のおもし
ろい習慣を勉強しませんか。

はたざわけいこせんせい
畠澤桂子先生

みなさん、こんにちは。外國語を学ぶこと
とも ぶんか かんが かた ちが
は、ことばと共に文化や 考え方の違いを
まな 学ぶことでもあります。ドラマやアニメの中で
も「あれっ、香港と違う！」と思うこともあるで
しょう。ことばの勉強をしながら、一緒に
さまざま はつげん あ
様々な発見をしましょう。みなさんとお会い
できる機会を楽しみにしています。



ぐんじたくやせんせい
郡司拓也先生

はじめ ぐんじたくや
みなさん、初めまして。郡司拓也
です。一緒に日本語を勉強しま
せんか。どうぞよろしく。



Students' Voice on Our Japanese Courses

不想遊日時跟當地人比手畫腳、希望充份體驗當地文化是我副修日語的主要原因。除了學習語言知識外，CTL 還定期舉辦了不同文化體驗講座，讓同學可以一嘗穿和服、泡日本茶的滋味。日語班的導師都充滿熱誠，為我們這班「日語初哥」奠下很好的基礎。在此我由衷說聲
どうもありがとうございました（衷心感謝）！

Ronald Lok,
Bachelor of Linguistics &
Language Technology



I took the course 'Elementary Japanese I' two years ago. I think it was not very difficult for beginners. Although I had to memorize lots of vocabularies, there was enough time for studying. I also made friends with schoolmates who have the same interest. Learning Japanese is interesting. Also, since I like reading Japanese comics, I decided to minor in Japanese Studies.

Ho Kim Yan,
BSc Computer Science



修讀了初級及中級的日語班後，除了學會新的詞彙和句型外，亦更了解一些日本當地的文化，使我想學懂更多更多的日文，更喜歡日本這個地方。

Chim Lai Chiun,
BSc Computer Science



Until now, I have enrolled in three CTL Japanese classes. It was a great experience to learn Japanese in City U because Sensei are very nice, helpful and knowledgeable in Japanese. And you could learn Japanese culture through videos, movies and workshops. Also, you could make friends easily in this harmonious learning atmosphere. I remember that when we learnt the topic of Japanese tea ceremony, Sensei bought us the Wagashi and we could feel and taste it. That's why you can always learn more than expected in CTL Japanese class.

Fung Wing Yin,
Bachelor of Science



Japanese Language and Culture

Learning Japanese is a fun and challenging pursuit!

Japanese is spoken by approximately 120 million people worldwide and Japan is a leader in technology, economy, and world politics. Japanese is a useful language for many jobs. By learning Japanese, you can also open up a hidden world of entertainment! Japan's popular culture includes animations, music, TV dramas, as well as movies. Imagine being able to watch and understand them!



ゴゴくん(宇宙人、後輩)と、太郎さん(日本人、先輩)が話しています。

GoGo (extra-terrestrial, junior to Taro) is talking with Taro (Japanese, senior to GoGo).



新年会の会場ですが、何か意見がありますか。

料理のおいしいところがいいですね。
それから今年は参加者が多いので、広いところじゃないと困ります。

そうすると、例年どおり、今年も「又隠」ですね。



Taro: Do you have any suggestions about where to hold the new-year gathering?

GoGo: Someplace where they serve good food. Also, it has to be spacious coz we'll have a large number of participants this year.

Taro: Then, it looks like it'll be *Yūin* again.

ごい語彙 (vocabularies) :

新年会 (しんねんかい) = new-year gathering
会場 (かいじょう) = meeting place; hall
意見 (いけん) = opinion
参加者 (さんかしや) = participant(s)
広い (ひろい) = spacious; large
困ります (こまります) = be in trouble
そうすると = then; if so

Hong Kong Arts Festival 2012: Geisha of Gion (京都祇園藝妓)

Real geisha (藝妓) from Gion (祇園) in Japan will perform in Hong Kong between February 17 and 19, 2012. As a programme of the Hong Kong Arts Festival 2012, six geisha, including Geiko (芸子, experienced geisha) and Maiko (舞子, apprentice geisha) from Japan will sing, dance and play music instruments such as shamisen (三味線) before Hong Kong people. You may visit the following website for details of the programme.

<http://www.hk.artsfestival.org/tc/prog/43>



What is *shinnenkai* (新年会)?

Shinnenkai, literally means “new-year gathering”, is a Japanese tradition of welcoming the arrival of the New Year. It is generally held among co-workers or friends in January to renew their friendship or working relationship for the New Year. People usually reserve tables or a private room at an *izakaya* (居酒屋; Japanese style bar) to drink and dine. For smaller group of friends, *nabe* (鍋; hot pot) restaurants and home parties are also popular.



Grammar Explanation (文法解説): “そうすると”

Japanese people often use phrases such as “そうすると(そうしますと)” or “となると” when concluding a discussion. When the appropriate choice is clear in view of the various conditions, a conclusion is stated with “そうすると”, or “となると”.

- A: 「今度の旅行、宿泊はどこにしましょうか。参加申込者は40人なんですが。」
 こんど りょこう しゆくはく さんかもうしこみしゃ
 おおがた ちゅうしゃじょう
 B: 「じゃ、大型バスの駐車場があるところですね。」
 よさん いっぽくななせんえん
 C: 「それから、予算は一泊七千円まで……」
 やど
 D: ①「そうすると、宿は今年も『City ホテル』ですね。」
 やど
 ②「となると、宿は『City ホテル』しかないですね。」

A: Where shall we stay overnight on our trip? There are 40 participants.

B: So it should be somewhere that offers parking for a large bus.

C: And the budgeted amount is up to 7,000 yen per night.

D: ① In such case, we'll have to stay at City Hotel again this year.

② That means, City Hotel is our only choice.



正月は1月の別名です。現在は、1月1日から1月3日までを三が日、1月7日までを松の内、と呼んでこの期間を
 しょうがつ べつめい さん にち まつ うち きかん
 いわ ながい けんこう きんべん しそんはんえい
 「正月」と言っています。おせち料理は、正月に食べるお祝いの料理です。昔は正月三が日は主婦を家事から解放するという意味で、
 ほぞん
 ながい けんこう きんべん しそんはんえい
 保存できる食べ物をおせち料理にしました。おせち料理には「長生き」、「健康」、「勤勉」、「子孫繁栄」などの意味あります。

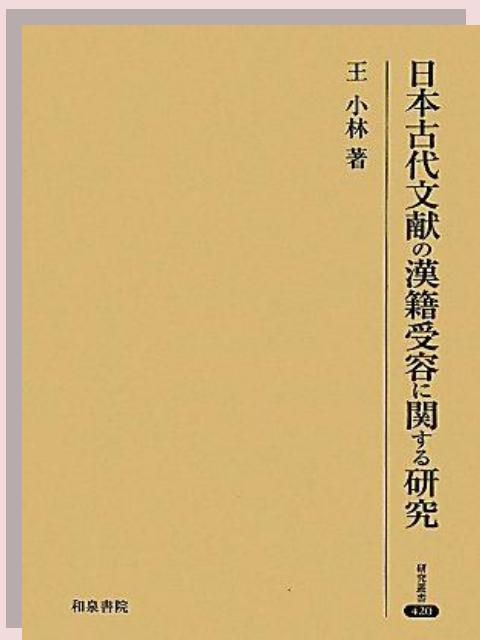
現在ではスーパーやコンビニがありますから、いつでも新鮮なものが食べられます。



今はおせち料理のほかに、お正月に肉料理やお寿司を食べる家庭も多いです。

以前は、お正月にはほとんどの店が閉まっていましたが、今はデパートもレストランも
 あ がいしょく
 開いていますから、外食をする人もたくさんいます。

Recommended Books



Title: 『日本古代文献の漢籍受容に関する研究』

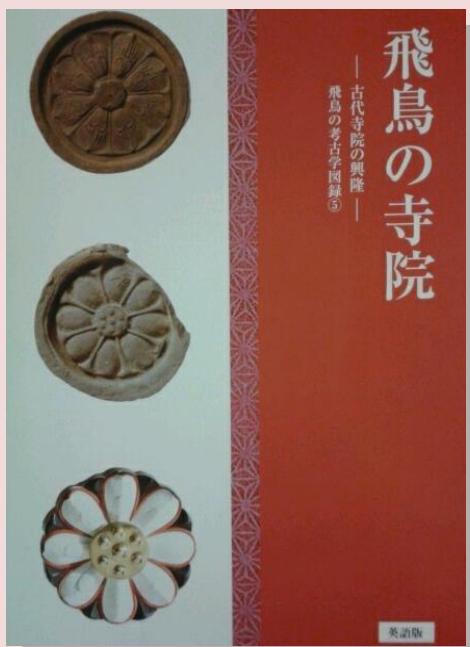
Chinese culture and literature transmitted to Japan and made an overwhelming impact on the development of Japanese literature. However, Japanese scholars in early modern times, awakened to nationalism, pursued the indigenous Japanese spirit before Chinese cultural influences. This academic tradition is still predominant in modern times. This book re-examines the literary works, historical records, notation, and transcription which can be found in ancient Japanese literature such as *Kojiki* (古事記), *Nihon Shoki* (日本書紀), *Manyōshū* (万葉集) and *Norito* (祝詞), with the focus on their relationships with the Chinese classics. The author also examines some Chinese literary works which have attracted little attentions before, such as *Weishu* (緯書), *Bencaoshu* (本草書), and *Dunhuangyuanwen* (敦煌願文), and their influences on Japanese literature.

Author: Wang Xiaolin (City University of Hong Kong)

Publisher: Izumi Shoin (和泉書院)

Published date: June 2011

*This book is available in the CityU library



Title: 『飛鳥の寺院—古代寺院の興隆—飛鳥の考古学図録⑤』
(英語版)

This book is the English translation of the *Pictorial Record of the Archeology Records of Asuka (Volume 5)* which was originally published in Japanese. Ancient temples built in Asuka, which were established using the most advanced technology from China, are introduced in this book. It also provides readers with information on Buddhist culture which greatly influenced politics and culture during the *Asuka period* (飛鳥時代) and contributed to the development of Japan.

Translators: Kwong Yan Kit (City University of Hong Kong), Higuchi Ken'ichiro and William M. Petruschak (Sugiyama Jogakuen University, Japan)

Publisher: Cultural Heritage Section of the Asuka-Mura Education Committee

Published Date: March 2011

*This book is available in the CityU library.

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We hope you have enjoyed reading the first edition of the newsletter. We plan to produce issues regularly to keep our students up-to-date with our activities and more importantly, to let students realize the joy of learning Japanese language and culture.

For further information about the Japanese Section of the Department of Chinese, Translation and Linguistics and its activities, please contact: Japanese Section, Department of Chinese, Translation and Linguistics, Blue Zone, Academic Building, City University of Hong Kong

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