



Japan Association for Nilo-Ethiopian Studies



Outline of JANES

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Designed by Hirofumi Iwatani
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Sunset at Jabal Taka, Kasala, Eastern Sudan.
Photograph by Hiroshi Nawata

I. About JANES

What's JANES?

The Japan Association for Nilo–Ethiopian Studies, JANES, was founded in 1992 by several researchers who were interested in the region from Northeast Africa to the East African coast and surrounding areas.

One of the central aims of JANES is to contribute to the development of this area through more extensive research. Some of the activities undertaken include deepening academic exchanges between institutions and communicating the results of relevant research.

Activities

- i. Organization of a general meeting and annual conference.
- ii. Publication of an Association journal, *Nilo–Ethiopian Studies*, and a newsletter, *JANES Newsletter*.
- iii. Promotion of academic exchanges with other related associations inside and outside the country.
- iv. Other activities deemed necessary to achieve the Association's objectives.

Membership

The Association is composed of regular members, supporting members, and honorary members.



Blue Nile Falls (Tis āsat), Ethiopia.

Photograph by Hiroki Ishikawa

Aims of the Japan Association for Nilo-Ethiopian Studies

The Japanese Association for Nilo-Ethiopian Studies, JANES, aims to promote the development of research into Northeast Africa (including the Nile River Valley and the Ethiopian Plateau), the Great Rift Valley (from the Red Sea to the south), the East African coast (facing the Arabian peninsula, via the Indian Ocean), and surroundings areas. By deepening mutual communication and understanding among researchers in different areas and spreading the results of relevant research through these activities, JANES seeks to contribute to the development of the region.

The region has been the location of many archaeological finds, including human fossils, which are important in considering the birth and evolution of human beings. Moreover, it is the birthplace of ancient kingdoms such as Egypt and has developed as an important base of long-distance trade over many centuries. Thus, it has been influenced by West Asia and also by India, and unique cultures in terms of language, religion, and art have been formed. Regarding farming, the Nile River Valley and the Ethiopian Plateau have attracted attention as the origin of many now-domesticated plants, including coffee. Various cultures have flourished in the diverse environments in this region.

On the other hand, this region has also had difficulties

and crises, such as desertification, starvation due to drought, refugees, and civil wars, all of which occur against the background of such a complex historical and cultural environment. These issues have destabilized parts of the region, which could be said to have condensed the various problems that human beings are faced with around the world today. So, a need exists to create a forum where people from various areas can come together to discuss such problems intelligently and address them within a framework of new thinking.

JANES provides such a forum in which not only researchers with connections to this region, but also people who are concerned with larger contemporary problems, can meet together and consider this region from many points of view. The association aims to form a network for sharing the newest information about the region, with the cooperation of many related societies and research organizations from many countries. We are earnestly eager that all people who are interested in or concerned about this region should expand their horizons and aim at a new future together.

January 1992

Founder and First President (1992–2001)

Masao Kawai



Newly appointed leaders of the Gabra, Dirre Area, Southern Ethiopia.

Photograph by Toru Soga



A Silte mother and her daughter telling stories of their old days, Wulbarag, Ethiopia.

Photograph by Makoto Nishi

Face to Face: The Association Fulfilled a Dream

What size is suitable for an academic society? From a general viewpoint, if it has a large membership, it will likely to be more influential. In applying for support to cover participation expenses for overseas meetings, it is often necessary to indicate how many members a society has so that its degree of influence can be evaluated. However, the degree of satisfactory outcomes is another question. To date, I have organized four international symposia. Even if budgets are large enough, only about 15–30 participants, at most, would be selected for a symposium. Members will participate at a “*Kanzume* symposium” (day-and-night symposia) for 3–4 days (or perhaps even as long as 10 days). However, we have found that when members meet for the first time at a symposium, they can be hesitant to become actively involved. Thus, on one occasion, I planned a pre-symposium training camp for three days and two nights at a tourist house on the remote Oki Island. In this way, when a symposium started, participants had already been familiar with each other and had some experience of what was involved.

In a society or a symposium, it is important to share and exchange ideas based on common areas of interest. In Japan, the Japan Association for African Studies (JAAS) has a much longer history and more members than JANES. I presented a paper for the first time at the sixth annual meeting of JAAS, held in Nagoya in 1969. The presentation time was 40 minutes. According to the society report at that time (*Journal of African Studies* 9:76), 16 individual presentations were made in two days. At the social gathering, about 40 persons participated, and the atmosphere was friendly. When

the number of JAAS members increased, an argument arose about whether the program at the annual meeting should be divided into two concurrent sessions. Now the JAAS annual meeting has a number of concurrent sessions and the number of participants is more than 300. It has lost the original intimate atmosphere and it is becoming increasingly difficult for members of a variety of disciplines, both natural and social sciences, to have free and intensive discussions.

The youthful JAAS of those days was a starting point for me. Already, about 30 years have passed since then. The content of research has deepened compared with those early years, and some Japanese researchers have become world-renown spokespeople in their different fields. Many of the JAAS members now play active roles on the international stage. These are indeed welcome developments. Compared to JAAS, JANES is a young and small society. But for me, just because of its youthfulness and smallness, it is an ideal forum where members of various fields are able to be engaged in creative discussions based on face-to-face interactions.

For a small academic society like JANES it is not easy to continue publishing an English-language journal and a Japanese-language newsletter. However, the sharing of information must not remain solely with the Association. I hope that Association members can play an active role, increasingly taking advantage of the flexible features of face-to-face meetings.

I would also like to greatly thank the late Mr. Koichi Takashima, the real parent of the Takashima Fund and the Takashima Prize, and Professor Masao Kawai, who was our first president. We greatly appreciate all they have done.

March 2002

Second President (2001 to 2007)

Katsuyoshi Fukui



A Boran man who draws water from a deep well for livestock, Dirre plateau, Southern Ethiopia.

Photograph by Toru Soga

A Message from the President

Already, 16 years have passed since the happy event of the Association's establishment. Although it is a small association, with a membership of 250 or so, the Association has achieved the publication of a substantial amount of content, highlighting active research activities and obtaining high commendations from both inside and outside the Association.

The collection of papers (three volumes) from the thirteenth International Conference of Ethiopian Studies (ICES), held in Kyoto in 1997, has been effectively used by



Invasion of the alien species mesquite, Tokar Delta, Eastern Sudan.

Photograph by Hiroshi Nawata

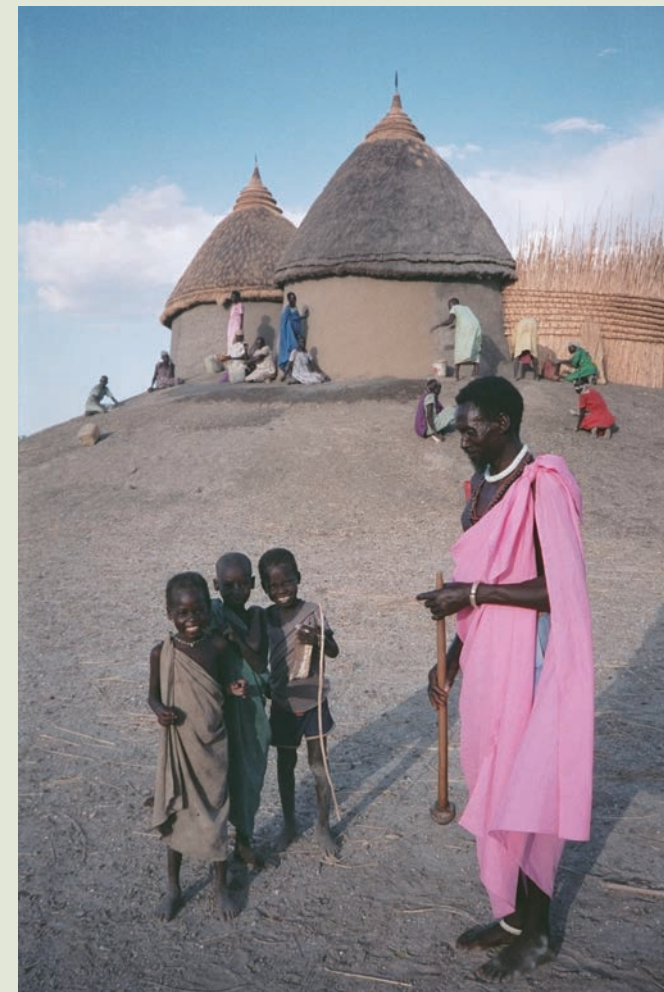
many overseas organizations and has also been widely cited in English-language papers and works. Additionally, our work was presented at the eleventh annual meeting in 2002 (Maesawa-cho, Iwate), the twelfth annual meeting in 2003 (Tosa-shi, Kochi), and the fourteenth annual meeting in 2005 (Chikuma-shi, Nagano). We also co-sponsored open symposia with local governments in all places where the annual meetings have been undertaken, and these have been widely reported by local media.

In 2005, our English-language journal, *Nilo-Ethiopian Studies*, was selected by the electronic archive enterprise of the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST). Considering that only three journals were chosen for evaluation from the many society magazines in the human and social sciences, I feel proud of what our journal has become. In the creation and public presentation of the electronic archive, the Association has achieved recognition from JST. Using Journal@rchive, the website service, Japan Science and Technology Information Aggregator, and J-STAGE, the main papers from *NES* volumes 1–9 can be freely downloaded as PDF files.

Currently, we are endeavoring to work toward the publication of the journal on a more regular basis under the new governing board with members of the editorial board of the journal. Also, the Association website will be further enhanced, and the Association mailing list is also being prepared for information exchange among members.

I ask you for your support and cooperation in the further development of the Association's activities in the future. I also wish you every success with your research and the goals you are trying to achieve.

September 2007
President (since 2007)
Mutsuo Kawatoko



Women preparing a house for the King Kwongo Dak Padiet in 1993 at Fashoda, capital of the Shilluk Kingdom, Southern Sudan.

Photograph by Hiroshi Nawata

Board (2007 to 2009)

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Adviser:

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Tadao UMESAO
Iwao KOBORI
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Masao KAWAI

Honorary Member:

Hideichiro TAKASHIMA

President:

Mutsuo KAWATOKO (Research Institute for Islamic
Archaeology and Culture)

Vice Presidents:

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Eisei KURIMOTO (Osaka University)

Borad of Directors:

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Hiroshi NAWATA (Research Institute for Humanity and
Nature)

Financial Affairs:

Yuka KODAMA (Institute of Developing Economies)

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Takeshi FUJIMOTO (University of Human
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Toru SOGA (Hirosaki University)
Shigeo KIKUCHI (Meisei University)
Nobuko NISHIZAKI (Fukushima University)
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Toru KOMMA (Kanagawa University)
Ren'ya SATO (Kyushu University)
Masayoshi SHIGETA (Kyoto University)
Takayoshi SHOTAKE (Kyoto University)
Kanenori SUWA (Nagoya University)
Toru SOGA (Hirosaki University)
Gen TAGAWA (Hiroshima City University)
Yoichi TSUGE (Kanazawa University)
Hiroshi NAWATA (Research Institute for Humanity and
Nature)
Makoto NISHI (Kyoto University)
Nobuko NISHIZAKI (Fukushima University)
Osamu HIEDA (Tokyo University of Foreign Studies)
Takeshi FUJIMOTO (University of Human
Environments)
Mamo Hebo (Addis Ababa University)
Nobuyuki HORI (Nara University)
Ken MASUDA (Nagasaki University)
Makio MATSUZONO (National Museum of Ethnology)
Hiroshi MATSUDA (Kyoto Bunkyo University)
Riichi MIYAKE (Keio University)
Yukio MIYAWAKI (University of Osaka)
Akio MORI (Kyoto University)
Takao YAMAGATA (Miyagi Gakuin Women University)
Shohei WADA (Koshien University)

II. Rules of JANES

General Rules of JANES

* Only the original Japanese texts of rules and regulations have legal effect, and the translations are to be used solely as reference materials to aid in understanding the Japanese rules and regulations.

First enacted 28 March 1993
Amended 16 April 2005

CHAPTER I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE I. Name

This Association shall be called the Japan Association for Nilo–Ethiopian Studies, JANES.

ARTICLE II. Objectives

With regard to the Association name and title (JANES), its objectives and goals include:

- Promoting the development of research into the region from Northeast Africa to the East African coast and surrounding areas.
- Deepening academic exchanges between different institutions and areas and communicating the results of relevant research.
- Contributing to the development of the region.

ARTICLE III. Activities

To accomplish the above-mentioned objectives, activities of the Association will include the following:

- i. Organization of a general meeting and an annual conference.
- ii. Publication of an Association journal and other printed matter.
- iii. Promotion of academic exchanges with other related associations inside and outside the country.
- iv. Other activities deemed necessary to further the Association's objectives.

ARTICLE IV. Committees and Sections

The Association may organize any committee and section by decision of the Board of Directors whenever necessary to carry out any pre-determined activities.

CHAPTER II. MEMBERSHIP

ARTICLE V. Classes

Association members shall be classified as follows.

i. Regular Members:

Any individual or group who supports the objectives and activities of the Association and is approved by the Board of Directors.

ii. Supporting Members:

Any individual or group who supports the objectives and activities, sponsors the Association, and is approved by the Board of Directors.

iii. Honorary members:

Any individual who contributes to the Association and is approved at a general meeting.

ARTICLE VI. Admission

- i. Any individual or group wishing to become an Association regular member shall submit a written application. All applications are subject to approval by the Association's Board of Directors.
- ii. Any individual or group wishing to become an Association supporting member shall require a recommendation by the Board of Directors.
- iii. Approval of any honorary member shall be decided at the general meeting.

ARTICLE VII. Distribution of the Association's journal

- i. All members may be informed of the meetings and activities of the Association and receive the Association journal. Any member may participate in any activity.
- ii. All members, after passing through a prearranged or written procedure, may present research to study groups or in the Association journal.
- iii. All members as individuals have voting rights and eligibility regarding the election of Association officers, as set out in CHAPTER III.

ARTICLE VIII. Resignation of Membership

- i. Any member who wishes to resign from the Association shall submit a notice of resignation.
- ii. Any member who fails to pay membership dues will be removed from the Association roll by decision of the Board of Councilors.

CHAPTER III. ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

ARTICLE IX. Officers

The following officers shall manage the Association.

- i. A President (and, when deemed necessary, one or two Assistant Presidents)
- ii. Several Directors (approximately 10 at present)
- iii. Assistant Directors (several at present)
- iv. Two Auditors
- v. Councilors (approximately 40 at present)

ARTICLE X. Election of Association Officers

- i. The President shall be appointed to the Board of Councilors.
- ii. An Assistant President shall, whenever necessary, be elected and nominated by the President from among the Councilors, on approval of the Board of Councilors.
- iii. The Directors shall be elected and nominated by the President from among the Councilors, on approval of the Board of Councilors.
- iv. The Assistant Directors shall be approved by the President after the Board of Directors appoints them from among the Association members.
- v. The Auditors will be elected from among the regular members at the general meeting, except any person who is elected a Councilor.
- vi. The Councilors shall be elected from among the regular members in accordance with "Regulations for Election." Otherwise, the President may nominate and appoint some Councilors from among the regular members.

ARTICLE XI. Terms of Officers

All Association officers will serve terms of three years. All officers may be reappointed.

ARTICLE XII. Duties of Association officers

- i. The President shall represent the Association and supervise all Association affairs.
- ii. The Assistant President shall assist the President.
- iii. The President, the Assistant President, and the Board of Directors shall administer the activities of the Association.
- iv. The Assistant Director shall assist in the duties of the Board of Directors.
- v. The Auditors shall review the Association's financial accounts.
- vi. The Councilors shall compose a Board of Councilors and deliberate as follows:
 - a. To propose matters for the general meeting, determined by the Board of Directors.
 - b. Establish and amend or repeal bylaws as necessary to enact the general rules.
 - c. Other affairs required by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XIII. Succession of Officers

- i. The term of Officers shall end at the first general meeting after their (re)election.
- ii. In the case that a vacancy occurs for the position of an Officer or Director, and a replacement is required, the President can appoint the Officer with the approval of the Board of Councilors.
- iii. The term of any Officer who has been so appointed to fill a vacancy shall be the remaining term of the predecessor.

ARTICLE XIV. Honorary President and Advisor

- i. The Association may appoint an Honorary President and one or more Advisors.
- ii. The Honorary President and the Advisor(s) may be

recommended onto the Board of Councilors at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

- iii. The Honorary President and Advisor(s) shall act as advisors to the President.

CHAPTER IV. MEETING

ARTICLE XV. Convocation of the Board of the Association Officers

- i. The President shall convene a meeting of the Board of Directors at least twice a year and of the Board of Councilors at least once per year.
- ii. The President must promptly convene the Board of Directors or Councilors after a proposal by at least one-third of the Directors.



A Sidama house with ensete plants and coffee trees in its backyard, Aleta Wendo, Ethiopia.

Photograph by Makoto Nishi

iii. The President shall be Chairman on the Board of Directors. The Chairman of the Board of Councilors will be elected from within that Board.

ARTICLE XIV. Convocation of the general meeting

- i. The President shall convene the general meeting usually once a year. However, in the following cases, the President shall convene extraordinary sessions of the general meeting:
- If the Board of Directors requires it.
 - If at least one-fifth of the regular members deem it necessary.
- ii. The Chairman of the general meeting will be elected from among the Association members.

ARTICLE XVII. Affairs to be resolved at the general meeting

The following affairs shall be submitted to the general meeting for ratification:

- Plans for the Association's activities and budget incomes and expenditures.
- Reports of the Association's activities and the settlement of accounts.
- Auditing.
- Revision of general rules.
- Other affairs that the Board of Directors may require.

ARTICLE XVIII. Association Meetings

A majority will be attained when the following occurs

- at a Board of Director's meeting, when at least one-half of its members are present.
- at a Board of Councilor's meeting, when at least one-third of its members are present.
- at a general meeting, when at least one-fifth of the Association's membership is present.

All letters delegating authority received prior to the appointment of the Board of Directors and one Councilor and also at the general meeting will be counted in the roll call to determine a majority. Any decision at the Association's meetings, except the revision of the general rules, will take effect when at least one half of the members are present.

ARTICLE XIX. Postal Vote

The Association, in the case of an inability to convene a meeting, may correspond by mail and seek approval by postal vote.

ARTICLE XX. Proceedings

Proceedings shall be recorded at the Association's meetings and kept by the Board of Directors.

CHAPTER V. ASSETS AND ACCOUNTING

ARTICLE XXI. Association Assets

The Association shall use the following assets in the management and the activities of the Association:

- Membership dues
- Income
- Donations

iv. Other income

ARTICLE XXII. Activities and Accounting

The Board of Directors shall create a settlement of accounts of the business, reporting on the last fiscal year, and shall ask for recognition by the general assembly through a decision of the Board of Councilors. The settlement of accounts must also be satisfactorily audited.

ARTICLE XXIII. Fiscal Year

The Association's fiscal year shall begin on April 1 each year and end on March 31 of the following year.

CHAPTER VI. AMENDMENT OF THE GENERAL RULES

Amendments to the general rules shall be approved by not less than two-thirds of those in attendance at the general meeting.

NOTICE ON MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership dues are to be paid on an annual basis. Annual membership dues are as follows:

for regular membership ¥6000 (for a student member, ¥4000; for an overseas member, ¥8500).

for supporting membership ¥50,000 as one unit.

The Honorary President, the Honorary Members, and Advisors shall pay no dues. Any regular member or supporting member who is in arrears shall not receive the Association journal or other printed matter.

Regulations for Selection of Councilors

ARTICLE I. Purpose

These Regulations provide for the selection of the Association's Councilors in ARTICLE X in the General Rules of the Japan Association of Nilo–Ethiopian Studies.

ARTICLE II. Election Administration Committee

- 1) The Election Administration Committee shall administer and manage the affairs for elections.



Däbrä Bizān Monastery, Däbrä Bizān, Eritrea.

Photograph by Hiroki Ishikawa

- 2) The Committee shall be composed of four members appointed by the president.

ARTICLE III. Right to Vote and Right to Stand

Any regular member who has paid membership dues, except the Honorary President and Advisors, has the right to vote and to stand for election.

ARTICLE IV Method of Selection

- 1) The election shall be by postal vote.
- 2) The vote will be by secret ballot and will use a regular ballot sent by the Election Administration Committee.
- 3) The vote shall be deemed invalid if the following occur:

- Signing or sealing of the ballot shall render it invalid.
- A vote arriving after a deadline shall be invalid.
- Regarding other issues, the matter will be based on the determination of the Election Administration Committee.

ARTICLE V. Election and Supplementation

The councilors shall elect 35 or fewer persons by election according to ARTICLE IX of the General Rules of the Association. Additionally, in consideration of a special field of research, a new President may supplement the councilors, on approval of the new Board of Councilors.



IDCs Camp in Nakururu, Kenya, where victims of the 2007 post-election conflict sought refuge.

Photograph by ShinyaKonaka



The main street of Boditi, Wolaytta.

Photograph by Motomichi Wakasa

Regulations for the Protection of Personal Information by the Japan Association of Nilo-Ethiopian Studies

Enacted 16 April 2006

ARTICLE I. Purpose

The enactment of Regulations for the proper handling of personal information of members collected by the Association for management purposes.

ARTICLE II. Reason for Disclosure

The Association members' personal information shall be disclosed only to members who require it to contact other members regarding research and management of the Association. The member and personal information concerned must not be used beyond the scope necessary for the achievement of the purpose of its use.

ARTICLE III. Range of Disclosure

The Association's President, Assistant Presidents, and the Director in charge of general affairs may have access to personal information of all members collected by the Association.

A Director, with the President's approval, may have access to information concerning name, affiliation, address, e-mail address, phone number, or payment situation of a JANES member, under ARTICLE II.

In the case that a member has no affiliation or the

Association has difficulty in contacting a member at an official/business address, or on approval of the President, a member's home address may be disclosed.

ARTICLE IV. Restriction of Provision to Third Parties

The personal information disclosed must not be disclosed or provided to third parties. Any personal information obtained shall be discarded at the end of the term of Officers.

ARTICLE V. Disclosure

The name, status, and affiliation of the Officers shall be disclosed in the Association Journal or website. The name, affiliation, address, and e-mail address of any contributor to the Association's journal may be disclosed.

ARTICLE VI. Handling of List of Members

The purpose of the list of members, containing members' personal information, is to manage the Association and to allow members to contact each other. On the list, personal information such as name, affiliation, address, e-mail address, phone and fax numbers, and research areas shall appear. No member may provide this information to third parties. We ask all members to be vigilant with this information when it is in their possession.

ARTICLE VII. Retention Period of Personal Information Documents

The retention period of documents on which personal information has been written is prescribed in the "Ledger of Document Management," separate from these regulations. Personal information of a member who resigns shall be deleted from records. However, within documentation

management, in cases where it is unclear whether a member has resigned or is a current member, the personal information of the member may be retained for the period set out in the "Ledger of Document Management."

ARTICLE VIII. Exceptions

Regardless of the above regulations, the Association may disclose personal information to third parties for the protection of the public interest, lives of members, and as required by statute.

ARTICLE IV. Amendment

These regulations may be revised with the agreement of the Board of Directors on the initiative of the President. However, no regulation contrary to any statute may be enacted.



Bay of Massawa, Massawa, Eritrea

Photograph by Hiroki Ishikawa

III. JANES Takashima Prize

Takashima Prize

JANES founded the Takashima Prize to support the activities of younger members of the Association. The Takashima Prize was founded for the practical use of the resources of the “Takashima Fund.” This fund became possible solely by the generous contribution to the Association by Mr. Koichi Takashima, who was President and also served as the Chairperson of Kyoei Steel Ltd. The Takashima Prize is granted to one regular member, 35 years old or younger, who has excelled in an area of research or within activity goals in the previous two years, commencing on the last day of December every year. In principle, one person is selected each year, and the Takashima Prize (a certificate of merit) and an additional prize of 300,000 yen are presented at the general meeting each year.



A View of the Islamic city, Zamalek, Cairo, Egypt.

Photograph by Hiroshi Nawata

About the Takashima Fund

JANES’s “Takashima Fund” became possible because of the 50 million yen contribution to the Association by Mr. Koichi Takashima, who was the President and who served as the Chair of Kyoei Steel Ltd. The fund was set up to further the goals and objectives set out by the Association in 1992.

After graduating from Osaka School of Engineering in 1943, Mr. Takashima founded Kyoei Steel Ltd. in 1947. When the company was formed, he became managing director and later, in 1953, president. He played an active role at the top of the company for over 40 years. During his tenure managing Kyoei Steel, the company evolved to become one of the top five companies in the domestic electric furnace industry in terms of the quantity of production of crude steel and in terms of profits. During those years, he also established joint corporations in North and South America, Asia, and Africa and provided knowledge and guidance in technical areas.

Mr. Takashima achieved many other prominent positions and awards. He contributed about 300 million yen to Japanese language courses at Harvard University in 1991 and was made an honorary professor there. This was widely reported by the media. He was also a prominent person in Mécénat. He was appointed as a director of the Japan Iron and Steel Federation and a director of the Japan Business Federation. He also received a Medal with Blue Ribbon award in 1988 from the government of Japan.



View from a rocky hill. Because rivers are always dry, people dig in the sand to obtain water, Banna, South Omo.

Photograph by Ken Masuda

Memories of Mr. Koichi Takashima

In March 23, 2000, Mr. Koichi Takashima, who was an honorary member of the Japan Association for Nilo–Ethiopian Studies and the Chairman of Kyoei Steel Ltd., passed away. I was very much grieved. He was 79 years old at his death. His death was a severe loss for the Association and also for this country, as we lost a business leader who had a deep understanding of the arts and culture as well as the sciences.

The Japan Association for Nilo–Ethiopian Studies, which received a major contribution (60 million yen) from Mr. Takashima, was established in 1992. It is thanks to the "Takashima Fund" that this small association was able to act forcefully and to be smoothly managed.

One of the biggest goals of the Association is the development of excellent young researchers. Thus, the "Takashima Prize" was established. In the first awarding ceremony in 1995, Mr. Takashima made a heart-felt, warm speech. He also personally gave a high-quality camera to the winner as an extra prize. I cannot forget his kindly face. His wife says that Mr. Takashima was always merry when he attended meetings of the Association. She also said that she had not seen such a happy face in many other situations. I think that he valued this Association from the bottom of his heart. I regret that the Association has lost a great patron.

Ten years have passed since the establishment of the Association. I would like to describe how and under what kind of circumstances the "Takashima Fund" was formed.

My first encounter with Mr. Takashima began a wonderful relationship nourished through African research. One day in 1980, Dr. Umeyo Mori telephoned from Paris. She had gone out with two members to study the mandrill in the tropical rainforest of southern Cameroon, and I thought she was in

Cameroon then. However, the telephone call was from Paris. To enter Cameroon conventionally, after a temporary one-week visa was issued at Douala airport, a visa for a longer stay had to be acquired in the capital, Yaounde. However, Immigration Control rules had changed, and the visa had to be obtained from a Cameroon embassy in a third country. So, the group had returned to Paris to obtain visas.

Dr. Mori said, "It costs 1,200,000 yen for the flight and hotel expenses. Is that OK?" I said that money would be arranged somehow and that she should concentrate on her research. However, how was I going to find 1,200,000 yen? I had a sinking feeling.

I had some confidence about raising funds. However, difficulties had to be overcome. I contacted senior executives whom I knew at companies, acquaintances, and teachers from whom I might be able to raise some money. However, I was unsuccessful. Mostly they said, "It is impossible." But, if only it were possible from a few people.

Then, I remembered a postcard that I had received unexpectedly. It was from a person unknown to me, Mr. Koichi Takashima, the Chairman of Kyoei Steel Ltd. On the postcard, he wrote that he could assist with research costs. It seems that he knew about the cost of research from reading my essay book, *Eyes of an Ape and Eyes of a Human*.

On the off chance that he would help, I telephoned him. He replied pleasantly and we agreed to meet. I then went to the office of Kyoei Steel in Osaka. Mr. Takashima was just dandy. He was tall and stylishly dressed in a chic suit. He greeted me with a smiling face.

When you meet someone for the first time, asking for a lot of money may seem impudent. Thus, I was not able to speak well because of the tension. However, he eased my anxiety and provided an environment in which I could speak freely. When he asked me "How much is needed," I answered, "Please provide one million yen." I thought that I could pay the 200,000 yen from my savings, and that it would be a small



Cinema Impero, Asmara, Eritrea.

Photograph by Hiroki Ishikawa



Inside a rock-hewn church at Lalibäla, Lalibäla, Ethiopia.

Photograph by Hiroki Ishikawa

return of his courtesy.

That was the first meeting with Mr. Takashima. Our relationship developed in a surprising direction. Six years later, Mr. Matsuyama, the Managing Director, came to me. He told me that Mr. Takashima had said, "Because the company is successful, I want to donate five million yen for research costs." Because the probability of funding the research costs of the mandrill study in Cameroon was fading, I was so glad that I jumped for joy. However, I thought that his special gift should be used to greater benefit. At that time, The Primate Society of Japan was launched, and I was elected its first president. Then, I decided to make a fund to provide an award to a promising young researcher. Because a deposit earned six per cent interest in those days, a fund could be sustained by the interest only. When Mr. Takashima heard this, he increased his contribution to 60 million yen.

The Japan Association for Nilo–Ethiopian Studies was launched in 1992. If the capacity for activity was low, even though its ideals were high, the association was going to have little meaning. The board of directors was strongly motivated and had many plans, such as an English-language academic journal and a newsletter. Regarding area studies, if an association cannot publish an English-language academic journal, it is not likely to appeal to overseas researchers, and its *raison d'être* is small. However, such an academic journal cannot be funded by the annual membership dues alone. Although various plans were suggested, no good proposal emerged. So, I thought I would ask Mr. Takashima. When I suggested supporting the expense for publishing an English-language journal for five years, he hospitably agreed to provide a 60-million-yen fund to cover future economic contingencies.

At the time of the economic bubble in Japan, the French word "*mécénat*" was an in-vogue word. In fact, *mécénat* is a term for public relations by a company and is conspicuous for neither welfare nor academic research! Indeed, I think, the

concept has almost no direct connection with and is of no assistance to an academic society.

Mr. Takashima was a serious book reader. He had an especially deep knowledge of historical essays. His understanding of culture was wide, as was his patronage. He heard of the financial difficulties of the East Asian Languages and Civilizations Department at Harvard University and contributed there, and he supported the research activities of Japanese studies. Moreover, at the time of the establishment of the Asia Center at Harvard University, he contributed a large sum. He also contributed to the Department of Japanese Studies, Faculty of East Asia Studies, University of Warsaw. The "Takashima Memorial Fund" was established there. He was appointed as an Honorable Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Osaka as a result. Also, the crown lecture "Professor Takashima Chair" was presented at the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, University of California. I cannot but admire his energetic international activities in the furtherance of Japanese culture.

There are many small and weak academic societies, like the Japan Association for Nilo–Ethiopian Studies. If they were wealthy, activities comparable to larger-scale societies would become possible. Indeed, a good patron is required for all small and weak societies! If such assistance were available to many small and weak societies, the level of the scientific culture in our country would surely increase by leaps and bounds. Thus, I continue to hope that people like Mr. Koichi Takashima continue to appear.

I want to value Mr. Takashima's last wish and to continue to develop international research activities. I believe that this is the best way to honor his memory.

February 2001
Masao Kawai
President



Priest at Lalibäla,
Lalibäla, Ethiopia.

Photograph by Hiroki Ishikawa

Winners

First Takashima Prize (1995)

Award paper

Akahori, Masayuki 1994 *Asl: The Expression of Ancestry among the Bedouin of the Mediterranean Coast of Egypt* (in Japanese). *The Japanese Journal of Ethnology* 58(4): 307-333.

Kawai, Kawori 1994 The folk Interpretation of Human Reproduction and Sexual Behavior among the Agro-Pastoral Chamus in Kenya (in Japanese). In Takahata, Y. (ed.), *Anthropological Studies on Sexuality: Bridging the Gap between Primates and Human Beings*. Kyoto: Sekaishissha, pp. 160-203.

Second Takashima Prize (1996) not applicable

Third Takashima Prize (1997)

Award paper

Ishihara, Minako 1996 Toward a Historicity of the Oromo Clans (in Japanese). *Journal of African Studies* 49: 27-52.

Ishihara, Minako 1996 Textual Analysis of a Poetic Verse in a Muslim Oromo Society in Jimma Area, Southwestern Ethiopia. In Sato, S. & E. Kurimoto (eds), *Essays in Northeast African Studies*. Senri Ethnological Studies 43. Osaka: National Museum of Ethnology,

pp.207-232.

Fourth Takashima Prize (1998) not applicable

Fifth Takashima Prize (1999)

Award research task

Makoto Shimada
Population Genetics of the Grivet Monkey in Ethiopia

Shimada, M. K. & T. Shotake 1997 Genetic Variation of Blood Proteins within and between Local Populations of Grivet Monkey (*Cercopithecus aethiops aethiops*) in Central Ethiopia. *Primates* 38(4): 389-414.

Shimada, M. K. 1998 Population Genetics of Wild Old World Monkeys: The Case of the Grivet Monkey (*Cercopithecus aethiops aethiops*). In Uenoyama, M. K. & von Haeseler, A. (eds), *Proceeding of the Tri-National Workshop on Molecular Evolution*. Durham, NC, USA: Duke University Publication Group, pp. 139-146.

Award research task

Toru Soga
The Camel Exchange System of the Gabra, Pastoralists of Northern Kenya.

Soga, Toru 1997 The Camel Exchange System among the Gabra: Patterns and Consequences of Inheritance. In Fukui, K., E. Kurimoto & Masayoshi Shigeta (eds), *Ethiopia in Broader Perspective: Papers of the XIIIth International Conference of Ethiopian Studies* 2. Kyoto:



Swarming egrets in the rich natural mangrove forest, Sinai Peninsula, Egypt.

Photograph by Hiroshi Nawata



A Beja man cutting down young mangrove foliage and feeding a camel, the Red Sea coast, Eastern Sudan.

Photograph by Hiroshi Nawata

Shokado Book Sellers, pp597-615.

Soga, Toru 1998 The Ties of the Camel Exchange: The Camel Trust System of the Gabra, Pastoralists of Northern Kenya (in Japanese). *Journal of African Studies* 52: 29-49.

Sixth Takashima Prize (2000)

Award paper

Sato, Ren'ya 1999 Current Trends in Studies of Swidden Agriculture in the Tropics: Ecological Aspects and Historical Contexts (in Japanese). *Jimbun Chiri (Japanese Journal of Human Geography)* 51 (4): 375-395.

Reference paper

Sato, Ren'ya 1999 Study on Shifting Cultivators and Their Social Change in Northeast Africa (in Japanese) (Thesis for doctoral degree submitted to Kyoto University).

Seventh Takashima Prize (2001) not applicable

Eighth Takashima Prize (2002)

Award paper

Masuda, Ken 2001 A Politico-Cultural Approach to Modern Education in Southern Ethiopia (in Japanese). *Journal of Asian and African Studies* 62: 165-200.

Masuda, Ken 2001 The Armed Periphery: Guns, State,

and Inter-ethnic Relations in Southern Ethiopia (in Japanese). *The Japanese Journal of Ethnology* 65(4): 313-340.

Ninth Takashima Prize (2003) not applicable

Tenth Takashima Prize (2004) not applicable

Eleventh Takashima Prize (2005)

Award paper

Ishikawa, Hiroki 2003 On the Functions of the *Bəht wāddād* and the *Talallaq blattenoč gweta* of the Solomonic Dynasty, 1607-1682. *Nilo-Ethiopian Studies* 8-9: 77-89.

Twelfth Takashima Prize (2006)

Award paper

Nishizaki, Nobuko 2005 Formation of Community Conservation for Wildlife Management in Ethiopia (in Japanese) (Thesis for doctoral degree submitted to Kyoto University).

Reference paper

Nishizaki, Nobuki 2004 The Formation of a Community-based Resource Management System: A Case Study of Mago National Park, Southwestern Ethiopia (in Japanese). *Journal of Environmental Sociology* 10: 89-102.

Thirteenth Takashima Prize (2007)

Award paper

Hebo, Mamo 2006 *Land, Local Custom and State Politics: Land Tenure, Land Disputes and Disputes Settlement among the Arsii Oromo of Southern Ethiopia*. Kyoto: Shokadou Book Seller.

Fourteenth Takashima Prize (2008)

Cooperative activity award

Tomohiro Shitara
Research on History of Urban Architecture of Gondar and Proposal for Gondar's Urban Master Plan



A coffee pot being heated at the fireplace in a Gurage house, Ezha, Ethiopia.

Photograph by Makoto Nishi

IV. Publication

Journal

The Association publishes *Nilo-Ethiopian Studies*. An annual subscription is available through membership in the Association. A member is also entitled to present a paper at the annual meeting of the Association, held in Japan.

Annual membership fees

\$30.00 for those in developed countries.

\$10.00 for those in developing countries

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Notes for Contributors

- 1) *Nilo-Ethiopian Studies* (NES) publishes articles, research reports, commentaries, and book reviews in English on all aspects of studies on Northeast Africa and its surrounding areas. In principle, contributors should be members of the Japan Association for Nilo-Ethiopian Studies.
- 2) Contributors are requested to write as concisely as possible. Contributions in each category, including notes, tables, figures, and reference list, should not normally exceed the following numbers of printed

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Article 16 printed pages
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The Editorial Board reserves the right to charge authors for the cost of any pages in excess of the above, at a rate of ¥10,000 for each printed page in excess. Papers that greatly exceed the above may be rejected by the Editorial Board.

- 3) Manuscripts should be typewritten, double-spaced on one side of A4-sized paper (ca. 21×30 cm) with proper margins; margins at the top, bottom, and both sides must be at least 1 inch or 3 cm. Contributors are advised to send floppy disks, if available, together with a hard-copy printout to the Editorial Board for the convenience of editorial procedures. Manuscripts submitted to the Editorial Board will not be returned to the author regardless of whether they are published in NES. Photographs, drawings, and floppy disks may be returned only if requested in advance.

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- 5) About five key words, as in the following examples, should be listed below the title and the authors' names. Contributors of articles should submit an abstract in English (about 200 words). The Editorial Board reserves



Megenagna, Addis Ababa.

Photograph by Motomichi Wakasa



Cutting down trees for swidden agriculture, Kumi, Majangir, Gambela Region, Ethiopia.

Photograph by Ren'ya Sato

the right to translate the abstract into Japanese and publish it in the Japanese-language newsletter of the Association.

Example key words: cognition, basic color term, pastoral society, Beja, Sudan.

- 6) Bibliographical references in the text should cite the author's last name, year of publication, and pages, e.g., (James 1994: 158–160) or, if the author's name is mentioned in the text, cite the year and pages only, e.g., (1994: 158–160). For Ethiopian, Arabic, and other names, however, which do not have 'family names,' the first name, that is, the author's own name, should be cited: e.g., (Bahru 1991). Bibliographical entries in the references should be listed in alphabetical order of authors and should present other bibliographical data as follows:

Bahru Zewde 1991 *A History of Modern Ethiopia, 7885–7974*. London: James Currey.

James, W. 1994 War & 'Ethnic Visibility': The Uduk on the Sudan–Ethiopia Border. In Fukui, K. & J. Markakis (eds), *Ethnicity & Conflict in the Horn of Africa*. London: James Currey, pp. 140–164.

Fukui, K. & J. Markakis (eds) 1994 *Ethnicity & Conflict in the Horn of Africa*. London: James Currey.

Merid Wolde Aregai 1980 A Reappraisal of the Impact of Firearms in the History of Warfare in Ethiopia (c. 1500–1800). *Journal of Ethiopian Studies* 14: 98–121.

- 7) Paragraphs must be indented to avoid possible confusion. Titles of books and foreign words (except

proper names) should be italicized or underlined.

- 8) Notes should be submitted on separate pages. Tables, figures, and other illustrations should be on separate pages, numbered and titled. Figures must be ready for publication. Authors should indicate in the text approximately where tables, figures, and other trace illustrations are to be placed.

- 9) Color photographs and tables can be accepted only when they are considered indispensable for understanding the text. Actual expenses incurred in their printing will be charged to the author.

- 10) Proofs of papers are principally sent to authors, who must return them before the date indicated. If proofs are not returned on time, the Editorial Board's own proofs will be sent to the printers. Proofs are intended for checking, *not* re-writing, and authors are requested to avoid making alterations other than the correction of printing errors. The Editorial Board reserves the right to charge the author for the expenses for text alterations in proofs by the author.

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A House of the Shilluk with a rainbow along the White Nile, Kodok, Southern Sudan.

Photograph by Hiroshi Nawata

V. International Conference of Ethiopian Studies (ICES)

Retrospective and Prospects for the International Conference of Ethiopian Studies (ICES)

The first International Conference of Ethiopian Studies, ICES, was held in Rome in 1959 and has been held every three years since then in locations around the world. One conference in every three is held in the capital of Ethiopia, Addis Ababa. Few international academic conferences have as a focus a particular country or its history. Our preference for such a conference may be because Ethiopia is a special place, not only for its geography, history, and culture, but also because it has a special attraction for many people once they have visited.

Features of the ICES

The ICES has three key features:

1) No membership fees are charged, creating flexibility as to who can attend. Thus, no requirements dictate which members should be sent an invitation. For the thirteenth conference, we first sent invitations to more than 1,500 people, based on the list prepared by the twelfth conference.

It is very difficult to summarize the outcome of the conference, because its main focuses were in the humanities and social science areas, including prehistoric archeology, history, linguistics, and cultural anthropology. After the invitations were sent, it was discovered that the name of a well-known Ethiopian researcher had been omitted. After that event, a proposal was made that a membership list of the ICES should be made and maintained; thus, this proposal had a historic origin.

An international committee organizes the academic conference. To date, the Institute of Ethiopian Studies (IES) at Addis Ababa University has served in the secretariat role. The international committee is composed of representatives from eleven countries: Ethiopia (two persons), the United States, Britain, France, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Russia, Israel, and Japan. Japan has been a member of the international committee since the eleventh conference in 1991. Norway joined recently, at the thirteenth conference.

The international committee's meeting is held on the day before the conference (which is normally held once every three years) and also at the final session of the conference. At the meeting before the conference, committee members discuss policy, programs, and the election of the committee and management. At the meeting of the final session, the venue for the next conference is decided, and announced to all participants after the final session ends. The committee of the host country then holds a working meeting with the chairperson of the international committee.

At this conference, I (Fukui) was the chairperson, and agreement was reached on the following two points. According to the schedule, conferences would be held in November 2000 in Addis Ababa and in 2003 at the University of Hamburg, Germany. Some researchers suggested other suitable venues in Germany. However, the offer in an official letter from the president of the University of Hamburg to hold the conference was accepted.

Since becoming independent, the State of Eritrea is no longer a focus at the international conference. Some objections to this were raised, and Ethiopia did not approve of it. Additionally, with the announcement and the comment on the "Future of Ethiopia Studies" at the final session, a request was entered to maintain a balance of countries and fields of study represented.



Life in forest, Kumi, Majangir, Gambela Region, Ethiopia.

Photograph by Ren'ya Sato



Exporting sheep for *Id*, Islamic festival, from Western Sudan to the Arabian Peninsula via the Red Sea Hills, Eastern Sudan.

Photograph by Hiroshi Nawata

2) The nature of the conference is influenced by the host country.

Which subject fields are to be discussed during sessions at the conference is determined by the organizer. Considerations include specialty areas, human networks, and the budget of the host country. In Japan, exchanging ideas between researchers in liberal arts and science is common; for example, researchers on Ethiopia have studied the diversity of plants and primates. So, at the thirteenth conference, the field of natural sciences became a major theme for the first time in the history of ICES. I believe that Ethiopian studies could successfully encompass additional fields, including the environment and agriculture, although some comments suggested that the range of topics covered at the conference had become too broad.

3) About 30 Ethiopian researchers are invited

The organizer of a conference is supposed to invite about 30 researchers from Ethiopia. This is a custom and a condition. For the host, budget constraints impose restrictions. However, it is natural for us to give the debt back, as those of us who have conducted research in Ethiopia owe much to the country and its people. Moreover, inviting Ethiopian researchers may motivate younger researchers to study harder. Now, compared with many other African researchers, we have more Ethiopian researchers have taken active roles internationally. This may be due to the existence of the ICES.

One letter

During the beginning of the 1980s, no one could imagine that the international conference would be held in Japan. In 1984, at the eighth ICES in Addis Ababa, I was the first and only Japanese person to participate and give a presentation.

At that time, Japanese researchers working on Ethiopian studies were very rare. When I applied for a grant from the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, Japan, to attend the eighth conference, I discussed with some people how it might be possible to have a collaborative project with the IES in the near future.

Fortunately, our research plan was accepted as part of the budget for the fiscal year 1986. Masayoshi Shigeta, who was a member of the project group, left for Ethiopia in the summer of 1986. Yukio Miyawaki and Hiroshi Matsuda were also members at this time. They were still in their twenties. Eisei Kurimoto, who, at that time, was a staff member at the Institute for the Studies of Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa (ILCAA), Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, also participated in the project after two years of fieldwork in the Southern Sudan.

In the autumn of 1986, the ninth ICES was supposed to be held in Moscow. I had received one letter from a historian of Ethiopia, Dr. Richard Pankhurst, just before that conference. The bottom line of the letter was that it might be possible to hold the ICES in Japan in 1994 or 1996–1997. He was the first head and the founder of the IES and is still actively writing today.

The scientific research grant-in-aid from the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture provided the means for research in Ethiopia, helping to create the possibility of an academic association. Since then, members of this project worked very hard for ten years, ultimately succeeding with the thirteenth ICES.

I discussed the letter from Dr. Pankhurst, with Dr. Tadao Umesao and Dr. Maso Kawai with the idea of possibly holding the ICES in Japan. I recall very well when Dr. Umesao replied to me, "It is very important to do so." Dr. Kawai's first question was "Will I still be alive to see it happen?" Both teachers' positive reactions motivated me to



Grandmother and granddaughter,
Mtwapa, Kenya.

Photograph by Shigeo Kikuchi

work toward this goal.

In Moscow, although it was not a formal agenda item, the possibility of holding the ICES in Japan was discussed. I was still the only participant from Japan at that particular conference. In 1988, the tenth conference was held in Paris. Also, in the same year the World Congress of Rural Sociology was held in Bologna, Italy, and the Congress of the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia. However, just before these academic conferences, I suffered from appendicitis and had to cancel my plans to participate. For the Paris conference, it unfortunately seemed that no Japanese researcher was in attendance at all.

Exchange of ideas with Ethiopian researchers

In addition to our project in Ethiopia, Dr. Shun Sato began international academic research focusing on Ethiopia and Kenya. Also, Dr. Akio Nakano and Dr. Yoichi Tsuge, who are linguists, and Dr. Takao Yamagata, who studies the science of religion, participated in the Ethiopia research. Additionally, a research group organized by Dr. Masao Kawai, with Dr. Takayoshi Shotake and Dr. Akio Mori, also continued to study the Gelada Baboon (*Theropithecus gelada*).

A significant improvement in relationships between Japanese and Ethiopian researchers emerged from the 1980s to 1990s. We started to invite Ethiopian researchers to Japan using funds from the Japan Foundation and the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, Japan. Although only for a short period, Dr. Tadesse Tamrat, Dr. Merid Aregai, Dr. Bahru Zawde (historians), Dr. Tadesse Beyene (a linguist who was a head of the IES at the time), and Dr. Girma Kidane (a curator in charge of IES Ethnography Museum) visited Japan and gave keynote lectures at the Japan Association for

African Studies. Their visits to Japan led them to discover a new world, quite different from Europe and America.

The invitations from the Japan Foundation were made based on a recommendation from the Japanese embassy in Ethiopia. His Excellency, Ambassador Chuichi Ito understood our research exchange project. Thanks to him, about 30 researchers, including the president of Addis Ababa University, were invited to the Hilton Hotel in Addis Ababa and had a meeting for academic exchanges with Japanese researchers. As far as I know, this was the first such promotion of academic exchange, although I have heard that some similar academic meetings took place, organized by other foreign embassies. Additionally, Ambassador Ito invited people who were related to the university to his official residence and encouraged the academic exchange. He mentioned to me, "Why don't you create an academic association for Ethiopian studies?" However, at that time, establishing such an academic association seemed little more than a dream.

Preparation for the conference in Japan

The eleventh ICES was held in Addis Ababa in April 1991. At this conference, a few Japanese researchers participated and made presentations, including Dr. Shigeta and Mr. Yukio Miyawaki. At this conference, a decision was made to include Japan as a member of the international committee, for which I accepted the nomination. At the same time, it was formally requested by the committee that Japan hold the thirteenth ICES in 1997. I consulted with Dr. Shigeta and started to prepare a statement for the conference. Dr. Shigeta, Mr. Miyawaki, and Ms. Minako Ishihara who had recently started fieldwork in Ethiopia, helped me check my speech at the university's restaurant. Perhaps because I was so nervous, I can recall it very clearly.

The final session of the conference was held in a spacious hall at the university. I made a speech in front of about 400 people, for which I received generous applause. However, at that stage, I did not yet have a concrete plan for the conference in Japan. At the end of the conference, President Mengistu appeared and presented an award to some researchers for Ethiopian studies. Then, the president invited all participants for a reception party. This was held at a palace that the Emperor Haile Selassie had used previously. One month later, President Mengistu defected and the socialist regime of Ethiopia finally collapsed.

An estimated 100 million yen would be needed to hold the conference in Japan.

I attended the general meeting of the Ethiopian Association of Japan soon after I returned home. Although the meeting was attended only by some directors, thanks to Mr. Kageaki Shimada, the Secretary General, I was able to report to the meeting that it had been requested that the ICES be held in Japan and to ask for cooperation. The question of what the organizational basis of the conference would be was discussed.

I had thought earlier that the ICES might make such a request to hold the eleventh conference in Japan. So, the finances necessary for the conference needed planning. I consulted the vice-chairmen of the Ethiopia Association of Japan, Mr. Fukuo Uriu, and Mr. Shimada, and then visited the chairman, Mr. Eiji Fukumoto. Mr. Uriu came all the way from Tokyo to visit the chairman of Daido Life Insurance Company in Osaka with me. The chairman, Mr. Fukumoto, saw the proposal for a 70 million yen budget and said to me, "It will take 100 million yen for this to be held in Japan." This was before the end of the bubble, so it seemed that financing would be easy.

Establishment of the Japan Association for Nilo–Ethiopian Studies

In addition to preparations for the conference, I had been organizing a joint research project at the National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, since 1991. The title was “An Empirical Study on the Ethno-system in North East Africa,” and it involved about 20 researchers from the social sciences and humanities studying in North East Africa and the surrounding areas. The intention was to systematically study interrelations among ethnic groups, not just individual groups, and to examine them based on concrete cases.

In this process, a passion to establish an interdisciplinary academic association for this region was recognized. After one study meeting, we had another meeting for the possible founding of an association, with discussions about its purpose, features, sponsors, cooperation, and technicalities. This group of scholars was to form the core of the new association.

We agreed that a group of proposers would be organized and assumed that the representative of proposers should be the preparation chairman for the conference and also a candidate for the president of the proposed academic association. The person should be someone who has a long-term experience of the Nilo-Ethiopia region and has achieved valuable academic contribution both in natural and social sciences. However, it was not easy to find the ideal person we sought. In the end, as a messenger, I visited Dr. Masao Kawai in Inuyama, Aichi prefecture, and asked him to take the post. On March 28 1992, the establishment commemoration lecture meeting was held at the Japan Telecommunications Workers' Union Work Hall in Kanda, Tokyo, and “The Japan Association for Nilo–Ethiopian Studies” was born under Dr. Masao Kawai, its first president.

A financial problem

Even though the Japan Association for Nilo–Ethiopian Studies was newly established, the international Ethiopian academic conference scheduled for 1997 was to be only one of the activities of the new association. Unfortunately, Japan had fallen into an economic recession by the time of the twelfth conference at Michigan State University in 1994. The international committee meeting in Michigan again agreed that the venue of the thirteenth ICES was to be Japan. At that time, however, the prospects for funding were not good at all.

The recession in Japan got worse and worse. On April 21, 1996, it was formally acknowledged at a general meeting at Tokyo Metropolitan University that the JANES would host the thirteenth ICES. At the same time, Dr. Masao Kawai was officially made the chairperson of the organization committee and Fukui was made the chairperson of the executive committee of the thirteenth ICES.

The prospects for obtaining financing were not encouraging. We realized that it would be difficult for an academic association to receive funds from companies or foundations. If a company were to respond to a request from a particular academic association, it would be deluged with requests from others. It would be impossible to obtain up to 50 million yen by asking companies one by one. At first, we tried various ways to obtain funds, but time passed with no results. It was late 1996 when we started to apply to the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture for a scientific research expense subsidy and to the Commemorative Association for the Japan World Exposition (1970).

Given this serious financial situation, Dr. Kawai stated that efforts should be made to “squeeze the budget as much as possible.” Then the total budget was reduced to 43.5 million yen. Would it be possible to obtain donations from the



Boys on a honey collecting trip in forest, Majangir, Gambela Region, Ethiopia.

Photograph by Ren'ya Sato

business community? Are there foundations that understand our goals and what we are trying to achieve? With Mr. Shimada, I visited Mr. Keiwa Okuda, the chairman of the Japan–Ethiopia Friendship Association of the Members of the Diet and Mr. Toshihiro Nikai, its secretary general.

Every time the question “Why is Ethiopia our focus?” was raised, it was difficult to give a good answer. To make it worse, the Third United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP3) was to be held in Kyoto in December 1997, at the same time as the ICES.. Consequently, the eyes of the world were focused on the global climate change, not on an Ethiopian conference.

Organizational structure

The organizational structure should be simple. However, it is also important to have a system and procedure that uses the

cooperation of many people. When Mr. T. Nikai, secretary general of the Japan–Ethiopia Friendship Association of the Members of the Diet, was the Parliamentary Vice-Minister, Ministry of Transport, I visited his office with the proposal. His advice was that “The proposal should not just consider the position of the organizer alone. Consideration should also be given to the position of the sponsor from whom it asks for cooperation.”

Three or four years passed by very quickly while I was thinking about the best strategy for the organizational structure of the thirteenth ICES. In the end, the proposal by Mr. Uriu to “divide people into honorary advisors and advisors” was adopted. Despite having honorary advisors and advisors, it was important to send letters out to potential supporters or to directly visit them to ask for support. Thankfully, most people who were asked did agree to help.

Although it took a while for the organizational structure to be implemented, a system of fundraising from the public was then set up. The organizing committee held a formal meeting about five months before the conference. By the time this meeting was held on July 24, applications received for the conference included 357 participants, representing 26 countries, 124 presenters, and 68 papers. Although little time was left until the conference, the finance budget from the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture and the Commemorative Association for the Japan World Exposition (1970) only amounted to about one-third of the total fundraising. Thankfully, Takashima Fund of the JANES was in place, and 3 million yen from this fund was allocated to the management of and preparation for the conference.

Location and date of the Conference

Although 1997 was the year decided upon by the international committee, the month in which the conference

would be held was yet to be determined. April and November are arguably the best periods in Japan. However, April is a busy time in Japan, being the beginning of the academic year, and November is the high tourist season, so hotels are expensive. I asked possible participants when would be a convenient time for them, but no great consensus emerged. In the end, with consideration given to advice from the hotel and to the dates of open public lectures, a decision was made to hold the conference from Friday, December 12, to Wednesday, December 17. In 1996, around the same time of year, while walking around Higashiyama in Kyoto, I noticed that autumn leaves had already unexpectedly fallen. However, fortunately, during the conference, autumn leaves remained visible right through the last day of the conference.

Due to expenditure constraints, it took time to make a decision about the location of the conference, which was to be in Kyoto. At the eleventh conference in Michigan, the question was often asked, “Why go to Japan when it’s so expensive?” It would make sense to spend less on accommodations and the conference hall. Additionally, it would be even better to choose an environmentally good location. However, it was difficult to find such an ideal location in Kyoto. Finally, the ‘Hotel Sunflower Kyoto’ was chosen because I had known it for a long time. The hall was reserved at the Kyoto International Community House near Nanzen-ji Temple, as well as the hotel. Although these locations were within a moderate walking distance of each other, the arrangement elicited some negative feedback. “It was difficult to go and listen to an interesting presentation,” was a comment made by some people.

At the Hotel Sunflower, the work of Mr. Shinichi Izu, the general manager, and staff helped the success of the conference. I thank them for organizing such a memorable setting.

Participants for the conference were not determined until soon before it began

We had some doubt about the number of researchers we could invite from Ethiopia because of budget constraints. Thus, I was unable to promise the director of the IES that we would be able to invite a few additional researchers when I visited Addis Ababa in August 1997.

I wanted, if possible, to get discounted plane tickets for about 30 people. So, I visited and negotiated with the General Manager of Ethiopian Airlines at the airport, but my efforts were unsuccessful. We considered the possibility of choosing another airline. The Ethiopian delegation asked if that would be possible, so that as many as would like to come could attend. In the end, discounted tickets with Ethiopian Airlines were obtained through a travel agency near the Addis Ababa Hilton Hotel.

Furthermore, I wanted to invite Dr. Richard Pankhurst, who was not on the list of 30 invited people because of his nationality, and all successive directors of the IES who supported Japanese researchers in Ethiopia. On the other hand, it was also necessary to invite the keynote speakers for a special session. However, this would have overextended our existing budget, so the possibility of expanding the budget to cover all the costs was examined.

In the end, fifty invitations were issued for the overseas delegation, including 38 people from Ethiopia, seven from international committees, two keynote speakers, and three people involved in making a film. Additionally, some assistance was given for travel and accommodation expenses to 13 participants attending a special session. Finally, various Japanese participants had personally invited a few other participants from various countries.

Secretarial Procedures

Regarding the procedures at the conference, it was necessary to work through many business matters, such as making reports, coordinating programs, corresponding with participants, and making adjustments to the budget. Basically, these tasks were divided into two areas: editing work for Dr. Shigeta's office and business work for the Fukui's office. Both offices worked very hard together, with efficient coordination and cooperation.

Although it was natural that we could not function without money, it was also important to make adjustments to the programs. Dr. Shigeta's office is at the Center for African Area Studies, Kyoto University, about five minutes away from my office by bicycle. Dr. Shigeta worked on making adjustments to programs based on abstracts from presentation applicants while closely communicating with Dr. Kurimoto of the National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka.

Just before the beginning of the conference, we received many requests and apologies for declined requests. It was difficult to handle these requests and then to make adjustments to the program and schedule. On the other hand, we aimed to adopt the methods employed at Michigan in 1994, to publish proceedings just before the conference so that there would be no more obligations after the conference. However, manuscripts from a number of speakers could not be readily obtained. Some manuscripts arrived at the end of September, two months before the conference.

To keep printing expenses to a minimum, we chose a DTP method, which would require quite a lot of personal computer use. Work for this, such as making the block copy based on a completed manuscript, was conducted at Dr. Shigeta's office. Many young people, including volunteer students did this work, who frequently worked throughout the night. The documents were then sent to a publishing company for printing within a short period of time. Dr. Alula Pankhurst from Addis Ababa University was invited to come

to Kyoto to work as a copy-editor. He helped us a lot..

Participation of the general public

It was not certain that the ICES would be held again in Japan in the future. So, it was very important to attract people to the meeting who would be interested and understand the culture and the scholarly research about Ethiopia.

Dr. Hiroshi Matsuda, who had been our research project member since 1986, and his wife Ms. Endo Yasuko (Associate Professor at Ritsumeikan University), a specialist in folk dancing, had applied for a budget from the Japan Foundation. They wanted to invite some Ethiopian dancers for the conference. Fortunately, the traveling expenses request was accepted, and they could receive it while still raising funds as an independent organization. A performance of Ethiopian dance and Japanese drumming were featured at the welcome reception of the conference. Undeniably, it helped to forged good relationships between Ethiopia and Japan for the future.

At the same time, two events were planned as part of the schedule at the conference. One was a public lecture in which I wanted the general public to participate so that they could understand academic features of Ethiopia. To do so, it was important to make a project short and simple, to explain the features of each field, and to have a good balance of the number of overseas participants, including those from Ethiopia and Japan. For this, the organizing committee suggested inviting a few particular presenters for the open forum. After the forum, however, we received a comment from Ethiopian researchers that one of the presentations was too political.

The other plan was for an Ethiopian film festival. I received a letter from an Ethiopian movie director who lived in the United States asking if it would be possible to show his film at the conference. This would be a good chance to



Malo farmers preparing fields in Southwestern Ethiopia, Malo Mountain Area, Southwestern Ethiopia

Photograph by Takeshi Fujimoto



Illuminated manuscript in a monastery on Däq Island, Lake Tana, Ethiopia.

Photograph by Hiroki Ishikawa

tell people about Ethiopia and Ethiopian history. Students from the Fieldwork Study Society at Kyoto University helped in achieving this aim, and I heard that a lot of positive discussion was developed with many of the Ethiopian participants.

My personal summary

For one and a half years, Dr. Shigeta's office and my office were like front-line bases on the battlefield for the ICES, working hard in areas such as corresponding with overseas participants and raising financing. Now, two years have passed, and I would like to summarize some aspects from the sponsor side and the participant side.

(1) The organization was formed too late

We should have organized the structure earlier to be able to apply for funding from various foundation groups, such as the Science Council of Japan, at least three years before the conference.

(2) Applying for smaller amounts of funds is better than applying for larger amounts.

Although it would be nice to receive large amounts of funding, concentrating only on this is not advisable. Although it does need some effort, it is important to apply for small, but more certain, amounts of funding. The schedule of the financing, including the time for applications, needs to be worked out at least two years before the conference is held. The authorization of applications for academic conferences is not always easy. It is necessary to use different application forms for each academic society. Without an appropriate budget, other plans cannot come to fruition.

(3) Fundraising for specifically academic purposes is

difficult.

If it is related to the improvement of a business or the image of a company, the business community might make larger contributions. However, the ICES's prospects for this are not good. We did not have much choice but to ask for cooperation through various networks. I have come to realize that it is very important to have a large network with many contacts. I am very appreciative of the people who helped me with the conference. I will thank them personally for their contributions when I have the opportunity.

(4) Applications for presentations should be strictly closed at least six months before the day of the conference.

If the number of presenters is increased, the deadline for applications should be earlier. However, although this would be ideal, in reality, it is quite difficult for an academic association such as the ICES to achieve this due to the range of fields represented by researcher specialties and by those with no association membership.



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(5) Positive young participants

It can be said that not only researchers, but also graduate and undergraduate students led the thirteenth ICES to be a successful event. This is because they participated from the beginning in planning and taking on responsibility for their roles at the conference. If it were only a part-time job for them, it might not be as interesting and they would have less responsibility. It is important when planning a conference to be flexible, but a method or a policy for dealing with unexpected events is crucial. This was a good point of this conference; it was fortunate that we experienced no accident or problem with any of the participants.

(6) Four levels of the program

Typically, there are four levels at an academic conference. The first is a formal public lecture. The second is presentations by individual researchers. The third is a special session, focusing on one subject, and the fourth is a social gathering, an opportunity for all participants to meet. At this conference, the formal part included the first public lecture and then the last session, "The Future of Ethiopian Studies." Special sessions focused on subjects such as "Indigenous Sustainable Agricultural Systems in Ethiopia" and "Reshaping Centers and Peripheries in Ethiopia, 1974–1997." If too many special sessions are included in a conference, dissatisfaction can arise because people are not able to participate in all of them. Usually, the success of a conference is dependant on the last part of the conference, the social gathering. I am sure everyone enjoyed communicating and exchanging ideas at the party, and that was the main purpose of the conference.

(7) Secretariat: sharing of responsibility

The secretariat became very busy three months before the conference. It was necessary to deal with various unexpected problems. At this conference, each staff member had

responsibilities in dealing with problems that arose, and they dealt with these in an efficient manner. Ms. Yoko Tajimi dealt with problems such as participants' visas by communicating with them frequently. At the conference, it seemed that she had already known some participants for a long time when she met them for the first time! When the welcome reception started, staff members were relieved because it seemed the conference was already a success. All staff worked late at night during the conference.

Viewpoints from the research side and the organization side

(1) The possibility of combining humanities and social sciences with natural sciences

Ethiopian research has recently seen significant changes. To date, the ICES had focused on historical science, linguistics, social anthropology, and ethnology. However, Ethiopia is also a treasure trove for fossils of the human race and for the studies of the origins and evolution of humans. Prehistory was the predominant jurisdiction of the Ministry of Culture, and until now, it occupied only a minor position in the ICES. Previously the office of the ICES was at the IES of Addis Ababa University.

The program of participants and sessions at the ICES largely depends on an organizer's interests and network of contacts. Additionally, Addis Ababa University, which was the center of Ethiopian study, examined theses from a limited number of applicants, and those who were approved were invited to the ICES. Consequently, applicants participating at the conference were people from the university. Thus, prehistory and archeology had been almost disregarded. Also, applicants from other ministries, such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Agriculture and Forestry ministries, which were not related to Addis Ababa University, had to



Girls preparing daily foods, Kumi, Majangir, Gambela Region, Ethiopia.

Photograph by Ren'ya Sato

apply for funding from other sources or depend on a special invitation from a sponsor to be able to participate. This led to severe limitations on participation due to the economic situation in Ethiopia.

At the conference, invitations were made not only in the humanities and social science fields, but also to some natural sciences researchers. The reasoning was that it was deemed necessary to also discuss agricultural and environmental issues in Ethiopia.

(2) Viewpoints about the research project

Participants at the ICES largely had connections with the University. However, in the future, it will be necessary to consider all applicants and not just those connected to the University. This affects where and how Ethiopians will study in the future.

Our research project, "Comparative Studies of Agro-Pastoral Societies in North East Africa," which was a 10-year agreement with the IES, ran from 1986 to December 1996. The results of this project were carefully examined by an evaluation committee at Addis Ababa University, with a subsequently updated agreement. In March 1997, a 5 year agreement, "Comparative Studies of Traditional Knowledge Systems with the Environment in Ethiopian Societies," was made. With this process, we could also build a cooperative relationship with natural science researchers.

Academic research in Ethiopia is basically authorized through reviews by Addis Ababa University. However, in addition to the university, research can be reviewed at other facilities. However, not only the ministries, such as the Ministry of Culture, have jurisdiction over research related to the excavation of national artifacts, such as fossils and ruins and also specific projects, such as agriculture, but the state government also has legal rights.

Since the ICES in Rome in 1959, the range of objects and the contents of surveillance studies in Ethiopia have changed. Now, it is the time to decide whether the ICES will stand on its 40 years of tradition or seek the challenge of a new role to solve issues for the future.

Support from many people

I could not envision until the middle of 1980 that it would be possible to hold the thirteenth ICES in Kyoto. If many countries were not interested in the conference, it would not have happened.

No or few participants from Japan were present at the conference until the tenth ICES in Paris. Three Japanese presenters participated in the eleventh conference, six in the twelfth conference in Michigan, and the number reached 18 at the thirteenth conference in Kyoto.

I wondered how many Japanese researchers would attend the fourteenth conference, held in Addis Ababa, in November 2000. I was surprised that the Ethiopian side had been concerned about this when I visited Ethiopia in August 1998. It can be said that the expectations of Ethiopian studies and the ICES with regard to Japanese researchers has increased far beyond what we ever imagined.

Another purpose of this conference is to show overseas researchers that "There is another world, besides Europe and America, in Asia." To reinforce this point, I thought that although the conference was held over a short period of time, a few excursions to places such as Hiroshima, Nara, and the Isle of Shima, would be beneficial for our overseas visitors.

I still get e-mails from overseas participants who attended the thirteenth conference. Some of them now love Kyoto and hope to come back. Also, some undergraduate students who worked as volunteers for the conference including the film festival then went to southwestern Ethiopia to do fieldwork for a year.

Thanks to the support from many people, the thirteenth ICES ended successfully. Not only companies and foundations helped us financially but individuals also contributed. If this support were only recorded on paper, it might seem just a list of donations. However, I want to personally thank each of them for their kind consideration and contribution.

While preparing for the conference, two very important persons who contributed to strengthening relationships with Ethiopia passed away. One was Dr. Morimichi Tomikawa, who was a pioneer in the development of African studies in Japan. Dr. Tomikawa created important opportunities and influenced my research in Northeast Africa. The other was Mr. Keiwa Okuda. Mr. Okuda had been the chairman of Japan-Ethiopia Friendship Association of the Members of the Diet for years and had been largely involved with



A Samburu youth (moran) plays a local flute.

Photograph by Shinya Konaka

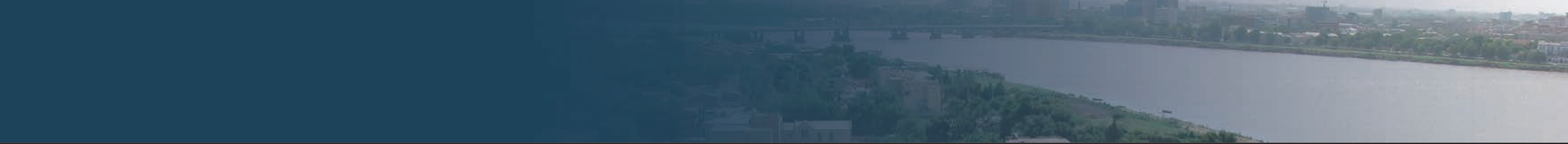
improving relations with Ethiopia. It was at the "Evening for the Ethiopian Association of Japan" that I first met him. He was an honorary advisor at the conference and helped us in fund-raising. I pray for the peace of these important people.

Each person who was involved with this conference had been wondering, "What is next?" Well, what happens over the next 10 years depends on us.

March 1998

Katsuyoshi FUKUI

Thirteenth ICES Executive Committee Chair
General Affairs for the JANES





JANES

Ogawa-higashi-iru, Shimodachiuri-doori,
Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto, 602-8048, Japan.

TEL: +81-75-415-3661

FAX: +81-75-415-3662

E-mail: janes2@nacos.com