

International Workshop – 2 November 2016

**Cartography in Transition in Modern & Contemporary East Asia
(18th-21st centuries)**

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UMR 8173 - CHINE-CORÉE-JAPON

- 10h – 10h15 **Welcome & Opening remarks**
Noémi Godefroy (Centre d'Études Japonaises - INALCO/Centre de Recherches sur le Japon - UMR 8173 CHINE-CORÉE-JAPON)
Vera Dorofeeva-Lichtmann (Centre de Recherches sur le Japon - UMR 8173 CHINE-CORÉE-JAPON/IKGF, Erlangen)
Chair – Fabian Schäfer (Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg)
- 10h15 – 11h15 **Cassini in Ryūkyū: Introduction and application of the triangulation method for the mapping of Okinawa Island, 1737-1750**
Patrick Beillevaire (Centre de Recherches sur le Japon - UMR 8173 CHINE-CORÉE-JAPON)
- 11h15-11h30 Coffee break
- 11h30 – 12h30 **Changes in the representation of the Philippines in Chinese and Japanese maps of the 18th and 19th century**
Elke Papelitzky (University of Salzburg)
- Lunch Break 12h30 - 14h
Chair – Fabian Schäfer (Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg)
- 14h – 15h **From Ezo to Hokkaidō – “Connected geographies” & the Japanese mapping of the Ainu lands (18th-19th centuries)**
Noémi Godefroy (Centre d'Études Japonaises - INALCO/ Centre de Recherches sur le Japon - UMR 8173 CHINE-CORÉE-JAPON)
- 15h – 16h **Maps and Maritime Expansion in Nineteenth-Century Japan**
Radu Leca (International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden)
- 16h-16h30 Coffee break
- 16h30 – 17h30 **Mapping a “society of rising inequalities” and its territories - Towards a renewed critical geography of Japan?**
Sophie Buhnik (Centre de recherche sur les réseaux, l'industrie et l'aménagement (CRIA)/ UMR Géographie-cités)
- 17h30-18h Final discussion

Cartography in Transition in Modern & Contemporary East Asia

(18th-21st centuries)

Organisers: Noémi Godefroy (CEJ/CRJ) & Vera Dorofeeva-Lichtmann (CRJ/IKGF, Erlangen)

The publication earlier this year of the seminal work *Cartographic Japan*, which saw the participation of many eminent historians, materializes an ongoing trend towards a greater recognition of cartography as a “window on particular moments of (...) history” (Wigen 2016 : 2). In fact, cartography and map-making are inextricably linked to the geopolitical, cultural, economic and social context of a given place, at a given time.

During the first Centre CHINE-CORÉE-JAPON (CCJ) workshop in March 2016, the deciphering of pre-modern and early modern East Asian maps brought to light their representation of the organization of space in terms of cosmographical concepts rather than its topographic reality. In this sense, these maps materialized a seemingly inward-bound, domestic, and erudite reading of the world, which required specific tools and knowledge to understand them.

From the end of the 18th century, in the advent of an increasingly global society, East Asian cartography reflects a more outward-bound approach, as maps had to be read, drawn up, and understood by an increasing variety of people, from individual explorers to competing powers. Thus, maps now sought to represent topographical elements, borders, networks, maritime space, sovereignty, resources, and demographics.

The aim of this workshop is to analyse, in a *longue durée* perspective, the evolutions in East Asia cartography in terms of cartographic contents, methods, means, and ends.

PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

Cassini in Ryūkyū: Introduction and application of the triangulation method for the mapping of Okinawa Island, 1737-1750.

Patrick Beillevaire (Centre de Recherches sur le Japon - UMR 8173 CHINE-CORÉE-JAPON)

Following the determination of the Paris meridian arc, the project of a map of France based on geodetic triangulation was undertaken in 1733. Comprised of some 181 regional maps, remarkably more accurate than any previous one, the mapping of the entire country was not fully completed until some sixty years later. This set of maps remains known as the “Cassini Map”, from the name of the family whose four members have been successively involved in its production. One cannot but be surprised to learn that in 1737, merely four years after the beginning of the French project, the same method of geometric description relying on triangulation was also put into practice in the remote kingdom of Ryūkyū on its government’s initiative. What is designated as the “Land survey of the Qianlong era”, *Kenryū kenchi* (after the name of the reigning Chinese emperor), or the “Land survey of the Genbun era”, *Genbun kenchi* (in reference

to the Japanese era names), was completed in 1750. It covered the island of Okinawa and the small neighboring islands. Equivalent to the “Cassini signs” used for the mapping of France, hundreds of engraved stone landmarks, or *shirubi-ishi*, scattered on the Okinawan soil still keep trace of that survey. In 1796 the maps of all the administrative units were reduced and assembled to make a general map of Okinawa Island and its vicinity. Not without pride, today’s Okinawans stress the fact that this very accurate map, even compared to current maps, precedes by over twenty years the mapping of the Japanese coastlines by the famous cartographer Inō Tadataka and, furthermore, that no map of Japan with such a degree of accuracy was to be made before the Meiji era (1868-1912). China, where the triangulation method had already been implemented and taught by the Jesuits at the behest of Emperor Kangxi, has of course been the intermediary between France and the Ryūkyū Islands in this matter. My presentation will examine the circumstances through which this method was introduced to the kingdom of Ryūkyū, a tributary of China since the 14th century, and the specific conditions of its implementation.

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Changes in the representation of the Philippines in Chinese and Japanese maps of the 18th and 19th century

Elke Papelitzky (University of Salzburg)

The Philippines were a major trading hub in Southeast Asia, connecting other parts of Asia with the Americas since the late 16th century. As such, the archipelago is of course prominently featured on Chinese and Japanese maps. The traditional Chinese maps, starting from the early 17th century, only mention Luzon, while the more detailed Jesuit maps include references to other islands. These two traditions continue on into the 18th and 19th century both in China as well as in Japan. While the overall representation of Luzon does not differ much between the early 17th and 18th century, two notable changes do appear in the later maps, especially those of the Chinese tradition: 1) Cartographers now mention that Luzon is part of Spain; and 2) trading routes get drawn into the maps, although they only connect the Philippines with Asia and not the Americas.

In addition to the traditional Chinese and the Jesuit representation of the Philippines, 18th century Japan sees the rise of Dutch cartography with new information finding its way into cartography. Some of these maps use the term “Philippines” in addition to Luzon and they mark the trading routes to the Americas.

In this paper, these different traditions of representing the Philippines and their significance in understanding the perception Chinese and Japanese people had of their Southeast Asian neighbour shall be analysed.

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From Ezo to Hokkaidō – “Connected geographies” & the Japanese mapping of the Ainu lands (1780s-1850s)

Noémi Godefroy (Centre d'Études Japonaises - INALCO / Centre de Recherches sur le Japon - UMR 8173 CHINE-CORÉE-JAPON)

In the second half of the 18th century, Tokugawa authorities and intellectual elites learn of Russian presence at their doorstep. This leads them to realize the extent of their ignorance regarding the topographical reality of Ainu lands, now a buffer-zone between the realm and the Russian empire.

From the 1770s, a geographical movement is initiated as *literati* and government officials alike compile, collect, and map geographical knowledge about the Ainu lands. This process leads them to “connect geographies”, as they crosscheck European and Japanese texts and maps with indigenous knowledge, confront old and new knowledge as they send cartographical missions beyond the borders of the realm, and bring together the erudite, political, and strategic use of maps.

This presentation will focus the evolution of the methods, means, and aims pertaining to the Japanese cartography of the Ainu lands, and how these early modern maps conjunctly broadened knowledge, represented space, and claimed sovereignty.

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Maps and Maritime Expansion in Nineteenth-Century Japan

Radu Leca (International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden)

Do maps enhance our understanding of a specifically East Asian modernity? The evolution of maritime mapping in Japan during the nineteenth century is a record of a changing attitude towards the sea as well as of a tumultuous foreign policy. Incursions by Western ships prompted charting initiatives from various domains. This was followed by the establishment of the Japanese navy with British expertise. From then on, charting of neighbouring seas preceded Japanese military actions in East Asia. This was well received among the general public judging from newspapers and popular prints. Sea maps were therefore not only a facet of state-building, but also a building block of modern Japanese national consciousness.

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Mapping a “society of rising inequalities” and its territories - Towards a renewed critical geography of Japan?

Sophie Buhnik (Centre de recherche sur les réseaux, l'industrie et l'aménagement (CRIA)/ UMR Géographie-cités)

Since the late 20th century, progresses in the development of modern satellite systems, survey techniques used in the fields of physical and human geography (like GPS-based travel surveys) and geographical information software (GIS) have been manifold; they have dramatically improved the degree of precision with which contemporary cartographers are now able to measure and map numerous economic, social or environmental phenomena. At the same time, other technological innovations have

transformed map-making methods, the identity of the people who produce them, as well as individual approaches to what is shown by a map. The introduction of free online mapping services, the spread of open source GIS packages and statistical software, the possibility to upload/download numerical base maps and ever larger geospatial datasets on official census websites, not to mention the issue of geospatial handling of big data by various private and public actors... all have allowed for the representation of increasingly diverse and subjective realities at all scales, alongside more 'classical' methods of cartography with navigational or static informative purposes. In this respect, the scientific relevance of maps – as tools that are supposed to provide knowledge and influence political decisions in urban and regional planning in particular –remains hotly debated among geographers and urban studies scholars all over the world.

In Japan, said developments have taken place in a socio-economic context characterized by the burst of the land price Bubble in 1990, the following 'Lost decade', attempts at implementing competitiveness-oriented reforms in different sectors (such as urban renewal in particular), and a significant rise in "inequality awareness" among Japanese residents. Faced with this context, a growing number of scholars analysing post-Bubble changes in the organisation of Japanese cities have been wondering whether access to urban resources in Japan has become more or less unequal than it used to be. Based upon the theoretically informed empirical research we conducted during our PhD years and bibliometric analysis, our presentation wants to shed light on the use of new quantitative and technological tools for mapping in Japanese human geography. By focusing on issues of residential and daily mobilities in the Kansai region, we want to show that improved possibilities to handle large micro-level datasets are instrumental to the reactivation of critical stances in Japanese human geography, in relation with ongoing debates on the 'applicability' of English concepts of spatial justice (e.g. segregation, gentrification, food deserts...) to the analysis of urban dynamics in Asia.