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Preface

In 1993, a series of projects began as an inter-university research endeavor on the anthropology of administration (*keiei jinruigaku*) at the National Museum of Ethnology in Osaka, Japan. Six books on the anthropology of administration have been published¹⁾, and another five related to the theme have been written by core members of the project (all in Japanese)²⁾.

In 2009, a panel on “The Comparative Study of Corporate Cultures in East Asia in the Global Age” was conducted as part of the “Enterprise Anthropology” section of the 16th International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (ICAES) held in Kunming, China. Before the Congress, 17 papers from Japan, China, and Korea had been submitted to its “Enterprise Anthropology” section. Due to the postponement of the Congress, however, only 13 of these were presented in Kunming. An “Enterprise Anthropology” section will appear again at the ICAES’s 2013 Congress at Manchester University.

The Congress in Kunming brought together “enterprise anthropologists” from around the world. Many participants expressed a desire to meet regularly and to hold their next meeting at the National Museum of Ethnology in Osaka. Then in November 2009, members of the Minpaku Inter-University Research Project accepted a proposal for an International Forum on Business and Anthropology. “Enterprise anthropologists” thus met again from July 23rd to 25th, 2010, this time for Minpaku’s International Forum on Business and Anthropology.

This publication is based on the papers presented at this forum with a focus on business and sacred space. Thanks to organizational support from the National Museum of Ethnology, Minpaku Inter-University Research Project funds, the JSPS Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research on the Shanghai World Exposition, and the Social Science Laboratory, the International Forum on Business and Anthropology enjoyed great success. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to all parties concerned.

October, 2012
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Notes

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- 2) Nakamaki, Hirochika, Koichiro Hioki, Noriya Sumihara, Izumi Mitsui *et al.* 2001 *Kaisha jinruigaku* (会社じんるい学) [Anthropology of Company]. Osaka: Tōhō Shuppan.
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