

SES no.091; Preface

journal or publication title	Senri Ethnological Studies
volume	91
page range	i - i
year	2015-07-31
URL	http://hdl.handle.net/10502/00009088

Preface

The papers collected in this volume derive from a meeting held at the National Museum of Ethnology, Japan on February 22 and 23, 2014. The conference was organized as part of the National Museum of Ethnology core research project, “The Anthropology of Care and Education for Life” (organized by Nanami Suzuki), supported by the Japanese Society of Cultural Anthropology. The intention behind the meeting was to discuss the potential of ethnographic approaches in the study of social movements and the role of knowledge production in those movements. It was also to expand and enrich our understanding of social movements in East Asia as the first dialogue among anthropologists working on social movements of South Korea, Taiwan, and Japan. Although the volume and introduction are primarily addressed to an anthropological audience, I hope that they provide a working understanding of social movements in East Asia, and can therefore serve to facilitate discussion and future research in the disciplines of sociology, Asian studies, and political sciences. I should particularly like to thank John Clammer for agreeing to serve as the conference discussant and for his valuable comments in the general discussion, and Nobuhiro Kishigami for chairing one of the conference sessions. The Director General of the National Museum of Ethnology, Ken’ichi Sudo was also kind enough to make a welcome address at the meeting. I am grateful to the National Museum of Ethnology for financing the meeting and supporting the publication of its results. I also thank Setsuko Ikuta and Mieko Yoshimura for their dedicated secretarial work. I am also greatly indebted to Polly Barton for her assistance in the substantive editing of the volume. The conference was the first step in our cooperation with one another to carve out a useful future role for an anthropological approach within the study of social movements. I hope that the discussions in this volume will encourage readers who delve into its chapters to discover what ethnographic research can do for the study of social movements in East Asia and beyond.

Kyonosuke Hirai
May 2015