

SLAVIC RESEARCH CENTER NEWS

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REMARKS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE SRC



UYAMA Tomohiko

While the Slavic Research Center has a history of nearly sixty years, the change during the last ten years has been enormous. The SRC has become a very dynamic place with a number of project researchers, assistants, and graduate students. The scope of research conducted at the center has widened, as the center has been making efforts to develop studies of the non-Russian countries of the former Soviet Union, comparative studies of various regions of Eurasia (and even outside it), and joint studies with specialists in the natural sciences. Cooperation with overseas researchers and research institutions has grown both quantitatively and qualitatively.

However, a turning point is imminent. Two major projects, “Comparative Research on Major Regional Powers in Eurasia” and “Reshaping Japan’s Border Studies,” will end in March 2013 and March 2014, respectively. We will have to tackle the difficult task of rearranging research activities and finding appropriate funding. But this will also be a good opportunity to deliberate on the long-term research agenda of the SRC and reconfirm its identity as a center of area studies.

Traditional academia is divided into disciplines, and area studies are sometimes marginalized. However, now that globalization is facilitating the spread of influence of events in one region to other parts of the world, and that the West-centric world order is being shaken, area studies are becoming more important than ever for an understanding of the world. The SRC, with its experience in studies of the Slavic-Eurasian world as well as in comparative research and border studies, is eager to play a part in the Renaissance of area studies.

Interdisciplinary Cooperation at the SRC: Part I

The Making of the PRC's Borders: 1940s–1960s

IWASHITA Akihiro (Political Science) and David Wolff (History)

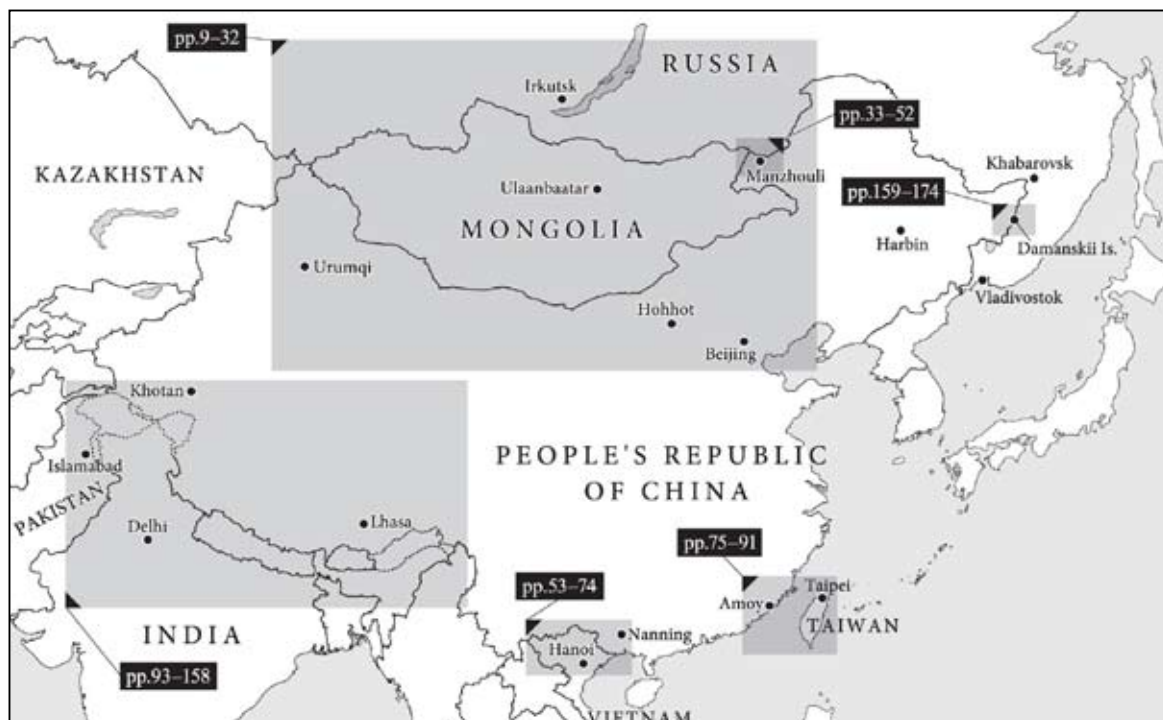


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<RESEARCH NOTE>

Dmitri S. Ryabushkin

New Documents on the Sino-Soviet Ussuri Border Clashes of 1969

We are pleased to announce the publication of the special issue “China’s Post-Revolutionary Borders” in *Eurasia Border Review*. The new journal has certainly developed with good qualified peer-reviewed articles and has already become a bi-annual journal thanks to its many contributors. In addition, we recently decided to arrange special issues on critical, but not well-known topics.

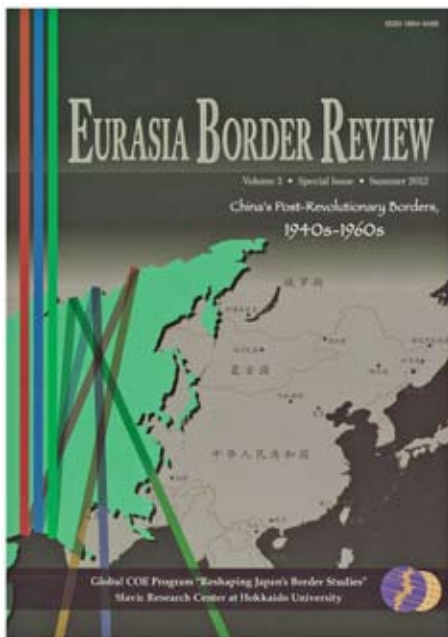
The first special issue is edited by David Wolff, a professor at the Slavic Research Center, in close cooperation between his broad Kaken project on Eurasian Cold War History and the GCOE focus on border studies. The International Cold War history network is advancing step by step from the US and Europe toward the former Soviet Republics and Asia. China was undoubtedly a key player of the Cold War within the context of its relations with the US, the Soviet Union, India, Korea, Japan and other concerned countries.

When we focus on China’s geopolitics and history, China’s presence has been truly outstanding. China has long struggled with the stability and security of its vast borderlands, along 22,800 kilometers of inland borders with Mongolia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam, and North Korea as well as Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan, in addition to its vast maritime frontier with Southeast Asia, Korea and Japan. We often attempt to analyze China and its foreign policy from classic points of view such as power politics and balance of power, but deep geopolitical analysis suggests another dynamic logic to China’s existential activities, always heavily influenced by the presence of its various neighbors and their long history together.

As World War Two drew to an end, great armies with the potential to capture whole countries in just a few days using Hitler’s great invention, the Blitzkrieg, roved the face of the earth. Russian and American armies in both Europe and Asia, combined long tank columns and thousands of artillery units for crushing bombardments of the enemy and his cities. In all the waters of the globe the American Navy ruled supreme, grouped around floating airbases, ready to take control of any given volume of air, over sea and coastal areas, while sending protected bombers to destroy coastal cities. In China, too, millions of men were under arms, finishing off the Japanese Empire and lining up to continue the civil war that had been interrupted by the World War. The potential for border change was never greater, except, perhaps, at the end of World War One, but the Republic of China, weakened by civil war, was in no position to take advantage of the opportunities, even though it had ostensibly won the war.

It was into this situation at the dawn of the Cold War that the People’s Republic of China was born. Long years of American support for his arch-enemy Chiang Kai-shek (Jiang Jieshi) more or less predicated that Mao would turn to the other side of the Cold War, where Stalin ruled supreme. Ideological affinities, even if quite different, especially in the eyes of ideologically sensitive Communist leaders, also brought Stalin and Mao together. On July 1, Mao’s “Lean to One Side” speech was published, broadcasting to the USSR and the US, where Mao stood.

In response, Stalin encouraged and helped Mao to set up his new government at Beijing, in the fall of 1949, and then invited him to Moscow to cement their alliance with the whole world looking on. It is this December 1949 moment of border-crossing, as Mao stepped into the USSR and onto the world’s stage, that appears in Soren Urbansky’s study of the twin border cities on the Trans-Siberian, Trans-Manchurian railroad. The rest of the articles go a little earlier, back to the World War II roots of PRC borders, and forward to March 1969, when Mao “crossed back” from his friendship with the Soviet Union, signaling to the Americans that he was now ready to “lean to the other side,” a signal that was transmitted through the medium of Soviet soldiers’ blood sprinkled liberally on the ice of the frozen Ussuri River.



EBR Special Issue

As Pierre Grosser's, the comparison is made explicit with parallels between the Indochina and Korean Wars, both along Chinese borders and with Chinese "volunteers" involved. Both military engagements and diplomatic negotiations are covered, although not equally in all cases. Linkages to domestic politics come to the fore in different ways, with James Hershberg pointing out that Krishna Menon's departure from Nehru's inner circle became the price of American aid to India in 1962, while Sergey Radchenko evokes the Inner Asian ethnic complexities of the Russo-Chinese borderlands, where new nationalisms sprouted from earlier identities in the sheltering inaccessibility of mountains and deserts. The articles in this collection make use of archival documents from China, both Beijing and Taipei, as well as French, German, Indian, Mongolian, Russian and US archives. This points the way toward a full international treatment of a fully international topic, in which the Cold War imperative to "encircle" China, gives way to a global desire to understand and "encompass" China, along all its borders and into all its borderlands.

This special issue is meaningful, probably the first of its kind, for featuring China in the Cold War with an emphasis on border politics. It is also a good illustration of collaboration between historical analysis and political geography. The research results suggest a new contribution of the border studies school to international relations. Factually, the contributors discussed the interaction between "border" and "alliance" in the Cold War order/re-ordering. Border issues helped establish and destroy alliance, while alliances set new boundaries, some of which eventually became borders, *de facto* and *de jure*. In this context, new theoretical challenges arise and our discussion on the border and borderlands in Cold War history takes on dimensions and directions toward a challenging new research frontier.

We hope the reader enjoys this historical tour of the PRC's borders in the making, a veritable journey in a journal.

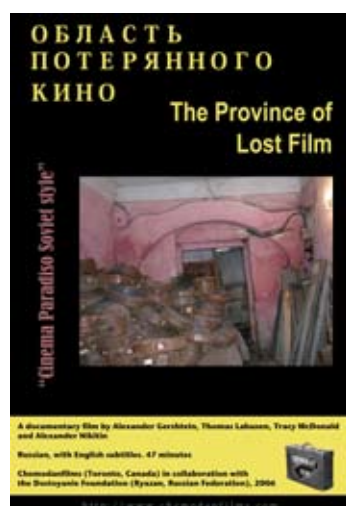


Interdisciplinary Cooperation at the SRC : Part II From the “Deep Country” to Multinational Harbin: Chemodan Films visits the SRC

Thomas Lahusen (University of Toronto), MOCHIZUKI Tetsuo (SRC), David Wolff (SRC)

Chemodan Films is a documentary film production company, created in October 2005 by Thomas Lahusen in Toronto, Canada. “Chemodan” (pronunciation key: “ch [like ‘church’]-eh-mo-dunn”) is the Russian word for “suitcase.” The word symbolizes motion, travel, and the international component of the group. One of the goals of Chemodan Films is to produce documentary films on Russia, other territories of the former Soviet Union, and other parts of the world, which can equip scholars and the larger public with contents that help them to explore the cultural, social, and political complexities of past and present. Chemodan Films privileges topics reflecting on the “deep country,” including geographical and social areas that are not part of the mainstream. Besides producing documentaries, Chemodan Films is also establishing an archival depository of original film material, both contemporary and historical.

One of the first films produced by Chemodan Films is *The Province of Lost Film*, a tribute to the power of Soviet cinema. The film is about the magic and nostalgia of watching a film collectively: in a movie house; a workers’ club; or at night, on an improvised screen hung in the village square. Employees of the former distribution and exhibition network, projectionists, and viewers from central Russia reflect upon the unique and already bygone experience of the Soviet experiment of “cinefication,” which sought to bring the screen to every corner of the Soviet Union. Thus, the film captures one of the lost opportunities of the socialist dream. From the collective-farm classic of the Stalin-era *Cossacks of the Kuban* to the hugely popular Indian film of 1955 *The Vagabond*, or the 1961 Soviet technicolor extravaganza, *The Amphibious Man*, and archival footage of the process of cinefication itself, the film reminds us of the immortal power of cinema and its place in the mind and heart of the individual.



The Province of Lost Film was Chemodan Films' first production and traces the almost-forgotten process of cinefication in the USSR

SRC Special Program with CHEMODAN FILMS on December 17, 2012

One of the more recent films produced by Chemodan Films is *The Interim Country*, directed by Thomas Lahusen, Gulzat Egemberdieva, and André Loersch. This film chronicles the ever-deepening chaos, into which Kyrgyzstan, a small, land-locked country in Central Asia, plunged after a popular revolt that led to the toppling of president Bakiyev and his clan in April 2010, culminating with large-scale inter-ethnic violence in June 2010. *The Interim Country* reflects on the precarious political, social,

and economic situation in which many post-Soviet countries have found themselves after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Most films produced by Chemodan Films have been screened at international film festivals, academic conferences, and other venues. Current films in production include a documentary on the city of Harbin in North-East China, and its foreign legacy, as well as a film documenting itinerant film exhibition in present-day China.

(Thomas Lahusen, University of Toronto)

This is not our first contact with Thomas Lahusen and his work. In the winter of 2006, when we held the SRC biannual international conference entitled “Beyond the Empire: Images of Russia in the Eurasian Cultural Context,” we included in the program a special session “Russia on the Big Screen” with a film and talk by Thomas Lahusen. Unfortunately, due to a surgical intervention, we were unable to fulfill the plan as scheduled, but scholars from all over Japan and many other countries enjoyed Lahusen’s masterpiece “The Province of Lost Film.” Since that time we have been looking for a chance to invite the director of the film to Sapporo and share the screen together.

Finally, this winter after a six-year incubation, we were able to realize our cherished dream and hold a SRC-Chemodan Films special program together with Thomas Lahusen and Gulzat Egemberdieva, the director of other Chemodan features. On the first day we saw “The Province of Lost Film” again, and then “Oh, My Communist Youth,” which was focused on the festival of former Komsomol members in Kyrgyzstan. After each show we had a lively discussion. Perhaps, I (Mochizuki) had a few more questions than others, because as a student of Russian and Soviet literature I was also interested in Lahusen’s works on Vasilii Azhaev, Soviet culture, and the concept of “deep country,” so resonant with my recent project on the Volga region.

As for “The Province...” the audience was deeply impressed by the masterly depiction of Soviet provincial life, both historical and contemporary, as reflected on the screen through various personal episodes concerning cinema. Some talked about the relationship between cinema and nostalgia, some about the sense of solidarity when people see the same film in the same place. Some were interested in the repertoire of movies in the Soviet provincial theaters, e.g., why so many Indian films. As for the viewing of “Oh, My Communist Youth,” the audience tried to imagine the present state of mind of the old Komsomol activists, who got together for a nostalgic festival, long after the party had ended, so to speak. The different methodology of filming and interviewing compared with “The Province...” was also of interest for the audience.

On the second day we had a short program “Another Chemodan,” and saw a new film “Harbin Echoes,” which is still in progress. The audience brought together nearly twenty graduate students. David Wolff gave a brief lecture on the three different phases of the history of Harbin after the screening. The discussion partly concerned the problem of the “local” identity of Chinese cities in relation to the national (capital) identity of the nation. Having visited Harbin last summer, I enjoyed the overlapping images of old and new Harbin very much, blending old films, older photos and recent footage. I was also very much impressed by the working atmosphere around Thomas Lahusen, which seems to be always warmed up by his marvelous personality.

We sincerely hope that this first collaboration of the SRC and Chemodan Films will be a firm brick, on which we can build a tower of future cooperation.

(Mochizuki Tetsuo, Slavic Research Center)

In my course on the Cold War, I make heavy use of film resources, so rich for the twentieth century. In the first lecture, I explore the role of new weapons, in particular amphibious warfare, by showing two film excerpts. One is a black-and-white news-clip of American troops landing unopposed in Normandy on D-Day, 6 June 1944. Patriotic music plays in the background and the American flag waves bravely. The other selection comes from the famous 1998 movie with Tom Hanks, "Saving Private Ryan." The American troops are slaughtered in their amphibious landing craft by well-positioned German machine-gun nests.

I ask my students which image is true, the painless 1945 news-clip or the bloody 1998 action film. Students give different answers, illustrating how multimedia and a wider range of sources can reveal historical complexity. (Both images are true. Some beaches were undefended. Others were killing grounds.)

Similarly, Chemodan Films captures conflicting truths and ambivalent feelings. The Harbin project currently underway is typical. Harbin's cross-cultural background has made it deeply controversial for the former capital of "Russian Manchuria" exhibits deep ironies, the very stuff of Harbin. Although many ethnicities lived side by side in the "Paris of the East," only three contended for supremacy at various times comprising the "triple irony" of Harbin.

The Russians, eager to include the Chinese in their Manchurian venture as both labor and customers, practiced tolerance and began the economic development of a wilderness. The result was the rise of Chinese middle classes whose infection by nationalism would threaten the Russians from the 1910s on. The Russians wished "progress" on the Chinese, but it took a form they had not expected. This was the first irony: tolerance had led to nationalism.

The Chinese, gradually taking over the railroad and the city in several steps since 1917, also practiced similar tolerance toward Russian inhabitants, but after 1927 put pressure on both the political and economic interests of the Soviet and Japanese states. Both responded with undeclared wars, the Soviets in November 1929 and the Japanese in September 1931. Nationalism had provoked Japanese imperialism and the result was the puppet state of Manchukuo and an even heightened state of anti-Japanese nationalism that continues until the present. This was the second irony: rights recovery had led to the loss of a whole Chinese region.

Finally, the Japanese arrived, following the "rising sun" flag toward the setting sun. Taking over the military, political and economic dominance of Harbin from the Chinese, they made life unbearable for the Russians as well. Even as the Japanese learned Russian and the joys of Russian *byt*, the untranslatable joy of Russian daily life, the Japanese Imperial state drove the Russians out, ending the great experiment in shared frontier development. This was the third irony: imperialism had fostered, then ended cross-cultural interaction and learning. Such are the complexities of Harbin's contested history that can only elude attempts to nationalize its narrative into a linear text written in one language. Film may be the necessary tool to capture the full range of both harmonious and painful images, replicating the unforgettable ironic experience before death and time erase memory. We place our hopes in the Chemodan and prepare for a voyage into the foreign, but familiar land that is history.



Russian and Chinese friends share a bottle in the early days of Harbin

GLOBAL COE PROGRAM “RESHAPING JAPAN’S BORDER STUDIES”

The Global COE Program “Reshaping Japan’s Border Studies” has finally established an international core of border studies by organizing the BRIT XII conference.

1) BRIT (BORDER REGIONS IN TRANSITION) XII FUKUOKA/BUSAN CONFERENCE



BRIT Conference at Fukuoka

The GCOE Program, a five-year-term program approved in July 2009, aims to create a network and community for border studies in Eurasia and East Asia where an “international” community on border studies is absent. For this purpose, we attracted BRIT, which is one of the largest border studies networks concentrating on European issues. BRIT XII Fukuoka/Busan is an epoch-making event for

this network, since this is the first East Asian BRIT and makes border studies a truly global discipline. Also, the holding of a BRIT conference across two neighboring cities – Fukuoka and Busan – and a field trip to Tsushima under the current tense Japan-Korean relations have been remarkable. Throughout the combined Fukuoka/Busan conference, two roundtables and over forty sessions were held with two hundred and twenty people from forty-seven countries. However, more than anything, it was a significant opportunity for participants from Eurasia and East Asia, particularly Japan, the Russian Far East, a, Singapore, Thailand, and India. With this, we can say that Hokkaido University’s Global COE “Reshaping Japan’s Border Studies” Program aims to fill the East Asian gap in border research.

2) ORGANIZING THE INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL

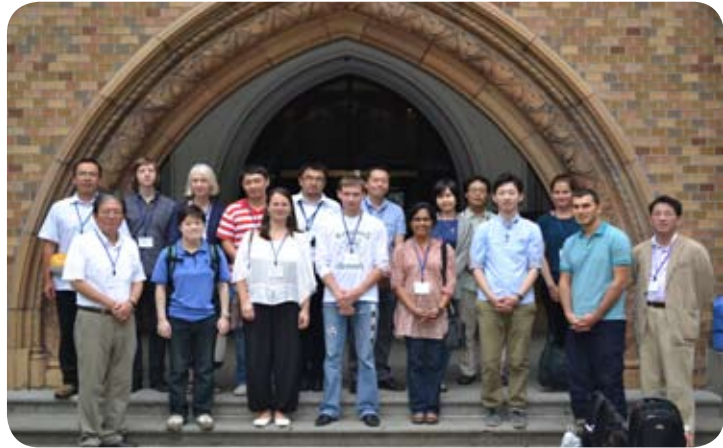
The third GCOE International Summer Program “Borders in Asia: Central Asia, Southeast Asia, Korea, and Japan” took place from July 31 to August 8. Our third Summer School was made up of young researchers of nine nationalities. As the lectures focused on Asia rather than the more familiar European or US experiences, the speakers were bombarded with questions, particularly in the session on border issues within



Dr. Iwashita’s lecture at summer school

Japanese society. At the end of the program, the participants received certificates.

The Summer School serves to not only help develop young researchers, but also build networks, and we eagerly await the participants' submissions to our *Eurasia Border Review* journal.



Group photo of summer school participants

3) MUSEUM EXHIBITION

This year, we produced two exhibitions at Hokkaido University Museum: “Spillover Images: China in the Media” (Nov. 1, 2011 – May 13, 2012) and “Saami Culture in Borderlands” (May 25 – Dec. 27, 2012). The latter exhibition has a significant meaning for Hokkaido since our university is enhancing academic cooperation with Finland by opening an office in Helsinki.

Serial seminars were also held along with the exhibitions. The exhibitions and seminars were open to the public and attracted many citizens who are interested in the indigenous peoples issue since the Saami and the Ainu have common problems and have maintained cultural exchange since the 1980s.

Fujimori Shinkichi



Museum exhibition “The Saami Culture in Borderland”

GRANT-IN-AID FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ON INNOVATIVE AREAS “COMPARATIVE RESEARCH ON MAJOR REGIONAL POWERS IN EURASIA”

1) PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT: “COMPARATIVE RESEARCH ON MAJOR REGIONAL POWERS IN EURASIA”

This project was adopted at the end of 2008 by the Ministry of Education and Science as a five-year grant-in-aid for scientific research on innovative areas. It will be completed in March 2013. In 2012, two international symposiums were organized for this project in January and July (see news of them below). On January 26th, 2013, we have organized a concluding symposium for this project, entitled “A New Image of the World through Comparison of Eurasian Regional Powers,” at Waseda University in Tokyo.

The accomplishments of this project will be published in six volumes in Japanese with the Japanese publisher Minerva, starting from January 2013. Their English versions will be published in one or two volumes in 2013.

This project has widened the horizon of the SRC’s activities. Having conducted this project, we have become used to looking at Russia in comparison with China and India. And our cooperation with area study specialists in China and India has reached an unprecedented level. We have contact with them in our daily work. We intend to continue these projects in some form. Some colleagues have applied for a grant-in-aid for scientific research on the topic of comparison among Russia, China, and India intended to begin in April or May 2013.

Tabata Shinichiro

2) SIXTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF COMPARATIVE RESEARCH ON MAJOR REGIONAL POWERS IN EURASIA “COMPARING MODERN EMPIRES: IMPERIAL RULE AND DECOLONIZATION IN THE CHANGING WORLD ORDER”



Group photo of Symposium participants

sometimes called new or rising powers, but they have rich and ancient histories related to empires and colonies. This symposium aimed at comparing modern empires’ rule of their diverse populations, their interaction with each other and other political entities, and their fall, legacies, and reemergence as regional or global powers. The papers dealt not only with Russia, China, and India, but also with Japan, the Ottoman Empire, Iran, and the United States.

On January 18–20, 2012, the Slavic Research Center hosted a Winter Symposium, entitled “Comparing Modern Empires: Imperial Rule and Decolonization in the Changing World Order.” Its main organizer was Group 4 (Imperiology) of the project “Comparative Research on Major Regional Powers in Eurasia.” The major Eurasian regional powers, namely China, India, and Russia, are

The symposium opened with the keynote lecture by Prof. Jane Burbank, who summarized empires' "politics of difference" from ancient times and their transformation in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. After that, five sessions followed: "Imperial Rule: Structures and Technologies," "Empires and the 'Others': Mutual Relationships and Perceptions," "The Fall of Empires and State Reconstruction: Legacies and Changes," "Decolonization: Regional and International Implications," and "New Empires? The United States and China."

One of the focuses of the discussion was local mediators or "collaborators," who played crucial roles in determining the character of imperial expansion and rule. The participants held hot and fruitful debates on a number of issues, for example, whether postwar economic development of India was made possible by skillfully utilizing the legacies of the British Empire and foreign assistance, or by overcoming the harmful influences of imperial rule.

On January 18, three foreign fellows of the SRC (Drs. Taras Kuzio, Nona Shakhnazaryan, and Vladimir Shishkin) gave pre-symposium lectures. After the symposium, on January 22, most of the foreign guests attended workshops in Tokyo. Overall, the international team of scholars who participated in this series of events proved the usefulness of comparative imperial studies for understanding both the historical backgrounds of the Eurasian regional powers and the multipolar but hierarchical structure of the modern world.

Uyama Tomohiko

SPEAKERS AT THE SYMPOSIUM (JANUARY 18–20, 2012)

- Taras Kuzio** (University of Toronto, Canada / SRC) "Ukraine at Twenty: Post Soviet or Neo-Soviet?"
- Nona Shakhnazaryan** (Kuban Social and Economic Institute, Russia / SRC) "'Homo Sovieticus' through the Armenian Diaspora's Prism: Representations, Stereotypes, and Images"
- Vladimir Shishkin** (Institute of History, Siberian Division, RAS / SRC) "Rebooting the Russian Empire, 1917–1922: Wars and Revolutions as a Factor of Modernization"
- Jane Burbank** (New York University, USA) "Empire and Transformation: The Politics of Difference"
- Maria Misra** (University of Oxford, UK) "Aristocracies and Modernities: India after the Great Rebellion"
- Willard Sunderland** (University of Cincinnati, USA) "Russian Ways of Empire, From the Kazan Conquest to 1917"
- ASANO Toyomi** (Chukyo University, Japan) "Nation State System and the System of Empire in Modern Japan"
- UYAMA Tomohiko** (SRC) "Invitation, Adaptation, and Resistance to Empires: Cases of Central Asia"
- KAWASHIMA Shin** (University of Tokyo, Japan) "The Image of Traditional World Order and Tribute Relations in Min-kuo China"
- Rudi Matthee** (University of Delaware, USA) "*Zar-o Zur*: Gold and Force: The Late Safavids as a Tributary Empire"
- Fatma Müge Göçek** (University of Michigan, USA) "The Ottoman Imperial Legacy"
- IKEDA Yoshiro** (Tokyo University of Science, Japan) "Toward an Empire of Republics: Transformation of Russia in the Age of Total War, Revolution and Nationalism"
- Aditya Mukherjee** (Jawaharlal Nehru University, India) "Un-structuring Colonialism: The Nehru Years and Non-alignment"
- AKITA Shigeru** (Osaka University) "Economic Diplomacy of Jawaharlal Nehru Administration after Decolonization of South Asia"
- ZHAI Qiang** (Auburn University at Montgomery, USA) "Road to Bandung: China's Evolving Approach to De-Colonization"
- KAN Hideki** (Seinan Jo Gakuin University, Japan) "The Making of 'an American Empire' and Its Responses to Decolonization in the Early Cold War Years"
- Rob Kroes** (University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands) "America: An Empire Among Empires?"
- TSAI Tung-Chieh** (National Chung Hsing University, Taiwan) "Is China Becoming an Empire? Strategic Tradition and the Possible Choice for Contemporary China"

3) "FROM EMPIRES TO REGIONAL POWERS, BETWEEN STATES AND NON-STATES" - HOLDING OF THE SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE COMPARATIVE RESEARCH PROJECT "MAJOR REGIONAL POWERS IN EURASIA"



A scene from one of the sessions

The large-scale project run by China, India, and Russia specialists in Japan to compare China, India, and Russia is approaching its finale in March 2013. Its last large-scale international event, the International Symposium entitled "From Empires to Regional Powers, Between States and Non-States" was held at the SRC on July 4–6, 2012. It was mainly two research groups, focusing on "Domestic Politics" and "Society and Human Mobility," who took responsibility for this symposium. The event was opened with a special lecture by Theodore Weeks, Professor of

South Illinois University and Visiting Professor at the SRC in 2012, on the history of Vilnius City. This was followed by the International Workshop for Young Scholars. Three papers presented at this workshop analyzed the issues of unrecognized states and the autocephaly of Orthodox churches and were in line with the topics examined during the main part of the symposium.

The guiding concept for the three sessions held on July 5th was transnationalism, representing the idea of the research group on "Society and Human Mobility" that the strength of regional powers cannot be measured by their domestic political, military, and economic resources. Instead, researchers should pay attention to regional powers' cooperation with transnational actors. Nine papers were presented at three sessions, entitled "Empires and Political Geography," "Religious Politics and Transnationalism," and "Conflicts Spanning the Regional Powers' Peripheries and 'Near Abroad'."

Three sessions held on July 6th examined the issues of authoritarianism, scrutinized by the research group on "Domestic Politics" during the last four years. China still keeps its classic authoritarian regime, while competitive authoritarian regimes have emerged in Russia and many other post-Soviet countries. The democratization approach, prevalent in the 1990s, underestimated the transition from classic to competitive authoritarianism as a deviation from the right course, but today, political scientists recognize competitive authoritarianism as an independent subject of empirical research. Nine papers were presented at three sessions, entitled "Competitive Authoritarianism: Theoretical Challenges," "Regime Change or Regime Dynamics? A Comparative Study of Backlashes," and "Authoritarian Leaders and Discourse of Regional Powers."

The presenters of the papers, including the workshop, can be broken down by country (according to workplace, not citizenship): ten from Japan, seven from the United States, and one each from Germany, Israel, Romania, Ukraine, and Australia. Regrettably, a paper presenter scheduled to come from Pakistan canceled her talk. This is one of the reasons for the underrepresentation of South Asia at this symposium, to which only three papers referred.

After the symposium, most of the foreign guests traveled to Tokyo and Osaka to give additional talks at Waseda and Osaka Universities.

Matsuzato Kimitaka

SPEAKERS AT THE SYMPOSIUM (JULY 4–6, 2012)

- SATO Keiji** (Hokkaido University, Japan) “Social and Political Movements in South Ossetia, Southern Moldova (Gagauzia), and Transnistria at the End of the Soviet Era: A Prelude to Violent Conflicts along Ethnic Lines?”
- Dareg Zabarah** (Humboldt University, Germany) “Autocephaly: A Delayed Transition from Empire to National State?”
- Nikola Mirilovic** (University of Central Florida, USA) “A Preliminary Theory of Contested International Recognition of New States: the Case of Kosovo”
- Theodore Weeks** (Southern Illinois University, USA/SRC) “City, Cultures, Empire: Vilnius in the Russian Empire and SSSR”
- Charles King** (Georgetown University, USA) “Can Seas Have Histories?”
- NODA Jin** (Waseda University, Japan) “Empires and the Steppe: A Comparative Study on Qing and Russian Empires”
- Moshe Gammer** (Tel Aviv University, Israel) “Land Made of Copper, Men Made of Steel. Empire and Mountains: the Case of Russia and the Caucasus”
- NAGANAWA Norihiro** (SRC) “Drawing Russia as a Muslim Power? The Hajj from Tatarstan and Daghestan in the Post-Soviet Era”
- Dumitru Cotelea** (Babes-Bolyai University, Romania) “The Issue of the Russian Canonical Territory between Ecclesiology and Geopolitics”
- TSURUMI Taro** (SRC) “Defending Monarchism for a Plural Society: Daniel Pasmanik, a Russian Jewish Transnationalist”
- Arsene Saparov** (Michigan University, USA) “Arbitrary Borders? The Logic of the Bolshevik Boundary-Making in the South Caucasus 1921–1925 Abkhazia, South Ossetia, Nagorno-Karabakh”
- David Brophy** (Australian National University) “Russian Muslim Writing on Xinjiang in the Pre-revolutionary Period”
- NAKAMIZO Kazuya** (Kyoto University, Japan) “Peripheries Creating the ‘Indian’ Nation: Border and Minority Questions Revisited”
- Barbara Junisbai** (Pitzer College, USA) “Unpacking the ‘Competition’: Variation in Political Opposition under Competitive (and Not-So-Competitive) Post-Soviet Authoritarianism”
- SUZUKI Ayame** (Fukuoka Women’s University, Japan) “Strong Institutions and Weak Incumbents: Asian Competitive Authoritarianism as an Exception?”
- TAHARA Fumiki** (University of Tokyo, Japan) “Competitive Client, Faithful Agent, or Lonely Principal? The Political Implications of Village Leadership in India, Russia and China”
- Cory Welt** (George Washington University, USA) “Institutional Reform and Single-Party Rule in Georgia”
- Olexiy Haran** (National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Ukraine) “From the Orange Revolution to Russian Model of ‘Stability’?”
- UYAMA Tomohiko** (SRC) “Party Politics and Premier-Presidentialism in Kyrgyzstan after the Second Revolution: Order in Disorder”
- TANG Liang** (Waseda University, Japan) “One Party System’s Strategy for Survival: Promotion and Screening of Political Elites in China”
- Gulnaz Sharafutdinova** (Miami University, USA) “The Limits of Political Realism and Cynicism in Contemporary Russia”
- OGUSHI Atsushi** (Osaka University of Economics and Law, Japan) “The Limitation and Failure of Dominant Party Building: Russia and Ukraine in Comparative Perspective”

FOREIGN VISITORS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

THE SRC SELECTED THE FOLLOWING SCHOLARS AS FOREIGN FELLOWS FOR 2013–14.

Name: **Jane Burbank**

Position: Professor, Department of History, New York University

Research Topic at the SRC: The Legal Life of the State: Russian Sovereignty in the Kazan Judicial District, 1890–1917

Term of Stay: June 10 – October 31, 2013

Name: **Oleg Manaev**

Position: Professor, Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences, Belarusian State University

Research Topic at the SRC: Peculiarities of Post-Soviet Authoritarianism and Its Influence on the Region (the case of Belarus in comparison with Russia and Ukraine)

Term of Stay: June 1 – October 31, 2013

Name: **Ilya Zaytsev**

Position: Leading Researcher, Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences
Research Topic at the SRC: The Russian State and the Muslims of European Russia and Siberia in the Sixteenth to Nineteenth Centuries: Imperial Indifference or Orthodox Tolerance?

Term of Stay: June 1 – October 31, 2013

Name: **Konstantin Bogdanov**

Position: Senior Researcher, Institute of Russian Literature [Pushkin House], Russian Academy of Sciences

Research Topic at the SRC: Understanding of Human Rights in Soviet and Post-Soviet Language Culture: Between the Key Concepts and Key Emotions

Term of Stay: November 1, 2013 – March 31, 2014

Name: **Aftandil Erkinov**

Position: Professor, Department of Classical Philology of the Orient, State Institute of Oriental Studies, Uzbekistan

Research Topic at the SRC: Islam “versus” Islam: Process of Turkicization in the Turkestan General-Governorship

Term of Stay: November 1, 2013 – March 31, 2014

Name: **Bakhtior Islamov**

Position: Professor, Economic Theories Department, Tashkent Branch of Plekhanov Russian Economic University, Uzbekistan

Research Topic at the SRC: The Central Asian States Twenty Years After: Achievements and Failures

Term of Stay: November 1, 2013 – March 31, 2014

This academic year (2012–2013), one of our expected guests, Bekus-Gonczarowa, was not able to come. By proxy, we invited the following researcher.

Name: **Vadim Zhdanov**

Position: Chair for the Study of Religions and Mission Studies, Friedrich-Alexander-University of Erlangen and Nuremberg, Germany

Research Topic at the SRC: The Discourse of “Religion” in Putin’s Russia: Social Constructions of “Religious” in Russian Contemporary Film and Television

Term of Stay: November 1, 2012 – March 31, 2013

Osuga Mika

OUR CURRENT STAFF

IEDA Osamu: Professor, Economic History of Eastern Europe; Modern Hungarian History; Environment in Slavic Eurasia

IWASHITA Akihiro: Professor, Russian Foreign Policy; Sino-Russian Relations

MATSUZATO Kimitaka: Professor, Politics in Post-Communist Countries; Imperial History of Russia

MOCHIZUKI Tetsuo: Professor, Russian Literature

NAGANAWA Norihiro: Associate Professor, Modern History of Central Eurasia; Muslim Policies of the Russian Empire

NOMACHI Motoki: Associate Professor, Slavic Linguistics; General Linguistics
TABATA Shinichiro: Professor, Russian Economy and Comparative Economic Studies
UYAMA Tomohiko: Professor, Central Asian History and Politics; Comparative Imperial Studies; Director of the SRC
Wolff, David: Professor, Russian, Soviet, and Emigre; Siberia and the Far East; The Cold War; Northeast Asian Region Construction
YAMAMURA Rihito: Professor, Comparative Economics; Agrarian Economy in Slavic-Eurasian Countries

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS:

FUJIMORI Shinkichi: Ukrainian Politics; CIS Relations
GOTO Masanori: Cultural Anthropology; Religious and Scientific Recognition and Practices
KIYAMA Katsuhiko: Archaeology of Northeast Asia
KOSHINO Go: Russian and Belarusian Literature

FOREIGN VISITORS FELLOWS 2012 (JUNE) – 2013 (MARCH)

Arkady Blyumbaum: Aleksandr Blok: Literature and Politics (1905-1921)
PANG Dongmei: Countering the Crimes Committed by Nationals of the PRC on the Territory of the Russian Far East
John Round: Coping with the Uncertain Everyday: Everyday Life in Contemporary Russia
Sergey Ryazantsev: Ethnic Migrations and Formation of Diasporas in Frontier Regions in a Context of National Security of Russia
Theodore Weeks: Vilna, Wilno, Vilnius: History of a Multicultural City, 1795-2000
Vadim Zhdanov: The Discourse “Religion” in Putin Russia: Social Constructions of “Religious” in Russian Contemporary Film and Television

RESEARCH FELLOWS:

CHENG Chierh: Acoustic Phonetics; Prosodic Modeling; Speech, Hearing, and Phonetic Sciences
CHIDA Tetsuro: Soviet History
HANAMATSU Yasunori: International Law
HIRAYAMA Akihiro: Modern and Contemporary History of Vietnam
HONDA Akiko: Soviet Art and Architecture
HOSHINO Masashi: Chinese Economy; Development Economics; Regional Disparity
ITANI Hiroshi: Architectural History of Sakhalin and Karafuto
KIKUTA Haruka: Cultural Anthropology; Muslim Society in Central Asia; Saint Worship in Uzbekistan
KOMATSU Hisae: Hindi Literature; Indian Cultural Studies
KOMOTO Yasuko: Comparative Culture; Modern Japanese History
NAKAYAMA Taisho: Migration History of Northeast Asia: Modern and Contemporary History of Sakhalin/Karafuto
MAEDA Shiho: Russian Literature
MIYAZAKI Haruka: Polish Nationalism and the Catholic Church
MIWA Hiroki: Comparative Politics, Politics in India
MORISHITA Yoshiyuki: Central and Eastern European History
TAKAHASHI Minori: International Relations, Area Studies (Denmark, Greenland, and the Arctic)
TATEISHI Yoko: Historical Science in the Soviet Union

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICE STAFF:

OSUGA Mika: Research Associate, Publications

TONAI YUZURU: Associate Professor, SRC Head Librarian

ONGOING COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS

GRANTS-IN-AID FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH BY THE JAPAN SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF SCIENCE, EXCLUDING "GRANTS-IN-AID FOR JSPS FELLOWS" AND "GRANTS-IN-AID FOR PUBLICATION OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH RESULTS (SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE)"

Scientific Research on Innovative Areas

Headed by TABATA Shinichiro: "Comparative Research on Major Regional Powers in Eurasia" (2008–12)

Scientific Research A

Headed by Wolff, David: "Northeast Asia in the Cold War: New Materials and Perspectives" (2009–12)

Scientific Research B

Headed by HARA Teruyuki: "Modern History of the Sakhalin Island (Karafuto), as a Borderland Colony: Wars, States, and Regions" (2010–13)

Headed by IEDA Osamu: "Destruction and Reconstruction of Human and Natural Environments in Post-catastrophe Areas: Chernobyl, Ajka, and Fukushima" (2012–15)

Headed by MATSUZATO Kimitaka: "Comparing Competitive Authoritarianisms" (2012–14)

Headed by UYAMA Tomohiko: "Comparative History of Empires in the Contexts of Modernization and Globalization" (2009–12)

Scientific Research C

Headed by KIYAMA Katsuhiko: "Archaeological Research on the Mohe Tribes in the Far East" (2008–12)

Headed by KOMOTO Yasuko: "An Examination of 'Lamaist' Visual Materials in Modern Japan" (2012–16)

Headed by NAGANAWA Norihiro: "Empire and the Hajj: A View from Russia's Muslim Regions, 1865–1914" (2010–12)

Headed by TONAI Yuzuru: "Development of Theology in the Russian Orthodox Church and Filaret (Metropolitan of Moscow)" (2010–12)

Challenging Exploratory Research

Headed by KOSHINO Go: "Comparative Study on War Narratives in Belarus, Ukraine, and Sakhalin" (2012–14)

Grants-in-Aid for Young Scientists B

Headed by HANAMATSU Yasunori: "Integrated Management of Land and Ocean in the Amur-Okhotsk Ecosystem, and the Applicability of the Ramsar Convention" (2012–13)

Headed by HIRAYAMA Akihiro: "A Historical Study on the Construction of the General Mobilization System in Northern Vietnam under the Influence of the Cold War Politics during the First Indochina War Period" (2011–13)

Headed by INOUE Satoko: "A Comparative Study of the Polish Literature in the Polish-German Borderlands and the Polish Migrant Literature in Germany" (2011–14)

Headed by KOMATSU Hisae: "'Modernity' in Magazines: The Representations of Modern India in Hindi Women's Magazines" (2010–13)

Headed by **KUSANO Kayako**: “The Ruling Bureaucracy and Local Self-Government in Imperial Russia: Organization and Activities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs before the 1905 Revolution” (2010–12)

Headed by **MAEDA Shiho**: “Gender Studies on the Representations of War Memory in Russian Culture in the Latter Half of the Twentieth Century” (2012–14)

Headed by **NOMACHI Motoki**: “A Comprehensive Study of Kashubian Syntax” (2010–12)

Research Activity Startup

Headed by **HONDA Akiko**: “The Role of the Media in Totalitarianization of Soviet Architecture” (2012–13)

Headed by **KATO Mihoko**: “Russia’s Asia-Pacific Policy since 2000: From the Perspective of Response to a Rising China” (2011–12)

Headed by **SATO Keiji**: “The Issue of Unrecognized States in the Territory of the Post-Soviet Sphere” (2011–12)

Headed by **TATEISHI Yoko**: “Politics of Memory in the USSR” (2012–13)

VISITORS FROM ABROAD

Elmira Nogoibaeva (Analytical Center “Polis Asia,” Kyrgyzstan), January-March 2012: Comparative Analysis of Political Elites of Kyrgyzstan and Japan

Li Ting (Graduate Student, East China Normal University), April-October 2012: History Memory and Territorial Dispute between Japan and Russian: An Analysis Based on Indigenous Knowledge of Hokkaido

Sharyl Corrado (JSPS Fellow from the USA), May-December 2012: The “End of the Earth”: Sakhalin Island in the Russian Imperial Imagination, 1849–1925

Venelin Tsachevsky (Japan Foundation Fellow from Bulgaria), May-November 2012: Energy Management Policies in Southeastern Europe

Batsaikhan Ookhnoi (Japan Foundation Fellow from Mongolia), August 2012: Russo-Japanese Agreements in the 1910s and Mongolia

Anna Śledzińska-Adamczak (Japan Foundation Fellow from Poland), September 2012 – February 2013: Japanese Foreign Policy toward the Russian Federation in the Post-Cold War Era

GUEST LECTURERS FROM ABROAD

Antonina Akimova (Sakhalin State University, Russia), “Художественное своеобразие ‘Дневников’ Николая Японского,” February 14, 2012.

Matthew Light (University of Toronto, Canada), “Reform of the National Police in the Republic of Georgia since 2003: Causes, Consequences, and Lessons,” February 22, 2012.

[Indo-Japanese Dialogue on Eurasia II: Relations with China] **Nandan Unnikrishnan** (Observer Research Foundation, India), **Kulbhushan Warikoo** (Jawaharlal Nehru University, India), **Sanjay Pandey** (Jawaharlal Nehru University, India), **Rukmani Gupta** (Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, India), **YANG Cheng** (East China Normal University, China), “International Relations and Political Alignment”; **Arun Mohanty** (Jawaharlal Nehru University, Eurasian Foundation, India), **Chalapurath Chandrasekhar** (Jawaharlal Nehru University, India), **Christopher Len** (Institute for Security and Development Policy, Sweden), “Economy and Regional Order”; **H. S. Prabhakar** (Jawaharlal Nehru University,

India), **ZHAO Gancheng** (Shanghai Institute for International Studies, China), “Strategic Perspective and Future Dynamism,” February 27, 2012.

Engseng Ho (Duke University, USA), “Muslim Diasporas and Western Empires: Precedents to Bin Ladin,” March 2, 2012.

Ray Taras (USA), “Russia’s Identity in International Relations: Images, Perceptions, Misperceptions,” March 13, 2012.

Mikhail Malko (Institute of Energy, Belarus); **Evgeniia Stepanova** (Research Center for Radiation Medicine of Ukraine), “Let’s Take a Lesson from Chernobyl,” April 7, 2012.

Rickie Solinger (Independent Scholar, USA), “Crossing Borders for Babies: The Global Geography, Economics, and Politics of Motherhood,” April 11, 2012.

Johan van der Auwera (University of Antwerp, Belgium), “Yiddish Indefinite Pronouns: In Between Slavic and Germanic,” April 19, 2012.

S. Anandhi (Madras Institute of Development Studies, India), “Dalit Feminist Literature in South India,” April 28, 2012.

Boris Lanin (Academy of Education of Russia), “Alexandr Evlakhov: A Forgotten Genius,” May 16, 2012; “Эстетические и политические итоги литературы третьей волны,” July 14, 2012.

Tamara Nikonova (Voronezh State University, Russia), “Особенности литературного процесса русского зарубежья 1920–1930-х гг.,” July 14, 2012.

Ol’ga Berdnikova (Voronezh State University, Russia), “Творчество И. Бунина в контексте литературы русского зарубежья 1920–1930-х годов,” July 14, 2012.

Irina Kuznetsova (Kazan Federal University, Russia), “The Formation of Social Capital amongst Muslims in Kazan: The Role of Charities,” August 20, 2012.

Stepan Sivtsev-Dollu (State-owned Company “Sakha Film,” Russia), **Praskov’ia Sivtseva-Maksimova** (North-Eastern Federal University, Russia), “Национальное кино и литература в Республике Саха,” October 8, 2012.

Jana Kuzmikova (Institute of Slovak Literature, Slovakia), “The Character of the Russian in Slovak War-themed Literature,” October 16, 2012.

Ronelle Alexander (University of California, Berkeley), “Accent Shifts in South Slavic Dialects: The Significance of Retraction,” November 5, 2012.

Alessandro Stanziani (Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales, France), “Beyond World-system and Economic Backwardness: Russian Serfdom and Its Aftermath Revisited,” November 7, 2012.

[Hokkaido University & Seoul National University: 15th Joint Symposium Satellite Session “Political Situation in Post-Soviet Countries”] **CHUNG Jaewon** (Seoul National University, Korea), “Civil Society in Russia under the Authoritarian Regime in the Era of Neoliberal Globalization”; **JEONG Sarang** (Seoul National University, Korea), “Russia’s Foreign Policy toward the United States under Putin’s Presidency: The Issue of the US Forces in Central Asia,” December 8, 2012.

Thomas Lahusen (University of Toronto, Canada, Chemodan Films), **Gulzat Egemberdieva** (University of Toronto, Canada, Chemodan Films), “SRC & Chemodan Films Special Event: Yesterday, Soviet Union,” December 17, 2012 (Please refer to the essay on p. 5).

A Tale of Two Cities: Writing about Vilnius in Sapporo

Theodore Weeks (Southern Illinois University, USA/Foreign Fellow, SRC, 2012)
tadeusz@siu.edu



Monument to Gediminas, Grand Duke of Lithuania, who founded Vilnius in 1323

Few people in Lithuania, I imagine, could accurately point out Hokkaido on a map and probably few Sapporo-ites know much about Vilnius. So why choose Sapporo to begin writing a long-delayed book about the Lithuanian capital? The reasons are many: personal, professional, and practical. For an American born on another Japanese island (Okinawa), the opportunity to live for a few months in Japan was immensely attractive. The Slavic Research Center of Hokkaido University has an excellent international reputation and a number of former stipend-holders praised the center,

pointing out how much work they had gotten done there. And when I mentioned the possibility of spending time in Sapporo to historians in Warsaw, they all knew that Norman Davies had written part of a book there. A high recommendation indeed!

And in fact, my expectations for the SRC were fulfilled and – to use the Soviet phrase – over-fulfilled. Both colleagues and office staff went out of their way to make my visit easy and pleasant, countering Japanese bureaucracy (yes, it exists) with wonderful Japanese politeness (happily, that stereotype is also true). The library proved to be truly excellent, even for some Lithuanian publications which I did not expect to find in East Asia. Praise also must go to the warm and friendly teachers led by Professor Yamashita at the International Student Center of Hokkaido University who help foreign students (and others, like me) learn Japanese.

My research on Vilnius looks at a city where until the mid-twentieth century no one ethnic group formed the majority of the population. I am interested in how state power, ethnic identity, and city development worked together (or clashed) in the long period 1795 to 2000 (perhaps to 2004 when Lithuania joined NATO and the European Union). The crucial importance of the city for Jews, Poles, and Lithuanians (and for the Russians before 1914) is also a major theme of my research. In the nineteenth century, the Russian Empire attempted to place at the least a Russian “veneer” on the cityscape of Vilnius (for them, “Vil’na”) by giving streets Russian names, constructing Orthodox churches, and – in particular from the 1880s onward – by putting up monuments to Russian cultural (Pushkin) and political (Catherine the Great) figures. In the end, though, when the German army entered the city in September 1915 Wilna (as the Germans call the town) remained a Polish-Jewish city and traces of over a century of Russian rule were soon erased.



St. Anne's Church (Vilnius)

In the twentieth century, Vilnius changed hands a number of times: German occupations in the two world wars, Polish rule in the 1920s and 1930s, within the USSR from the 1940s, and finally as capital of an independent Lithuanian republic since 1990. With each change of political regime, the city was also directly affected, from street names to public art to the privileging of one ethnic group over another. Most tragically, nearly the entire 1939 population of the city was either murdered (in the case of Vilnius's once vibrant Jewish community) or expelled

(the Poles) during World War II and its aftermath. The building of a Soviet Lithuanian capital is also a fascinating episode but one that most present-day Lithuanians tend to shun, preferring to see the entire Soviet period as repressive and russifying. To be sure, there is something to that view, but at the same time the communists were also eager to encourage certain aspects of national culture – after all, the leadership in Soviet Lithuania was mainly Lithuanian by ethnicity and we should not forget that in the late 1980s the Lithuanian communists wisely (if possibly cynically) cut their ties to Moscow and embraced Lithuanian sovereignty. Since 1990 Vilnius has gone from an officially bilingual Soviet Lithuanian capital to a mainly monolingual (though tolerant, with plenty of Russian and Polish still heard on the streets) city. Once again street names and public monuments to key figures of the Lithuanian cultural and political past have been erected. This is, in a nutshell, the story that I wish to tell and that I began writing in Sapporo.

Before coming to Sapporo, I knew that this was a city very different from Vilnius. Like most Americans of my generation, I knew of Sapporo mainly in the context of the 1972 winter Olympics and as Japan's northernmost big city. I did not realize, however, just how young the city is. It came as a surprise to me to learn that even after 1945 Hakodate (I will admit that I had not even heard the name of that charming town) was more prominent. The name William S. Clark was also unknown to me. Having studied and worked at European and Israeli universities, I was surprised to find a university campus very much like at home. And there were even Poplar and Elm Streets, just like in Carbondale, Illinois. In fact, the entire city reminded me much more of an American than a European city and not just because of the frequency of convenience stores with American names (Lawson, 7-11 ...).

Looking back at my five months in Sapporo, I am both astonished that my fellowship period sped by so quickly and pleased (though never, of course, entirely content) with the work that I managed to get accomplished. I left Sapporo with some kind of version of every chapter in the future book, from one on "historical beginnings" (to 1795) all the way to a consideration of the end of Soviet rule and the creation of a Lithuanian nation-state's capital (1980–2000). I met a number of pleasant colleagues in Sapporo and at talks I gave in Kyoto, and I have a much better idea (though of course still very superficial) of how higher education and research institutes in Japan work.

At my own home university during a normal semester, I spend far more time on teaching than research. One course I inevitably offer every year (sometimes every semester) is World

History 1500–2000. My stay in Hokkaido allowed me to read a few dozen books on Japanese history, to learn a bit more about the Ainu people, and to learn a bit about the Japanese language. I am grateful to Yamamoto-san at the SRC for showing me how to type phonetically (“にほん”) and get kanji (日本!) to pop up. For an American, Japan is a perplexing combination of the familiar (“バター”, “ガールフレンド,” boys in baseball uniforms) and the very foreign (signs in kanji, traffic on the “wrong” side of the road, completely baffling packaged foods at the grocery store). In my five months, I learned to like eating “fried sea monster” (as I called it), learned at least hiragana and katakana (though still confusing シ and ツ with ソ), and used the phrase “お願いします” a great deal. Perhaps most importantly, I learned just how ignorant I am about history, culture, language, and everyday life in Japan. As I repeatedly say to students, education begins with a question. After five months at the Slavic Research Center of Hokkaido University, I know enough about Sapporo, Hokkaido, and Japan to have many, many new questions.

Vilnius – a city founded nearly a millennium ago and claimed by diverse national-ethnic-religious groups – could hardly be more different from Sapporo, as a major city not a century old, overwhelmingly populated by ethnic Japanese and never ruled by a foreign power. After five months at the SRC, though, both cities are part of my own life. I return to Vilnius in a few days to finish up some research and I hope to get back to Sapporo before too long. After all, it is difficult to find おにぎり and fried sea monster for lunch in Lithuania.

Впечатление о Саппоро в целом

PANG Dongmei (Heilongjiang University, China/Foreign Fellow, SRC, 2012)

Раньше я только по телевизору, через Интернет либо по рассказам знакомых знала, что в Японии находится остров Хоккайдо и на острове Хоккайдо имеется красивый город Саппоро. Однако я никогда не была в Японии, поэтому не было шанса посещать этот город. Неожиданно судьба дала мне возможность побывать в Саппоро. И вот я как приглашенный исследователь буду работать в Центре славянских исследований при университете Хоккайдо целых 5 месяцев. Хотя я прибыла в Саппоро только полмесяца назад, но сам город Саппоро и его местные жители произвели на меня глубокое впечатление.

Встреча в аэропорту

31 октября 2012-го года я прилетела в Саппоро. В аэропорту меня встретил Такара, который обучается в магистратуре университета Хоккайдо. Несмотря на то, что он почти не говорит по-русски, а я плохо понимаю по-английски (и вообще не говорю по-японски), мы с Такарой все-таки по дороге поговорили по-английски. У Такары я узнала, что он занимается историей, раньше учился 4 года в Токио, у него две сестры: одна из них говорит по-китайски, но сейчас она работает в другом городе. Всю дорогу мы разговаривали о том о сём, мне было очень весело поболтать с этим талантливым парнем. Очень приятно познакомиться с Такарой!



Фото автора

Знакомство с Центром славянских исследований



Гинкговая дорога

ферма при университете Хоккайдо. Каждый день я хожу мимо Второй фермы на работу. Все дома во Второй ферме, в отличие от обычных зданий, построены из дерева. Эти деревянные дома, стильные и естественные, внушают мне чистое и спокойное чувство. Что касается гинкговой дороги, то можно сказать, что мне больше всего нравится эта чудесная дорога. По обеим сторонами дороги растут высокие и аккуратные гинкго, которые как часовые защищают прохожих. На деревьях еще жёлтые листья, которые светятся под солнцем как золото и дарят прохожим хорошее настроение. Мне говорили, что листья гинкго не только удивляют людей красотой, его сушеные листья могут применяться как противокашлевое, противоастматическое и болеутоляющее средство. Кроме того, плоды гинкго еще очень полезны для здоровья.

Помимо природных красот кампус университета Хоккайдо дает мне духовную поддержку, потому что в кампусе стоит памятник Кларку, основателю университета.

На одном очередном собрании Центра славянских исследований Хоккайдо университета нас, троих иностранных приглашенных исследователей (я из Китая, Вадим из Германии и Аркадий из России) познакомили с работниками Центра. Профессора и сотрудники, которые работают в Центре, очень по-доброму относятся к нам, иностранцам. Чувствую здесь себя как дома. Мне сразу же понравился Центр, где находится библиотека с богатыми коллекциями книг. Уверена в том, что здесь, в Центре славянских исследований, мы обязательно добьемся больших успехов в своих собственных исследовательских сферах.

Красивый и многообразный кампус университета Хоккайдо

В начале ноября кампус университета Хоккайдо очень красив: везде деревья с разноцветными листьями и зеленая трава. Особенное впечатление оставили гинкговая дорога и Вторая



Памятник W.S. Кларку

Слова Кларка «Be Ambitious» как девиз университета Хоккайдо все время вдохновляют меня идти вперёд и преодолевать трудности. Такой он, мой любимый красивый и разнообразный кампус университета Хоккайдо!

Питание, горячий источник и будущий праздник снежных скульптур в Саппоро

Говорят, что построенный в самом начале эпохи Мэйдзи (70-е гг. XIX в.) на берегах р. Тоёхира, Саппоро был спроектирован по образцу старой части Киото, и поэтому до сих пор план города напоминает решетку, где все улицы пересекаются под прямыми углами. Мне нравится аккуратная планировка улиц Саппоро, где невозможно заблудиться. В свободное время я одна либо с друзьями постоянно гуляю по городу. В Саппоро имеется множество ресторанов и кафе, предлагающих блюда японской и европейской кухонь, это решает все проблемы с питанием. Устав от прогулки, мы с друзьями постоянно проводим время на горячих источниках, занимаясь исключительно своим телом.

Кроме того, мне говорили, что в парке Одори в феврале года проводится Снежный фестиваль, собирающий скульпторов, которые создают причудливые композиции из льда. Я с нетерпением жду наступления февраля для того, чтобы своими глазами увидеть всемирно известный праздник снежных скульптур.



Осенняя красота во Второй ферме

Гостеприимные жители Саппоро

Гостеприимные жители Саппоро оставили прекрасное впечатление. Однажды мы с подругой договорились, что встретимся у входа ботанического сада при университете Хоккайдо. Дело в том, что в то время я плохо знала дорогу к ботаническому саду, поэтому по пути я спросила одного японца, который гулял со своим сыном, как мне добраться до ботанического сада. Тот мужчина заботливо проводил меня к выходу из университета и указал мне дорогу к саду. Когда я прошла вперед примерно 200 метров, вдруг меня догнал мальчик, который только что с папой вместе гулял по университету. Повернувшись, я заметила, что тот мужчина, которого я спросила дорогу, бежал ко мне. Он, запыхавшись, подбежал ко мне и сказал, что в тот день ботанический сад, может быть, закрыт (но по какой причине я плохо поняла из-за языкового барьера). Я ему с сыном выразила искреннюю благодарность и сказала, что моя подруга меня ждет у входа в сад, поэтому я должна туда идти. Поступки этих японского отца с сыном меня очень тронули. Я навсегда запомню данный теплый момент.

Эти незабываемые и драгоценные впечатления о городе Саппоро, его жителях и университете Хоккайдо глубоко запали мне в душу!

Five Months in the SRC and Wintry Sapporo

Taras Kuzio (University of Toronto, Canada/Foreign Fellow, SRC, 2011)



The author

Our five month visiting fellowship in the Slavic Research Center (SRC), Hokkaido University, has come to an end and it is time to return home from Japan. I am grateful to the SRC fellowship for permitting me to complete my 1,000 page manuscript on *Ukraine. A Contemporary History* from 1953 to the present. The manuscript is currently under review with a University publisher in North America.

Our time at the SRC could not have been productive without the assistance of three factors.

Firstly, we will leave with fond memories of the helpfulness and devotion to duty of the office staff, particularly Mika Osuga, and of course the hospitality of the Director Professor Tetsuo Mochizuki. We will cherish the memories of different SRC parties at Christmas, Graduation and other events where Professor Mochizuki ensured our glasses were always full with the Japanese elixir of life, sake.

I would like to add a personal thank you to Professor Kimitaka Matsuzato, Japan's leading expert on Ukraine and the non-Russian republics of the former

Soviet Union, for supporting my application to be a visiting fellow at the SRC.

Secondly, it would of course have been impossible for representatives from seven different regions of the former Soviet Union to complete the five month visiting fellowship without the guidance and leadership of the elder brother. In this case the duty of elder brother leadership fell to my office neighbor Professor Vladimir Shishkin.

As we know from our common Soviet history, the leadership of the Russian elder brother is essential to ensuring the direction, fulfillment, commitment and productivity of the non-Russian peoples of the family of Soviet nations. During our visiting fellowship we toasted on numerous occasions "*po bratski*" [as brothers] in the full knowledge our elder brother would obtain two thirds of the bottle but nevertheless, happy in the knowledge a third would be left to be divided among seven non-Russians.

Thirdly, the long Hokkaido winter would have been less bearable without the assistance of Professor Nona Shakhnazaryan. Her buoyant optimism and zest for life, her fantastic Armenian cooking, coffees and teas, as well as her generosity in offering her office for after work informal drinks and introducing us to her two sisters, facilitated an informal and collegial atmosphere on the 5th floor of SRC. Professor Shakhnazaryan brought three speakers to the SRC who added to the vibrancy of the intellectual exchange and discourse of the Center.

Sapporo, which I have likened to a smaller "Japanese New York," is only one part of the fascinating history of Hokkaido which in the nineteenth century played the double role of an American-style "Manifest Destiny" Wild West and British-style Sydney, Australia, where convicts were sent. As the Rough Guide to Japan says, the Susukino district of Sapporo is the best entertainment district in Japan north of Tokyo and therefore, after working our usual 12 hour days in the SRC, there was always plenty to fill our time in the wintry evenings.

Visiting fellows were able to experience other parts of beautiful Japan, in my case with my wife Oksana who spent Christmas and the New Year in Japan. Big and crazy, but incredibly vibrant, Tokyo, the spiritual and more laid back Kyoto and, in my case, also Shizuoka and spending New Year's Eve in the Japanese Alps sleeping on a floor in a *ryokan* (traditional Japanese Inn) in Takayama.

We will all leave Japan with fond memories that we will cherish for a long time.

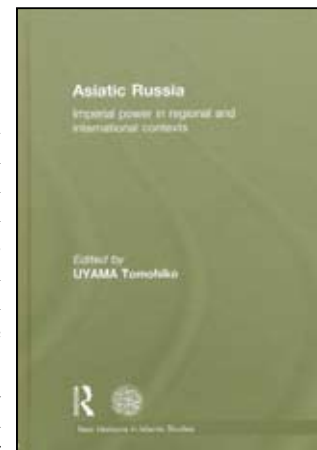


Peaceful moment after the working time

PUBLICATIONS (2011–2012)

UYAMA Tomohiko, ed., *Asiatic Russia: Imperial Power in Regional and International Contexts* (London: Routledge, 2011).

The chapters in this book originated from the SRC Winter International Symposium, held on December 5–7, 2007. The authors (Ricarda Vulpius, Hamamoto Mami, Gulmira Sultangalieva, Matsuzato Kimitaka, Anatolii Remnev, Sergei Abashin, Noda Jin, Robert D. Crews, Kimura Satoru, Nikolay Tsyrempilov, Salavat Iskhakov, James H. Meyer, and Uyama Tomohiko) include both scholars of Russian history and specialists in Oriental and Islamic studies. They explore the interactions between power and people in Central Asia, Siberia, the Volga-Urals, and the Caucasus from the eighteenth to the early twentieth centuries, drawing on a wealth of Russian archival materials and Turkic, Persian, and Tibetan sources. The variety of topics discussed in the book includes the Russian idea of a “civilizing mission,” the system of governor-generalships, imperial geography and demography, roles of Muslim and Buddhist networks in imperial rule and foreign policy, social change in the Russian Protectorate of Bukhara, and Muslim reformist and national movements. The book portrays the Russian Empire neither as a “prison of nations” nor as a benign protector of its subjects, but as a space where representatives of official and unofficial institutions, and local people of every stripe, interacted with each other in an asymmetric manner.



Slavic Studies no. 59, 2012, refereed journal of the SRC (in Japanese with summaries in English or Russian).

Acta Slavica Iaponica vols. XXXI and XXXII, 2012, refereed journal of the SRC (in English and Russian).

MOCHIZUKI Tetsuo, ed., “The Volga as a Cultural Sphere,” *Slavic Eurasia Papers* no. 4 (Sapporo: SRC, 2012) (in Japanese).

TABATA Shinichiro and EBUCHI Naoto, eds., “Environment and Economy in the Pan-Okhotsk Region,” *Slavic Eurasian Library* no. 11 (Sapporo: Hokkaido University Press, 2012) (in Japanese).

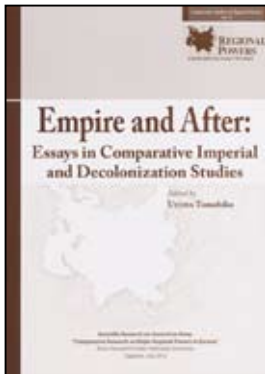
OSUGA Mika, ed., *List of Researchers in the Field of Slavic Eurasian Studies (9th edition)* (Sapporo: SRC, 2012) (in Japanese).

Publications by the project “Comparative Research: Major Regional Powers in Eurasia”

UYAMA Tomohiko, ed., “A Kaleidoscope of Comparative Imperial Studies: Interim Report of Group 4,” *Comparative Studies on Regional Powers* no. 7 (Sapporo: SRC, 2012) (in Japanese).

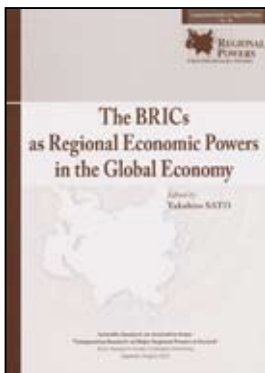
Wolff, David, ed., “The Alliances and Borders in the Making and Unmaking of Regional Powers,” *Comparative Studies on Regional Powers* no. 8 (Sapporo: SRC, 2012) (in Japanese).

UYAMA Tomohiko, ed., “Empire and After: Essays in Comparative Imperial and Decolonization Studies,” *Comparative Studies on Regional Powers* no. 9 (Sapporo: SRC, 2012) (in English).



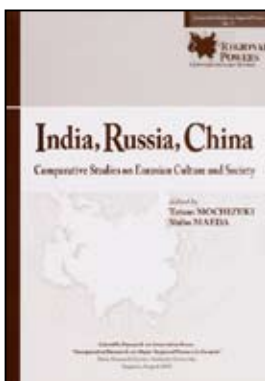
This volume collects papers presented at conferences and workshops related to Group 4 (Imperiology) of the project “Comparative Research on Major Regional Powers in Eurasia.” The first two chapters by Alexander Morrison and Uyama Tomohiko try to theoretically contribute to comparative imperial studies mainly using the examples of Russian Central Asia and British India. Fukuda Hiroshi’s article analyzes survival strategies for small nations in Central Europe located between empires, focusing on the Slovak statesman, Milan Hodža. The other five papers by Akita Shigeru, Penny Von Eschen, Niu Jun, Sergey Radchenko, and Mridula Mukherjee shed light on various aspects of decolonization and the Cold War in the 1950s and 1960s. In particular, they demonstrate how the postwar international order in Asia was woven by the internal politics of the United States, the Soviet Union, China, and India, and by their ambitious battles for hearts and minds in newly independent countries. All the chapters are available in PDF format on the SRC’s website: <http://src-h.slav.hokudai.ac.jp/rp/publications/no09/contents.html>.

SATO Takahiro, ed., “The BRICs as Regional Economic Powers in the Global Economy,” *Comparative Studies on Regional Powers* no. 10 (Sapporo: SRC, 2012) (in English).



This issue was the subject of ten papers presented at the fifth Indo-Japanese Dialogue on “The BRICS as Regional Economic Powers in the Global Economy,” held at Jawaharlal Nehru University in India on December 26 and 27, 2011. They covered a wide range of aspects, including international economy, political economy, industry, productivity, macro economy, and inequality in the BRICs. In particular, KONNO Yugo compared trade liberalization in Russia, China, and India, and HOSHINO Masashi compared regional growth convergence across the BRICs. They tried to examine economic development peculiar to these countries through a comparative analysis of them. All the chapters are available in PDF format on the SRC’s website: <http://src-h.slav.hokudai.ac.jp/rp/publications/no10/contents.html>.

MOCHIZUKI Tetsuo and MAEDA Shiho, eds., “India, Russia, China: Comparative Studies on Eurasian Culture and Society,” *Studies on Regional Powers* no. 11 (Sapporo: SRC, 2012) (in English).



The 11th issue of “Regional Powers, Cross-Disciplinary Studies,” a non-periodic publication, has been published. India, Russia, China: Comparative Studies on Eurasian Culture and Society by MOCHIZUKI Tetsuo and MAEDA Shiho is a compilation of 12 reports from the report “Comparative Aspects on Culture and Religion: India, Russia, China” submitted at the international symposium held by the Bangalore Cultural Society Research Center (Bangalore, India) from September 15 to 16, 2011 in Group 6 “Culture.” The symposium has participating researchers from India and Japan, but also from Great Britain, Germany and the United States, giving it an international flavor. A heated debate occurred at the site, the results of which were reflected in the journal. We closed in on the various cultural identities of modern India, China and Russia in the multifaceted section on approaches (intellectual property, gender) from the Asian perspective on societal roles, art & national identity, intercultural understanding & interaction, the issue of identity in popular culture as well as universal issues. The minutes of the meetings can be downloaded from the Slavic Research Center website. All the chapters are available in PDF format on the SRC’s website: <http://src-h.slav.hokudai.ac.jp/rp/publications/no11/contents.html>.

Publications by the Global COE Program “Reshaping Japan’s Border Studies”

Eurasia Border Review vol. 3, nos. 1 and 2, 2012, refereed journal in English.

Eurasia Border Review vol. 3, special issue, “China’s Post-Revolutionary Borders, 1940s–1960s” (Please refer to the essay on p. 2).

Japan Border Review no. 3, 2012, refereed journal in Japanese with summaries in English.

THE LIBRARY

1) COMPLETION OF RENOVATION OF THE BUILDING OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

The renovation work of the building of the University Library was completed in March 2012, and relocation of its library materials was undertaken up until October 2012. So all library materials are available at the University Library.

We would like to point out that books in Latin script in the “Slavic Collection” have been absorbed into the European books on the fourth floor and only “Cyrillic Books” and “Dissertations” remain as separate sections in the University Library.

2) DIGITIZED OLD MAPS OF SAKHALIN

The Library has developed a small website and opened to the public two atlases of Imperial Russia and other materials from 2009. We modified and expanded it a little in September 2012. Four old maps of Sakhalin from 1865 to 1921 were newly included in it, and visitors can see them in detail and download files from the website.

The URL of the site is: <http://srcmaterials-hokudai.jp/>

3) INTRODUCTION OF THE INTEGRUM DATABASE

In April 2012, the Integrum Database was introduced. It covers many newspapers, periodicals, and other materials of Russian and former Soviet Union countries. It is available within networks of Hokkaido University campuses.

Tonai Yuzuru

Some scenes from the year-end party (December 14, 2012)



Various homemade dishes are on the table



“Do you know where Santa Claus’ homeland is?”



Singing a song titled “I want to be a cat”



Professors, graduate students, and many kinds of staff are altogether

Essays

IWASHITA Akihiro and David Wolff

Interdisciplinary Cooperation at the SRC: Part I: The Making of the PRC’s Borders: 1940s–1960s p. 2

Thomas Lahusen, MOCHIZUKI Tetsuo, and David Wolff

Interdisciplinary Cooperation at the SRC : Part II: From the “Deep Country” to Multinational Harbin: Chemodan Films visits the SRC p. 5

Theodore Weeks

A Tale of Two Cities: Writing about Vilnius in Sapporo p. 19

PANG Dongmei

Впечатление о Саппоро в целом..... p. 21

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