

POSTSCRIPT

The First Indo-Japan Joint Seminar was held on the topic "Tradition and Modernity" at India International Centre, New Delhi, from 5th to 8th March 1990, under the chairmanship of late Professor Sukhmoy Chakravarty, then Chairman of Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), who first proposed for active academic exchanges in social sciences and humanities between India and Japan. For the purpose of implementing the seminar the ICSSR formed a Steering Committee consisting of five prominent scholars, i.e. Profs. P.C. Joshi, P.A. Narasimha Murthy, Yogendra Singh, Sabyasachi Bhattacharya, Savitri Vishwanathan and two Executive Directors of the ICSSR. From Japan four scholars participated who were Prof. Chie Nakane, leader of the delegation, Profs. Toru Matsui, Sengaku Mayeda and Noriko Mayeda (Prof. Noboru Karashima was represented by his paper).

The Second Indo-Japan Joint Seminar was organized by Prof. Chie Nakane and held on the theme of "Understanding India and Japan in the Process of Modernization" at the Tokyo Garden Palace in Tokyo, from 10th to 11th September 1992. At the end of the Second Symposium, an agreement which gives a broad framework for future cooperation between the two countries, was signed by Prof. D.N. Dhanagare, Member-Secretary of ICSSR, and Prof. Chie Nakane, Chairperson of the Committee for Japan-India Academic Exchange. The Committee for Japan-India Academic Exchange in the fields of Social Sciences and Humanities was officially formed on the 22nd of October, 1992 after this Seminar by the request of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS). It consisted of 6 scholars: Profs. Chie Nakane (Chairperson), Noboru Karashima, Toru Matsui, Sengaku Mayeda, Haruka Yanagisawa, Hiroichi Yamaguchi. The results of these first and second Seminars were brought together into one volume, titled *Tradition and Modernity: India and Japan towards the Twenty-First Century*, edited by Profs. Yamaguchi and Yanagisawa, and published by Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers, 1997.

The Third Indo-Japan Symposium was organized by Prof. Chie Nakane and Prof. Masao Naito and held on the theme "Towards Understanding Each Other: Fifty Years History of India-Japan Mutual Studies" in commemoration of the Golden Jubilee of India's Independence at the International House of Japan in Tokyo under the auspices of ICSSR, the Japanese Association for South Asian Studies (JASAS), the Institute for the Study of Languages and Culture of Asia and Africa (ILCAA, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies), JSPS, Indian Embassy in Japan and the International House of Japan. The report of this Symposium was published as a book entitled *Towards Understanding Each Other: Fifty Years History of India-Japan Mutual Studies*, ed. by Prof. Chie Nakane and Prof. Masao Naito, Tokyo: The Committee for Japan-India Academic Exchange, 1999.

The Fourth Indo-Japan Symposium was organized by Prof. K.V. Kesavan and held on the theme "Socio-Economic Change since the Economic Liberalization in India" at the newly built office building of ICSSR, New Delhi, January 1999. The report of this symposium was published as a book *Economic Liberalization in India: Japanese & Indian Perspectives*, ed. by Prof. K.V. Kesavan, New Delhi: The Indian Council of Social Science Research and Manak, 2001.

The Fifth Indo-Japan Symposium was organized by Profs. Sengaku Mayeda and Masahiro Shimoda and held on the theme "Spread and Influence of Hinduism and Buddhism in Asia" by the Committee for Japan-India Academic Exchange at Tokyo International Forum, Tokyo, from 10th to 11th June 2000 under the auspices of JSPS and the ICSSR and in generous collaboration of Indian Embassy, Tokyo. The Indian delegations consisted of Profs. S.R. Bhatt and R.R. Pandey (Indian Council of Philosophical Research), Dr. Sudha Malaiya (Indian Council of Historical Research), and Profs. N. Vijaya and J.K. Bajaj (ICSSR). The Japanese counterparts were Profs. M. Shimoda and M. Tachikawa, Profs. Yamagishi and S. Shigematsu, The report of this symposium is this book in preparation.

The Sixth Indo-Japan Symposium was organized by Prof. V.R. Panchamukhi, Chairman of ICSSR and held on the theme "Fifty Years of India-Japanese Relations: In Celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Establishment of Indo-Japan Diplomatic Relations" at the ICSSR from 9th to 11th January, 2003 under the auspices of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science and the Indian Council of Social Science of Research. The Japanese delegation consisted of Profs. Takanobu Takahashi, Masanori Koga, Tamaki Matsuoka, Hiroshi Sato, Haruka Yanagisawa and Sengaku Mayeda (Chairperson of the Committee).

The Committee for Japan-India Academic Exchange, whose chairperson is presently Professor Tsukasa Mizushima, University of Tokyo, has earnestly requested the ICSSR to continue to hold the Indo-Japan Symposium but unfortunately could not proceed further for the unknown reason. However, it is sincerely hoped that such kind of Japan-India seminar in the fields of social sciences and humanities will be reorganized in future to promote a strong, deep and lasting cultural and spiritual tie between India and Japan which will contribute towards the stability and harmony of the world as well as Asia. (Sengaku Mayeda)