

**Support Program for Improving Graduate School Education**  
**The Center for Comparative Japanese Studies**  
**Education for Women As Leaders Program**  
**THE 4<sup>th</sup> PUBLIC LECTURE in 2009**

<b>Speaker</b>	WANG, Xiaofu (Professor, Beijing University)
<b>Topic</b>	International Relations of East Asia in Sui and Tang Dynasties
<b>Time</b>	October 30 <sup>th</sup> (Friday), 2009 17:30~19:30
<b>Place</b>	Faculty of Letters & Education, Building 1, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Large Conference Room
<b>Moderator</b>	FURUSE, Natsuko (Professor, Ochanomizu University)

On October 30<sup>th</sup> (Friday), 2009, we held a public lecture inviting a guest speaker Professor WANG, Xiaofu from the Department of History at Beijing University and the Center for Research on Ancient Chinese History. Professor WANG specializes in ancient Chinese history, in particular the history of north-east Asia including the relationships between the Sui and Tang Dynasties, the Tibetan Empire and the Arabs. He has published *The Political History of the Tang Dynasty, the Tibetan Empire and the Arabs* (Peking University Press, 1992) and *The High Tang Period and the Political Situations in Northeast Asia* (edit., The Shanghai Dictionary publication Company, 2003). Also he is a member of the Japan-China Joint History Research Committee from 2006 to 2009.

On the day, Professor WANG spoke of the international relations in the East Asia, focusing on the 7th century. On the basis of the relation between the establishment of the Sui and Tang Dynasties and the countries in the Korean Peninsula, such as Goguryeo, Baekje, Silla, and the influence the unification of Silla and the building of Bo Hai had over the East Asia, he discussed the relation between China and Japan – mainly on the Battle of Baekgang. It is noteworthy that he discussed all of these issues consistently from the viewpoint of the Sui and Tang Dynasties.

At the beginning of the lecture, President HANYU, Sawako, made an opening remark; she did so also for the lecture by Professor HUANG, Zhengjian (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences) in the Initiatives for Attractive Education in Graduate Schools. In the conference room, we had Professor KISHIMOTO, Mio (the Ming and Qing Dynasties history), Professor OGIHARA, Chizuru (ancient Japanese literature) and graduate and undergraduate students from Ochanomizu University; from outside the campus community, we had Professor IKEDA, On, Professor KUBOZOE, Yoshifumi, Professor KEGASAWA, Yasunori, Professor TAKHASHI, Tsuguo, Professor KANEKO, Shuichi, and Professor IWAMI, Kiyohiro, all in Chinese ancient history; Professor SUZUKI, Yasutami, Professor SHINKAWA, Tokio, Professor ENOMOTO, Junichi, all in Japanese ancient history; Professor GUO, Run-Tao (the Ming and Qing Dynasties history) from the Department of History at Beijing University, Professor Charlotte Von VERSCHUER (Japanese ancient history) from l'Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, and many young researchers and graduate students in Chinese ancient history or Japanese ancient history from other schools. With all this attendance, we had lively and exciting discussions.

From the viewpoint of Japanese history, the Battle of Baekgang was one of the most significant historical events in ancient history. But Professor WANG, from the historical viewpoint centered on the Tang Dynasty, presented his understanding that the most pressing issue for the Tang Dynasty during that time was the relationship with Goguryeo, and that the Battle of Baekgang was a mere encounter battle. For the reason they had the Battle of Baekgang he pointed out Japan's ego and lack of recognition; Professor ENOMOTO, Junichi in Japanese ancient history counter-argued that Japan was confident in their victory in view of the relation between the Tang Dynasty and Goguryeo since the Dynasty had been just built then.

It became obvious that Japanese understanding on the Japan-China relation in the ancient time has not been fully conveyed to China and vice versa. The most fruitful result of this meeting was that we realized the very necessity to construct some historical understandings shared by both countries, through the exchanges with hardworking efforts like this time, not just by official efforts such as the Japan-China Joint History Research Committee.

Professor WANG was staying Japan as a visiting researcher at Ryukoku University in Kyoto from August till December 2009. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to him for coming to Tokyo to give

this lecture despite his tight schedule. Professor WADA, Hidenobu (Chinese literature) double-checked the translated version of the speech distributed that day. Ms. BAI, Lianjie (doctoral student, Ochanomizu University) and Ms. GAO, Dandan (international research student, Ochanomizu University) worked as translators during the meeting, with the help of Ms. SHIGETA, Kasumi (doctoral student, Ochanomizu University). I would like to extend my appreciation to them.

(Professor, Ochanomizu University, FURUSE, Natsuko)