

Dmitry Streltsov.

Problems of the Historical Past in the Postwar Relations Between Japan and East Asian Countries

This article discusses the role and place of some of the problems of the historical past of Japan's relations with the neighboring countries, including the issue of formal apologies, the problem of comfort women", as well as visits by the Japanese officials to the Yasukuni shrine. The article argues that diplomatic, economic, cultural and other contacts with China, Japan and the Republic of Korea face great difficulties because of the lack of progress in settling these problems. Detailed analysis addresses the causes of the present complicated situation, including those connected with the differences in the approach of Japan and its East Asian neighbours towards the historical legacy of the Second World War, as the phenomenon of "time lag" in raising these issues in the international political agenda.

Keywords: The problems of the historical past, the complex of victimacy, "comfort women", official apologies, history textbooks, visits to the Yasukuni Shrine, the Murayama statement, the slogan of "ending the post-war regime".

Oleg Paramonov.

Changes in the Basic Principles of Tokyo's Defense Policy: Reasons and Implications

In 2014 the Cabinet of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe removed an embargo on arms export and approved a reinterpretation of the Japanese Constitution, extending the scope of the right to self-defense to include the defense of an ally under attack. These moves will help Japan and the United States to revise the defense cooperation guidelines to scope the alliance with so-called "gray-zone emergency situation". At the same time the value of Japan as a partner from the view of the countries sharing similar regional security concerns may arise.

Keywords: collective self-defense, arms export, gray-zone emergency situations, missile defense, US-Japan defense cooperation guidelines, proactive contribution to peace

Oleg Arin.

Japan and the theories of International Relations

Among Western theorists of international relations there is a perception that in Japan exist no Theories of International Relations (TIR). This article contends that TIR in Japan exist, but they are fundamentally different from western versions both in content and in terms of problems. A specific type of Japanese mindset, scientific traditions and modern practices of Japanese scientists cause it. Even in those cases when they borrow theoretical ideas of Western schools, primarily American's, they put them in their Japanese content, which are very different from the original. This moment should be permanently considered when studying TIR with Japanese characteristics.

Keywords: Japan, theories of international relations (TIR), the Japanese mindset, the concept of power, the might of the state, civil state, security, national interests

Varvara Akimova, Irina Tikhotskaya

The New Energy Strategy of Japan and the Development of Solar Energy

The article considers a new energy strategy of Japan and analyses the development of solar energy, that experiences a real boom. Special focus made on the analysis of solar energy location factors and new industry in its projects of utilizing the energy of the sun allowed authors to draw a conclusion that Japan will be among the leaders in this field.

Keywords: new energy strategy, solar energy, photovoltaics, solar modules, "solar boom", megasolar power plants.

Andrey Belov.

The Main Tendencies in the Reforms of Universities in Japan

Reduction of government spending and decline in the number of high school graduates accelerated university reforms in Japan. The reforms have serious impact on access, quality and financing of university education. The Japan's experience in university reforms could be useful in several countries, including Russia.

Keywords: universities of Japan, access to education, quality of education, financing of education, university reforms.

Larisa Zhilina.

Japan in the mirror of the recent opinion polls: Impressions of One Another's Countries: Japan and South Korea

The author estimates the influence of Japan and shows some changes of position of Japan in the World. The article examines in details The First Joint Japan-Korea Public Opinion Poll which was carried out in South Korea and Japan in 2013 and analyses the results of this survey.

Keywords: Public Opinion Polls, Country Ratings, Reasons for Negative-Positive Impressions, Japan, Republic of Korea.

Alyona Mizinova.

The Problem of Labour Mobilization of Women in Contemporary Japan

The article describes the changes which are taking place in the structure of female employment in Japan over the past few decades. Particular attention is paid to the measures of recruiting more women into the labour market, which were initiated by Prime Minister Abe as the part of the plan to revive the Japanese economy.

Keywords: abenomics, womenomics, labor conditions, employment rate, demographic situation, gender discrimination, equal employment opportunities

Svyatoslav Polkhov.

Concerning the Discussion around the Circumstances of Creating the Law Code of the Ouchi Clan

The article examines the «Ouchi-shi okitegaki», law code of Ouchi clan, created in the end of XVth century. The author argues that this collection of laws was drawn up in order to ensure the smooth transfer of power from daimyo Ouchi Masahiro to his son Yoshioki. The appearance of this code of laws reflected the maturation of the Ouchi clan power structure. According to the author, the Ouchi law code could be used in judicial practice. It could also be used as a model for drafting new ordinances and regulations in the Ouchi house.

Keywords: Sengoku period, sengoku daimyo, law, Ouchi clan, «Ouchi-shi okitegaki», Ouchi Masahiro

Marina Kovalchuk.

Mori Arinori – The Contemplations about Russia. The Trip to St Petersburg in Summer 1866.

The article contains the analysis of “Koro Kiko” (“Diary of a sea trip to Russia”) – the travel notes of Mori Arinori (1847–1889), the first minister of education in Japan (1885–1889), written by him during his travel to St. Petersburg in summer 1866. This document is of an important research value because it allows to understand the idea about Russia in the minds of Japanese society and the mechanism of its formation during bakumatsu period (1853–1869) at a very early stage of Russian-Japanese relations development.

Keywords: history of Russian-Japanese relations, Bakumatsu, Mori Arinori, Japanese students in Russia, Laurence Oliphant.

Vasily Molodyakov.

The Image of Japan in the Anti-Allied Propaganda in the United States during the First World War: 'The Fatherland' Weekly, August 1914 – February 1917.

This article analyzes contents and forms of anti-Japanese propaganda in the United States as a kind of anti-Allied propaganda, from the beginning of the First World War in Europe (August 1914) up to the termination of the diplomatic relations between the USA and Germany (February 1917). The paper deals mainly with 'The Fatherland' weekly as a major and most influential tool of pro-German propaganda in the country. To achieve this aim the weekly used then-existed racist and nationalist prejudices of the Americans, pictured the Japanese as "others" and "aliens", tried to show Japan as a menace to the USA.

Keywords: Japan, the USA, propaganda, image, weekly, race, discrimination

Vladimir Datsyshen.

The Russian-Japanese relations in Northern Sakhalin during the Japanese occupation (1920–1925).

The article considers controversial history of Russian-Japanese relations in the North Sakhalin during the Japanese occupation from 1920–1925. Escalation of the situation in the region in 1920 led to the entry of Japanese troops. Under the occupation of Japan, North Sakhalin was actively exploited by Japanese entrepreneurs displacing Russian competitors. Japanese occupation authorities did not only engaged in the exploitation of natural resources of Northern Sakhalin, but also invested in the development of transport infrastructure, preservation of the most important fisheries resources. Japanese authorities paid much attention to the development of public education in the Sakhalin territory, the Japanese tried to win the sympathy of the rising new generation of Russians. The Soviet leadership did not accept the legitimacy of the Japanese occupation of Northern Sakhalin and always demanded the withdrawal of troops. Conflict situation in the Russian-Japanese relations in connection with the occupation of Northern Sakhalin was resolved with the help of compromise through mutual concessions.

Keywords: Russian-Japanese relations, North Sakhalin, the occupation regime, economic development, fisheries, oil production, the Soviet-Japanese negotiations.

Konstantin Sarkisov.

The Japanese Weapons and Volunteers in the Russian Army During World War the First

Relations between Japan and Russia during the WWI broke a stereotype image of them as in principle geopolitically hostile nations. The history proved the opposite. Friendly ties and mutual trust facilitated the move of the bulk of Russian forces in Far East to European theater of war. It helped to solve another problem – catastrophic shortage of weapons. Hundreds of Japanese resided in Russian Far East volunteered in Russian army. Dozens were enrolled. Some were rewarded with the Russian orders for courage in the fight with Germans. Some were killed and some tortured in prison.

Keywords: alliance, shortage of weapons, Japanese volunteers, Arisaka-system rifle, Grand Duke Georgi Mikhailovich, Emperor of Japan, German Kaiser

Margarita Esipova.

Hidden Meanings of Music Iconography of the Kyoto Temple Sanjusan Gendo

The article is devoted to musical-iconographical conception of a temple. Sculptures of Attendant Deities Serving the 1000-Armed Kannon represented with musical instruments are described one by one. Successive features of some Attendant Deities images and musical iconography of Dunhuang and South-East Asia ancient cultures are displayed. Function of represented musical instruments is shown originating in esoteric meditative practices of Hinduism and Buddhism (nada-yoga).

Keywords: Buddhism, musical iconography, sculpture, Sanjyusangendo temple.

Gleb Spiridonov.

The Features of Iconography of Plastic Works of the Shrine Nikko Toshogu

The article is devoted to the analysis of iconography of the architectural carving of the shrine Nikko Toshogu. The author classifies all wooden carving on eight groups and reveals their characteristic features of their iconographic and symbolical components. A special attention is paid on one of the most interesting subject lines devoted to fantastic animals, and characterized by the most sophisticated decoration. According to the research to determine the extent of participation Buddhist, Taoist, Confucian pantheons in the subject line of the plastic decoration, allowing to reveal Japanese way of perception of Chinese culture and its refraction in creative experience of Shintoistic heritage.

Keywords: Shinto, shrine, iconography, plastic arts, Chinese influence.

Evgeniya Dudina.

The Category of Space and Time in Japanese Translations (On the Material of the Early Poetry of O.Mandelstam)

The article investigates the interaction between two cultures of Russia and Japan on the example of the Japanese translation of Osip Mandelstam early poems from the book “Kamen” (Stone). The study is based on an analysis of the fundamental components for each culture of the world order – the categories of space and time. In the article, we have studied in details semantic verbalization ways of these categories and a unique space of Japanese text, which combines the features of two cultures.

Keywords: literary translation of poem, category of space, category of time, meaning of a word (semantics), cultural interaction.

Elena Katasonova.

The Philosophy of Being

This article is devoted to the creative activity of the most famous Japanese filmmakers, a representative of the Japanese “new wave” Imamura Shohei, who has twice won Palme d’Or prize of the International Film Festival in Cannes. The author examines in details all of his brightest film-works such as “The Ballad of Narayama”, “The Eel” etc.

Keywords: Imamura Shohei, Japanese film, Ballad of Narayama, Eel, new wave
