

Sophia University Institute of Comparative Culture presents a conference

Intellectual Networks in Early Modern Japan

The first workshop of the research group "Network Studies" introduces recent trends in the field of Tokugawa history. We have three presenters who will share their recent research on networks in the Tokugawa period. In addition, as an understudied era in regards to network analysis, the workshop welcomes the audience to discuss methods and models for a network analysis.

Date: November 20, 2010

Location: Sophia University, Bldg. 10, 3 Floor, Room 301

Time: 13:30 until 17:00

Organizer: Network Study Research Group (Sophia University)

Language: English

Web: http://pweb.cc.sophia.ac.jp/bgo/net/Network_studies/home.net



Program:

13:30–14:30

Anne Walthall (UC Irvine):

Seeking fame in Kyoto: Hirata Atsutane's use of social networks

When sent into exile in 1841, Hirata Atsutane had to convince the Akita domain authorities that he was sufficiently established as a scholar for them to spare scarce resources in granting him rank, office, and stipend. To this end, he prepared a document describing how and by whom he achieved recognition for his scholarship. By focusing specifically on the individuals he used to get connections to the high and mighty, this talk will attempt to analyze this document in terms of how he used social networks to further his career.

14:45–15:45

Niels van Steenpaal (Kyoto University)

Social and Cultural Activity surrounding Filial Children in the Edo Period

It is a well-known fact that from the end of the seventeenth century onwards *bakuhau* authorities, motivated by the intensely political and hierarchal narratives of "moral education" and "benevolent government", started to grant monetary rewards to people who displayed exceptional filial piety. Much less familiar however is the fact that there were also many private initiatives concerned with bestowing rewards and praise upon filial sons and daughters. Moreover, examination of these private activities seems to suggest that their motives were of intellectual, social and cultural nature and that they took place within a network of like-minded men of more or less equal status.

In this presentation I will introduce and examine the case of Mankichi, a filial boy from the Ise province. Using a variety of sources, I will reconstruct the events that led up to Mankichi's official *bakufu* reward in 1787, and detail the private activities surrounding Mankichi before as well as after this reward. While doing so, I will rethink the context in which virtue was celebrated during the pre-modern period, and address some issues concerning the social networks that were involved.

16:00–17:00

Gideon Fujiwara (Hirosaki University):

Northern Link in the Hirata Network: Tsuruya Ariyo and the Tsugaru Group

Hirata Atsutane (1776-1843)'s Nativist (*Kokugaku*) academy, the Ibukinoya, is well documented for its vigorous transactions of books and other objects, as well as for its exchange of the latest information on the socio-political scene in Edo (and later Tokyo) and locales throughout nineteenth-century Japan. Atsutane's adopted son Hirata Kanetane (1799-1880) and grandson Hirata Nobutane (1828-72) are credited for their role as administrators in expanding student enrolment and building ties with these local communities through meticulous letter-writing. Tsuruya Ariyo (1808-1871) became the Hirata academy's first student from Hirosaki (Tsugaru) domain and served as the Tsugaru Group's contact and leader who kept regular correspondence with Kanetane and Nobutane. In this presentation, I will examine letters exchanged between Ariyo and the Hirata Academy in order to examine the Tsugaru Group's activities and consider their significance within the Hirata network and in intellectual history from the late-Tokugawa to early-Meiji period.

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Campus map: http://www.sophia.ac.jp/eng/info/access/map/map_yotsuya

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