

# Preface

## Foreword

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The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of SCIEA, held in Hong Kong in May 12 and 13, 2018, took “Maritime East Asia---Network, Exchanges, and Mobilities as its main thesis. Just like in the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, our hosts take the History and Technology as the main theme of the German meeting, which bespeaks German’s proud tradition of science and technology, our Hong Kong meeting attempted to highlight the status of Hong Kong as a coastal city.

With this awareness in mind, we designed some general topics for the participants’ consideration. These topics included: transportation networks and mobility of products; Hong Kong as viewed from the perspective of East Asia; immigration and cultural identities; cultural productions and representations; religious beliefs and rituals; spread and production of knowledge; as well as cold war and order in East Asia and harbor cities.

Over 150 participants attended this meeting. In addition to three keynote speakers, the 134 participants who gave papers were divided into 29 panels. The titles of these panels are: modernity in East Asia, the education of the promoters of modernization, cultural exchanges among Asia in modern times, Korea in the history of East Asia, studies on modern words, studies on the transfer of knowledge and the history of study abroad, development of the studies on the history of exchanges in the maritime space of East Asia, language and religious mission, cultural exchanges between East and West, studies on the 20<sup>th</sup> century Kyoto school, Hong Kong from the perspective of East Asia: on the literary interactions between East Asia and Hong Kong, the collision of Western and Eastern thoughts, studies on “Beijing Guanhua”, Chinese studies by Naito, linguistic contact between East and West, the acceptance in Modern Japan of Western philosophy and Eastern thought, modern states and Sinology-state system-external knowledge-teaching, experience across borders and cultural interactions, practical publications in the cultural interactions of modern East Asia, the interpretation of modern

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Japanese Buddhism and philosophical thought, the Mage network and knowledge scene in modern East Asia, and War and Japanese Literature.

A quick look at the titles of these panels show that the subtitles of the major themes of the 10<sup>th</sup> annual meeting—network, exchanges, and mobilities---were to great extent explored. Hong Kong and maritime world of East Asia also attracted attentions from scholars and Ph. D. students.

However, what impressed us most from these panels were people's concerns with the cultural interactions between different cultures and areas. While some discussed cultural exchanges within East Asian, more people were enthusiastic about the relationships between East West. Five panels were interested in the cultural exchanges between East and West, while two panels explored the topic of the collusions of Eastern and Western thoughts.

These very facts remind us again that when we talk about cultural interactions of East Asia, we must bear in mind that the issue is never merely the business of East Asian people or countries. In the making of modern East Asia, western cultures and forces played significant roles. For this very reason, we are glad to see that our 11<sup>th</sup> annual meeting is holding in a reputed centuries-long university in Germany. It's the right time to view East Asian culture from a global network.