

## Editor's Note

This issue No. 81 based on the common theme of legal history, or history of law, in Asia is compiled from East and West Asian cases. This special feature attempts to compare the regional characteristics of legal history in different areas of Asia and, through this comparison, to see how it is possible to discuss the concept of Asia from the perspective of legal history.

When considering legal history, the key issues are (1) legal provisions, (2) institutional measures, and (3) operation in society. Although the relationship between individuals and society is of course important, it is clear that the relationship is not fixed from the outset and that various factors beyond this relationship are also strongly at play. We can see that the legal history discussed in this special issue has a scope that goes beyond the legal system.

In addition to the featured four articles, the present issue also includes a valuable article analyzing the fundamental ideas discussed by Tsongkhapa (1357–1419), founder of the Gelug school of Tibetan Buddhism, in his writings.

Hamashita Takeshi  
Editor-in-Chief  
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