

## Editor's Note

For writing history, scholars tend to extract a one-way direction of a historical phenomenon to discuss driving force of history. However, continual interactions are the reality of history and they themselves weave historical contexts.

Scholars of migration, for example, had once treated migrants as having permanently relocated, and had not been interested in the interactions and networks they gave birth when moving between regions or returning to their home country.

Another factor which requires us to pay attention on interactions and circulations in history is the role of maritime zones. Maritime zones of Asia have been zones of trade, human migration, and religion, representing worlds distinct from the land. Maritime zones of Asia have broadly defined interactions and networks of trade and human migration.

In line with this volume's special theme, interactions in history, each paper refers to various aspects of interactions and circulations, in terms of different topics, periods, and methodologies. We will learn from these papers about continuities of interactions in history, for further discussion on characteristics of culture and society of Asia.

Hamashita Takeshi  
Chief Editor,  
*The Memoirs of the Research Department of the Toyo Bunko*  
December 1, 2017