



**Rethinking Interaction between
Indigenous Traditional Knowledge
and Modern Knowledge**

Edited by
Yugo Tomonaga and
Shincha Park

International Workshop

Rethinking Interaction between
Indigenous Traditional Knowledge
and Modern Knowledge

October 15, 2017

Wagenkan 202, Fukakusa Campus

Ryukoku University

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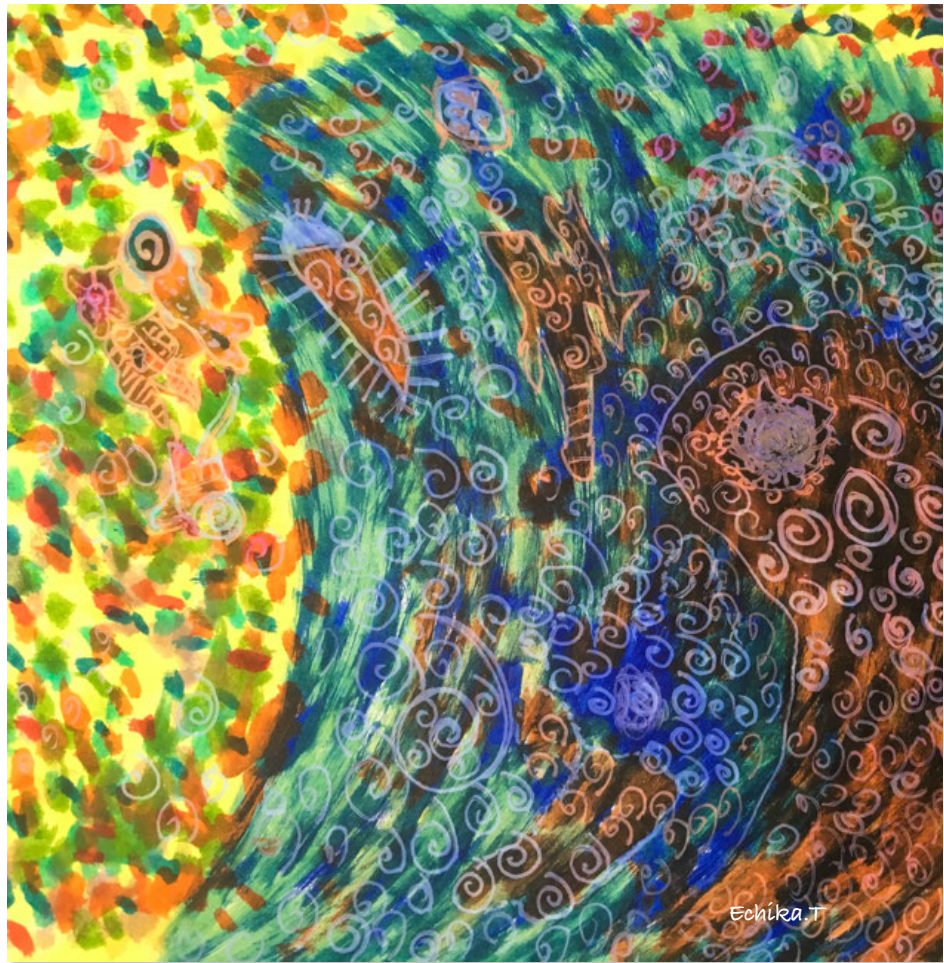
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International Workshop



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AND
MODERN KNOWLEDGE

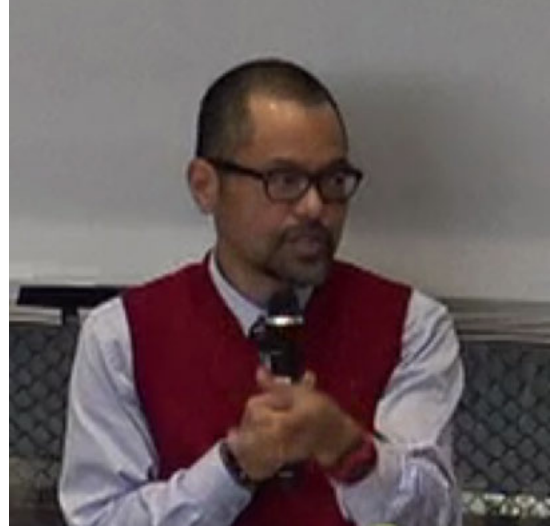
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PHOTOS



Martin F. Nakata



Yasukatsu Matsushima



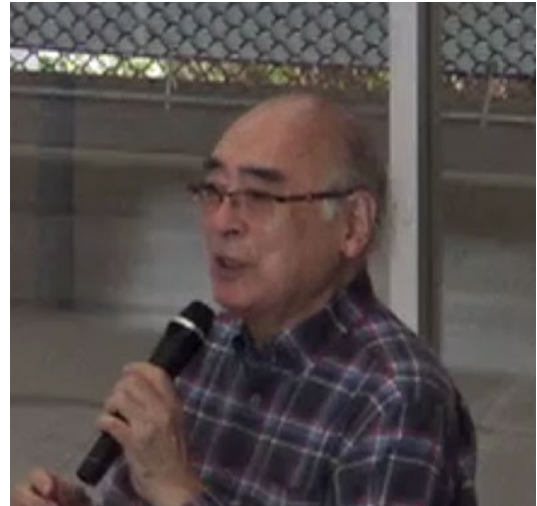
Akio Tanabe



Yugo Tomonaga



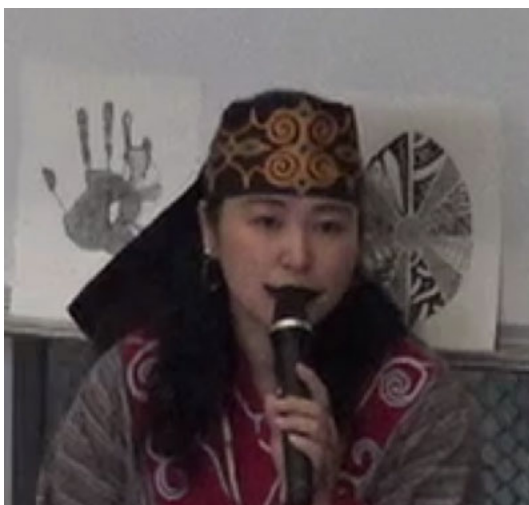
Liyang Lin



Kinhide Mushakoji



Wade Mahoney



Hiroko Fujito



Ritsuko Kurita



Performance of AINU traditional music “Upopo”



A possum skin cloak and aboriginal artworks brought for the workshop

PREFACE

The aim of the international workshop entitled “Rethinking Interaction Between Indigenous Traditional Knowledge and Modern Knowledge” had a valuable occasion to discuss the question of “Indigenous Traditional Knowledge with Modern Knowledge.”

For the management of sustainable cultural and natural resources, the interaction of indigenous traditional knowledge with different values and interests of various stakeholders is essential. In this workshop, we explored how such a collaboration would be achieved as well as what political, economic, and cultural effects it has had on local communities, both positively and negatively. Introducing case studies from the Asia Pacific region, we also examined a way of cooperatively managing cultural and natural resources through the interaction of the indigenous traditional knowledge and the modern knowledge, highlighting moral questions and dilemmas of the management.

Eminent scholars and practitioners from the Asia and Pacific region gathered for this workshop. The first session started with a presentation by Professor Martin Nakata who is Pro Vice Chancellor of the new Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Centre at James Cook University and is a distinguished scholar with fieldwork experience. He is known for his various works on higher education curriculum areas, the academic preparation of Indigenous students, and Indigenous knowledge and library services.

Second speaker, Professor Yasukatsu Matsushima from Ryukoku University is a very eminent scholar focusing on two main topics which are Lew Chewan independent movement and the Restoration of Lew Chewans' bones. Following these presentations was comment from Professor Akio Tanabe of the University of Tokyo, a social anthropologist specializing in the Indian Dalit movement.

In second session, two speakers from Ryukoku University focused on the indigenous environmental management in Japan, Australia and Taiwan. I am an anthropologist focusing on minority movements in Japan and Indigenous peoples land rights movement in Australia. Ms. Liying Lin is a PhD candidate at Ryukoku University who is a member of a Taiwan indigenous group and is familiar with Taiwan indigenous traditional knowledge on agricultural rituals. As a discussant, we had a highly distinguished scholar Dr. Kinhide Mushakoji, a Specially Appointed Professor of Osaka University of Economics and Law, who is known for various academic works on international relations as well as practical and empirical engagements with the human right issues.

In the final session, we had multi-talented practitioners as artist, curator and activists with indigenous background from Japan and Australia. Ms. Hiroko Fujito is an Ainu artist and the

founder of “Mina Mina no kai”, a civil group which has actively involved with introducing Ainu tradition to the wider society inside and outside of Japan. For the final speaker, we were supposed to have Ms. Maree Clarke, a Mutti Mutti, Yorta Yorta woman from northwest Victoria, Australia, who is an Aboriginal artist and educator. As an artist and curator, Ms. Clarke has been a pivotal figure in the reclamation of Aboriginal art, and as a curator she contributed to nurturing young Aboriginal artists in southeast Australian. However, because of flu and asthmatic bronchitis, she couldn't join us in this workshop. On behalf of Ms. Clarke, Mr. Wade Mahoney gave a talk about what Maree Clarke's work are as well as its significance. Mr. Mahoney is a member of Ms. Clarke's family, and a senior practice support officer in Aboriginal Child, Family and Community Center. Following their presentations was comment from an assistant professor of Hiroshima University, Dr. Ritsuko Kurita who are familiar with Australian Aboriginal identity and arts.

The participants with various backgrounds - academics, practitioners and artists - sat at the same table in this workshop and we achieved a comprehensive vision about the interaction between indigenous and contemporary knowledge in Asia and the pacific region. I hope the success of this workshop becomes the beginning of our continuing relationship which will bring about further development to this field of research.

Yugo Tomonaga

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