

Slavic-Eurasian Research Center 2023 Summer International Symposium

“The Phase of Catastrophe: The Crisis of the 14th Century in Afro- Eurasian Context”

July 13–14, 2023

Venue: Slavic-Eurasian Research Center, Hokkaido University, Sapporo, JAPAN (with Zoom)

Day 1 (July 13)

Session 1

“Reconsidering the Crisis from the West”

Speakers:

OHNUKI Toshio (PhD at Trier University in 2012) is Associate Professor at Tokyo Metropolitan University. His research aims at reconstructing and comparing the relationship between Cistercian monasteries and the society surrounding them, especially from perspectives of pastoral care and social formation. Except Japanese articles, he published his first German monograph *Orval und Himmerod. Die Zisterzienser in der mittelalterlichen Gesellschaft (bis um 1350)* (Trier: Kliomedica, 2019) and is now preparing as editor *Pastoral Care and Monasticism in Latin Christianity and Japanese Buddhism (ca. 800–1650)*. He is now engaged in an interdisciplinary project of monasticism in Europe, America, and Japan.

SHAKHMATOV, Ruslan (PhD at Hokkaido University in 2022) is Post-Doctoral Researcher at the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center, Hokkaido University. His PhD thesis was on the effects of the snow cover depth change on the larch trees in the Siberian taiga forest. Currently, he is working on an interdisciplinary project of environmental history on the “Crisis of the 14th Century” with the focus on the former territory of the Rus’ principalities and the Ulus Jochi during the 14th century.

PREISER-KAPPELLER, Johannes (PhD at University of Vienna in 2006) is team leader of the research group “Byzantium & Beyond” at the Department of Byzantine Research at the Institute for Medieval Research of the Austrian Academy of Sciences and external lecturer for Byzantine and Global History at the University of Vienna. His research focuses on the global

history of Byzantium and the medieval world in comparison and entanglement, environmental and climate history and historical network and complexity research. Among his recent publications are the monographs *Die erste Ernte und der große Hunger* and *Der Lange Sommer und die Kleine Eiszeit* (Vienna: Mandelbaum Verlag, 2021) on climate and pandemics in ancient and medieval Afro-Eurasia. He is co-editor of the forthcoming *Companion to the Environmental History of Byzantium* (Leiden: Brill, 2023) and co-author of *Mobility and Migration in Byzantium: A Sourcebook* (Vienna: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2023). He is also the leader of the project “Entangled Charters of Anatolia (1200–1300, ENCHANT)” funded by the Austrian Science Funds FWF.

Discussant:

OZAWA Minoru is a Professor of medieval history at the Department of History, College of Arts, Rikkyo University. His research focuses on various aspects of the Scandinavians in the context of the Global Middle Ages. Besides, he is keenly interested in premodern maritime history, global history, historical methodologies, and the study of historiography including modern Japan. His most recent publications are *A Comparative History of History Departments in Modern Japan*, ed. Minoru Ozawa, and Yuki Sato, Tokyo: Bensei-Shuppan, 2022 (in Japanese); *Communicating Papal Authority in the Middle Ages* (Studies in Medieval History and Culture), ed. Minoru Ozawa, Thomas M. Smith, and Georg Strack, London: Routledge, 2023; *Medieval Zomias: Alternative Global Histories*, ed. Ian Forrest, Minoru Ozawa, and Amanda Power, New York: Punctum Books in preparation; *A Dictionary of Medieval European Culture*, ed. The Japan Society for Medieval European Studies (head-editor Minoru Ozawa), Tokyo: Maruzen-Shuppan in preparation (in Japanese) etc.

Chair:

AOSHIMA Yoko is Associate Professor at the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center, Hokkaido University. She is editor of *Entangled Interactions between Religion and National Consciousness in Central and Eastern Europe* (Boston, MA: Academic Studies Press, 2020) and co-editor (with Darius Staliūnas) of *The Tsar, the Empire, and the Nation: Dilemmas of Nationalization in Russia's Western Borderlands, 1905–1915* (Budapest: Central European University Press, 2021).

Session 2

“The Crisis in East Asia”

Speakers:

UNO Nobuhiro is a Professor of Faculty of Global and Community Studies at Hiroshima Shudo University. His work focuses on the history of Mongol Empire and Yuan Dynasty using Persian and classical Chinese historical Materials.

LANDA, Ishayahu is a historian working on the nomadic states and the Chinese-Islamic political, cultural, and economic encounter and interrelations with a primary focus on the period of the Mongol domination in Eurasia (13th–14th cc.). He majored in Islamic and Middle Eastern as well as East Asian Studies at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, finishing his PhD dissertation on the Chinggisid matrimonial politics in June 2019. He has published numerous articles on nomadic migration and religious conversion, as well as the institutional history of the Chinggisid states. He is currently a faculty member at the Department of Sinology of the University of Bonn. His major project, funded by the German Science Foundation (DFG), is dedicated to the history of the overall crisis and break-up of the Chinggisid states across Eurasia during the mid-14th century. His book *Marriage and Power in Mongol Eurasia. A History of the Chinggisid Sons-in-law* has been published last month by the Harrasowitz Publishing House.

FIASCHETTI, Francesca (PhD, LMU Munich, 2015) is head of the “Mongolia Cluster” at the University of Vienna, Department of History. She is a comparative historian specializing in the history of medieval Eurasia and the co-founder of the Mongol Empire Spring Series. She has published extensively on topics such as Mongol diplomacy, the Silk Roads, religious and cultural exchange in Mongol Eurasia, and others. Among her current projects, she is co-authoring the book *Writing Chinese History in Mongol Iran* (Edinburg: Edinburgh University Press, forthcoming).

Discussant:

CHOI Soyoung is a Research Professor at Dongguk University, Korea. She obtained her PhD in Central Asian History from Seoul National University and also is currently lecturing there. She aims to piece together the scattered puzzle fragments of Mongol Empire history by analyzing multilingual sources. Mainly, she is keenly interested in reconstructing the relationship between Tibet and the Mongols by delving into Tibetan sources that have not been extensively studied. She is the author of *Almsgiving, Connecting Tibet and Mongolia: A Study of Mongol Imperial Patronage of Tibetan Monks* (Kyong-yin Munhwasa, 2022). In this book, she researched the items of almsgiving that the ruling class of the Mongol Empire sent to Tibet and examined their significance to both Mongolians and Tibetans based on records in Tibetan,

Classical Chinese, and Persian sources. She is also the author of “From Brutes to Bodhisattvas: The Mongols in Tibetan Sources” in *The Mongols* (Edited by Timothy May and Michael Hope, Routledge, 2022). She has written papers such as “Preceptor of the Great Khan: Life and Time of Phagpa (Phags pa, Ch. 八思巴, 1235-1280)” and “Bringing Puzzles Together: Research on the Early Career and Family of Bayan (Ch. 伯顏, 1236/7-1295).”

Chair:

WOLFF, David is Professor of History at the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center, Hokkaido University. He teaches Russian, Soviet and Northeast Asian history. He authored *To the Harbin Station* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1999; Tokyo: Kodansha, 2014) and *Le KGB et les pays baltes* (Paris: Belin, 2005) and was a coeditor of *World War Zero: The Russo-Japanese War in Global Perspective* in two volumes (Leiden: Brill, 2005; 2007) and *Russia's Great War and Revolution in the Far East* (Bloomington: Slavica, 2018). Most recently, he coedited *Sugihara Chiune and the Soviet Union: New Documents, New Perspectives* (Sapporo: Slavic-Eurasian Research Center, 2022). He is now writing on Stalin's Far East policy after World War Two.

Session 3

“New Methods to Calibrate the Crisis”

Speakers:

NAKATSUKA Takeshi (PhD at Nagoya University in 1995) is a Professor in Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Nagoya University. His research topics cover a wide range of environmental studies using natural abundance of stable isotopes, including oceanography, ecology, carbon cycle, paleoceanography and paleoclimatology. During last two decades, he has focused on the high-temporal-resolution climate reconstruction during last several millennia using tree-ring cellulose isotope ratios in Asia, especially in Japan and its applications to understand climate-society relationship in the past. From 2014 to 2019, he conducted an interdisciplinary research project “Societal Adaptation to Climate Change: Integrating Palaeoclimatological Data with Historical and Archaeological Evidences” in Research Institute of Humanity and Nature, Kyoto. The research results are now contributing not only to the development of innovative method in paleoclimatology (e.g. Nakatsuka et al. “A 2600-year Summer Climate Reconstruction in Central Japan by Integrating Tree-Ring Stable Oxygen and Hydrogen Isotopes” *Climate of the Past* 16 (2020): 2153–2172), but also to the promotion of interdisciplinary studies by many historians and archaeologists in Japan (e.g. Nakatsuka et al. (eds.), *Reconsidering Japanese History from the Viewpoint of Climate Variations* (vol. 1–6). Kyoto: Rinsen-Shoten, 2020–21).

NISHIMURA Yoko (Ph.D. at Chuo University in 2013) is Professor of Toyo University, Department of History, Faculty of Letters. Her specialties are the history of the Tang Dynasty of China, History of Central Asia, historical geography, and Digital humanities. Her recent publications include: *The History of Shatuo Turks in Tang Dynasty* (Tokyo: Kyuko Shoin Press, 2018), “Integrated Database of Silk Road Ruins for Sharing the Evidence of Ruin Re-Identification,” *Jinmonkon* (2021): 146–153), “Huang Wenbi’s Maps and the European Expeditions’ Maps: Report on the Survey at the Huang Wenbi Map Collection,” *The Western Regions Literature and History (XiyuWenshi)* 14 (2020): 19–47, “Manichean-Buddhist Temple in Murtuk: Development of the Silk Road Ruins Database and Deepening of the Re-Identification for Missing Ruins,” *Marco Polo and the Silk Road (10th-14th Century)* (Beijing, 2019), “A New Method for Re-Identifying Ancient Excavated Structures on the Silk Road: The Case of Kocho,” *The Ruins of Kocho: Traces of Wooden Architecture on the Ancient Silk Road* (Berlin: Museum für Asiatische Kunst, 2016). She also leads JSPS International joint research for Development of Silk Road Ruins Database.

ISAHAYA Yoichi (PhD at The University of Tokyo in 2015) is Assistant Professor of Eurasian studies at the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center, Hokkaido University. His research aims at calibrating the Mongol empire (1206–1368) on an Afro-Eurasian scale from multiple perspectives such as cross-cultural exchange and environmental history. His trilogy on “astronomical dialogue” in Mongol Eurasia consists of “Fu Mengzhi: “The Sage of Cathay” in Mongol Iran and Astral Sciences along the Silk Roads” in M. Biran et al. (eds.), *Along the Silk Roads in Mongol Eurasia* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2020), “Geometrizing Chinese Astronomy? The View from a Diagram in the *Kashf al-ḥaqā’iq* by al-Nīsābūrī (d. ca. 1330)” in B. Mak & E. Huntington (eds.), *Overlapping Cosmologies in Asia* (Leiden: Brill, 2022), and “Islamicate Astral Sciences in Eastern Eurasia during the Mongol-Yuan Dynasty (1271–1368)” in S. Brentjes (ed.), *Routledge Handbook on Science in the Islamicate World* (London: Routledge, 2022). He is also engaged in an interdisciplinary project of environmental history on the “Crisis of the 14th Century” in collaboration with scholars in various fields such as history, paleoclimatology, astronomy and informatics.

Discussant:

IZDEBSKI, Adam (PhD in Warsaw in 2011, Habilitation in Krakow in 2020) is environmental historian and human ecologist. He leads independent research group “Palaeo-Science and History” which works on the evolution and resilience of complex social-ecological systems in Europe and the Mediterranean in the Late Holocene (from Classical Antiquity to the early modern period). His latest book has just been published in the German translation as *Ein vormoderner Staat als sozio-ökologisches System: Das oströmische Reich 300–1300* (Dresden: Sandstein, 2022). He recently co-edited a volume together with John Haldon and Piotr Filipkowski on the *Perspectives on Public Policy in Societal-Environmental Crises. What the Future Needs from History* (Berlin: Springer, 2022) and led a major study on the Black Death which revised the demographic toll of this pandemic in Europe (“Palaeoecological Data Indicates Land-Use Changes across Europe Linked to Spatial Heterogeneity in Mortality during the Black Death Pandemic,” *Nature Ecology and Evolution* 6 (2022): 297–306) as well as a review paper on interdisciplinarity and environmental history which has been published in the *Annales HSS* (“L’émergence d’une histoire environnementale interdisciplinaire. Une approche conjointe de l’Holocène tardif,” *Annales HSS* 77/1 (2022): 11–58). He also holds the position of Associate Professor at the Institute of History of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow.

Chair:

UYAMA Tomohiko is Professor at the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center, Hokkaido University and the president of the Japan Association for Central Asian Studies. He specializes in Central Eurasian history, post-Soviet politics, and comparative imperialism. One of the topics he focuses on is the views of Kazakh intellectuals and Russian administrators on nomadic culture

and society in the late 19th and the early 20th centuries. In 2022, he was awarded the Dostyq Order of the Republic of Kazakhstan for his contribution to the study of Kazakh history. He has edited numerous books, including *Comparing Modern Empires: Imperial Rule and Decolonization in the Changing World Order* (Sapporo: Slavic-Eurasian Research Center, 2018) and *Asiatic Russia: Imperial Power in Regional and International Contexts* (London, 2012). Concerning environmental history, he has authored “*Jut* (massive loss of livestock) in Kazakhstan: Written Sources and Meteorological Data from the Mid-19th Century to the 1920s,” in *Environmental History of Central Eurasia*, vol. 1, ed. Narama Chiyuki (Kyoto: Rinsen Shoten, 2012, in Japanese).

Day 2 (July 14)

Session 4

“The Crisis from the Viewpoint of Connectivity”

Speakers:

YOKKAICHI Yasuhiko (Ph.D. at Waseda University in 2007) is an Associate Professor of Rikkyo University, Department of History, Faculty of Letters. His specialties are the history of the Yuan Dynasty, the Il-khanid Dynasty, and the Mongol Empire, History of interaction among east-west Eurasia and the maritime world. His recent publications include: “dar bāreh-ye Ugeh-ye Abū Sa‘īd Bahādur Khān dar sāl-e 720q. (chand nakteh-ye dar bāreh-ye maqāleh-ye A. Soudavar).” (Concerning the Üge of Abu Sa’id Bahadur Khan in 720/1320: Notes on A. Soudavar’s Article), *International Journal Nameh-ye Baharestan* 18–19 (2012) (in Persian); “Four Seals in ’Phags-pa and Arabic Scripts on Amir Coban’s Decree of 726 AH/1326 CE,” *Orient* 50 (2015); “The Maritime and Continental Networks of Kīsh Merchants under Mongol Rule: The Role of the Indian Ocean, Fārs and Iraq,” *Journal of Economic and Social History of the Orient* 62/2–3 (2019).

QIU Yihao (Ph.D. Fudan University) is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of History at Fudan University. He is the author of Studies on *The Political History of Yuan Dynasty and Culture Exchanges in Mongol Eurasia* (Shanghai: Shanghai guji chuban she, 2019). His main research themes are the history of the Yuan Dynasty and the Persian Chinggisid genealogies.

SLAVIN, Philip (PhD at The University of Toronto in 2008) is a Professor of Medieval and Environmental History at University of Stirling. Although trained as a medievalist, he views himself as a scientist of the past, whose methodology is inherently trans-disciplinary and whose work incorporates research techniques and methodological approaches, in addition to traditional historian’s toolkits, palaeogenetics, palaeoepidemiology, palaeoclimatology, stable isotope analysis, archaeology, statistics, and GIS. He has been working, both on his own and in collaboration with his colleagues in sciences, to tackle big questions related to the natural history of the global past and in particular, pandemics (especially plague), climate change and food crises. As of today, he has published 46 articles and two monographs on these subjects, including *Experiencing Famine: A Fourteenth-Century Environmental Shock in the British Isles* (Turnhout: Brepols, 2019), and a series of plague-related articles, one of which (a collaborative study published in *Nature* in June 2022) solved the enigma of the origins of the Black Death.

Discussant:

CHO Wonhee, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of East Asian History at the Graduate School of Korean Studies, Academy of Korean Studies. He obtained his doctoral degree in East Asian

History from Yale University in 2014. Dr. Cho's research interests encompass religion, comparative empire studies, and digital humanities. Recent notable publications include "New Insight on Questioning the 'Sinicization' of the Yuan Court: A Network Analysis of the Reign of Chengzong, Wuzong and Renzong," *Journal of Chinese studies* 99 (2022): 165–192 (in Korean) and "Negotiated Privilege: Strategic Tax Exemptions Policies for Religious Groups and the Mongol-Yuan Dynasty in 13th-Century China," *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient*, 63/1–2 (2020): 1–37.

Chair:

BEKTURSUNOV, Mirlan is a Research Fellow at the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center, Hokkaido University. He completed his PhD thesis in 2022 on the interactions between the Soviet regime's state and institution-building policies and nomadic Kyrgyz society, titled "Building of "Nomadic Socialism": State and Society in the Making of Soviet Kyrgyzstan." His works published in Japanese, English, and Russian include, among other things, "Two parts–one whole'? Kazakh–Kyrgyz relations in the making of Soviet Kyrgyzstan, 1917–24," *Central Asian Survey* 42/1 (2023): 109–126. and "Making of Soviet Kyrgyzstan: Rise and Development of Kyrgyz Political Elites' Nationalism in the Early Soviet Period," *Surabu Kenkyu* 66 (2019): 25–53 (in Japanese). Currently, he is working on the entanglements of Soviet socialist principles and Kyrgyz lineage societies during the elections for the local Soviet assemblies in the 1920s.

Session 5

“Crisis in Northern World from Macro and Micro Perspectives”

Speakers:

FAVEREAU, Marie is Associate Professor of History at the University of Paris Nanterre. Previously, she was a research associate at Oxford University and member of the European project *Nomadic Empires: A World-Historical Perspective*, a member of the French Institute of Oriental Archaeology in Cairo, a Fulbright visiting member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, and a post-doctoral researcher at Leiden University. She is the author of *La Horde d'Or et le sultanat mamelouk. Naissance d'une alliance* (Caire: Institut français d'archéologie orientale, 2018) and *The Horde. How the Mongols Changed the World* (Cambridge MA: Harvard University Press, 2021).

NAKAMURA Kazuyuki is a Professor at the Faculty of Commerce at Hakodate University. He studies the historical Ainu people using materials from Chinese, Japanese, and Manchu languages. In particular, he focuses on the northern trade of the Ainu. In the Mongol era, the Ainu people engaged in silent trade on Sakhalin Island. The Ainu and the Tungus group called Yaren also traded ermine furs and Chinese goods. In Ming and Qing era, Ainu people traded animal furs and received the Chinese brocade called “Ezo Nishiki.” His work includes “An Argument about the History of Ainu in the Medieval Period and Early Modern Times” in *The Japanese History Series 20* (Tokyo: Iwanami Shoten Publishers, 2014).

DI COSMO, Nicola is Henry Luce Foundation Professor of East Asian Studies at the Institute for Advanced Study (Princeton, USA). He studies the relations between China and Inner Asia from the first millennium BCE to the early modern period. He has also published on the connections between climate, environment, and politics in the history of steppe empires. He is the author of *Ancient China and Its Enemies: The Rise of Nomadic Power in East Asian History* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002), coauthor (with Dalizhabu Bao) of *Manchu-Mongol Relations on the Eve of the Qing Conquest* (Leiden: Brill, 2003) and (with Lorenzo Pubblica) *Venezia e i Mongoli* (Roma: Viella 2022). He has edited and coedited several volumes, most recently *Empires and Exchanges in Eurasian Late Antiquity: Rome, China, Iran and the Steppe* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018) and *Rebel Economies: Warlords, Insurgents, Humanitarians* (Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2021).

Discussant:

GOLEV, Konstantin (PhD at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” 2013) is Assistant Professor at the Institute for Historical Studies at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. His research activities are focused on the military and political history of the Eurasian nomads (Cuman-Qipchaqs and Mongols) and their interaction with the Outside world. He is currently

preparing a book on the history of the Cuman-Qïpchaqs in the 11th–13th cc. and the course of the Mongol Expansion in Dasht-i Qipchāq. His recent publications include: “To Kill a Chinggisid: The Taboo of Shedding the Royal Blood of the Golden Lineage: A Case Study from Medieval Bulgaria,” *Archivum Eurasiae Medii Aevi*, 25 (2019–2020): 49–63; “The Cities along the Syr Darya in 11th–13th cc.: Jand and Sighnaq between the Cuman-Qïpchaqs and the Khwārazmshāhs Anushteginids,” *Acta Orientalia Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae*, 74/1 (2021), 11–52; “Ecology of Warfare: The Seasonal Campaigns of the Cuman-Qïpchaqs in Eastern Europe and Central Asia,” *Chronica* 21 (2023): 117–181.

Chair:

NAGANAWA Norihiro is Professor of Central Eurasian Studies at SRC and at the Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa (ILCAA), Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (cross-appointment). In 2021 he was a William D. Loughlin member of the Princeton Institute for Advanced Study. Based on the local knowledge of Russia’s Volga-Urals region, his research interests cover global circulation of Islamic knowledge, nationalism, and radicalism, as well as entangled history of Russia and the Middle East. His works have appeared in *Slavic Review*, *Kritika*, *Ab Imperio*, and *Religion, State & Society*. His book *Islamic Russia: Empire, Religion, and Public Sphere, 1905–1917* (Nagoya: The University of Nagoya Press, 2017) (in Japanese) received the 2019 Mishima Kaiun Memorial Award given annually to a distinguished contribution to the study of Asian history. Currently he is editing a volume titled *Dreams of Emancipation: A Transnational History of Revolutionary Russia* (under contract with Academic Studies Press).