Female Activity in the Amis of Taiwan

Katsuhiko YAMAJI

ABSTRACT

The Amis in Taiwan, known as a society which conformed to matrilocal rules of residence, have gradually adopted patri-virilocal customs of marriage since the occupation of Japanese colonial government in 1895. While it is true most male villagers greater than seventy years of age married into the family of their bride, today circumstances are such that after a wedding ceremony, most young women tend to move into the homes of their husbands. It is my contention that despite these considerable changes, notions concerning the role of women still linger. Indeed, the present author believes that the activities of women and mothers constitute a prominent force in society. In that context it is the aim of this article to describe among other kinship relationships, gender ideology and birth customs as they manifest themselves in female activities in Vakong village in Hualien Province of Taiwan.

Key Words: Taiwan, Amis, matrilocal rules
The Navel of the Cosmos:
A Study of the Folk Psychology of Childbirth and Child Development among the Bukidnon

Toshimitsu KAWAI

ABSTRACT

This paper seeks to clarify how a shared cultural base construes the 'cultural construction of mind' and the 'cosmic order'. We expect to confirm how the latter order involves folk psychological categories as cultural systems with special reference to childbirth and child development customs amongst the Bukidnon of Mindanao Island. The most important concept here is *batasan*, the cultural order the Bukidnon feel is natural or right. The concept is very similar to what anthropologists call 'culture'. However, the order is not only cultural but also biological and psychological. *Batasan* order concerning custom, personal traits, habits, morals, commercial activities or the like are thought to be ruled over by a *Magbabaya* living in the 'navel' in heaven. The cultural-natural order is the cosmic order people must observe and spirits maintain. It is believed that anger and sickness are representations of disorders. When the *batasan* is violated or deviated, the spirits become angry and people become sick. The calamities and disorders of the cosmos must be prevented with special rituals for the spirits. We must understand the childbirth and childrearing customs of the Bukidnon as representations of their basic cultural thoughts that penetrate a person’s mental process to link it with the cosmic order as a whole.

Key Words: Bukidnon, childbirth and childrearing, congruence of cultural-natural orders
Fakaleiti in Tonga:
The Construction of Gender Category in a Polynesian Society

Katsuhiko YAMAJI

ABSTRACT

Many anthropologists working in Polynesia have been involved in research on a special type of gender, not classified as either male nor female, such as mahu in Tahiti, faaafafine in Samoa, faka-leiti in Tonga. The pioneering study in Tahiti reported by Levi (1971, 1973) is now still significant in terms of detailed descriptions of mahu, men who take on female roles in daily life even though physically male. Many anthropologists have been puzzled by the definition of this kind of gender, and have applied many technical terms, such as transvestites, transsexual, the third gender, gender liminality, or effeminate male, to this category. Surely, it is very difficult to define this kind of Polynesian gender category in Japanese or English because of its complicated meanings. In Tonga, a man who plays female roles in the household, giving up male roles, is called a faka-leiti, derived from the English word, lady, or faka-fefine, which means “the way of a woman”. This paper tries to analyze activities of faka-leiti as a category of the third gender.

Key Words: Tonga, the third gender, faka-leiti
From Cross-Cousin Marriage to Sister Exchange Marriage:  
Analysis of Puberty and Marriage Rituals in a Tamil Fishing Village, Sri Lanka

Masakazu TANAKA

ABSTRACT

This article aims to understand the performative functions of puberty and marriage rituals in a Tamil fishing village on the western coast of Sri Lanka, where fieldwork was conducted from June 1982 to November 1983. R. Needham proposes to analyse prescriptive marriage systems in terms of category, rules, and behaviour. Category refers to the specific kinship (relational) terminology. Rules tell us whom to marry and whom not to, and are relevant to the organization of kin. Behaviour is the observable marriage pattern, which is the object of statistical analysis. Furthermore, Needham emphasises that there is no internal connection among these three. What seems to be lacking in his proposal is the dimension of ritual practices. How do they fit in? According to the analysis of data, puberty ritual alone shows a strong preference towards cross-cousin marriage, while marriage ritual tells us the significance of the consanguineous bond between a bridegroom and his sister, and between a bride and her brother, or the affinal bond between a bridegroom and his wife's brother, and between a bride and her husband's sister. The marriage ritual does not tell whether their marriage is a cross-cousin marriage or not. Rather it expects a future sister-exchange marriage. So rituals do not mystify the real situation or transform it into the ideal marriage expressed by the kinship terminology, but remain vague about the levels of behaviour.

Key Words: rite of passage, Dravidian kinship terminology, marriage
Towards a new horizon for studies of social representations:  
Considerations on the conceptual relevance of ‘lived culture’

Kiyoshi ABE  
Akira FURUKAWA

ABSTRACT

Studies of social representations seem to be on the rise in a variety of the academic fields: sociology, social and cultural anthropology, literature, film studies, media studies, and so on. While the academic trend of studies of social representation has paved the way for new critical research into culture and society, its theoretical characteristic of focusing on representational rather than practical dimensions of cultures has been questioned and criticized by researchers working on the political economy of cultural production. After reconsidering the theoretical merits and limitations of recent studies of social representation, most of which lie in the realm of cultural studies, this paper tries to shed new light on the discussion of the theoretical and practical tasks of studies of social representation. Paying attention to the conceptual relevance of ‘lived culture’ in analyzing politics and history of everyday culture, we consider the intellectual distinctiveness of Katsuhiko Yamaji’s anthropological research on cultural representation in the era of Japan’s colonization of Asian nations. We conclude that Yamaji’s anthropology contains a lot of rich suggestions for future studies of social representation that can make not only politics, but also potential interaction between different cultures understandable.

Key Words: studies of social representation, cultural studies, Village Diaries
Memorable Spots on Campus
—Analysis of a survey of alumni of School of Sociology at Kwansei Gakuin University (3)—

Takuya OKAMOTO

ABSTRACT

This paper aims to confirm the memorable spots on campus of the alumni of School of Sociology. Analysis of a survey of alumni reveals the characteristics of the memorable spots. The results show that: (1) the most memorable spots are the central-lawn (chuo-shibafu) and clock-tower (tokei-dai) which are symbols of the university, (2) memorable spots differ by class year, (3) many of the memorable spots are shared among friends, (4) connected to a particular memory in a particular spot, (5) remembering beautiful on-campus landscapes increases the place-identity connection; (6) university spots can be categorized into places of 'communication', 'stimulation', 'secrets' and 'safety'. Finally, the relationship between the spots and memories is discussed.

Key Words: place and memory, survey of alumni, place-identity
ABSTRACT

This paper is an attempt to clarify the life course of university graduates through the analysis of survey data about graduates of the Faculty of Sociology at Kwansei Gakuin University in 2009. This study pays attention to the differences in gender, and the Japanese economic and social systems between the 1960s and the 2000s. The results show that most graduates experience common events such as marriage and the birth of children, but that these events occur increasingly later in the graduates’ lives. The data shows that this change in the life course of graduates is especially clear after the 1990s.

Key Words: life course, marriage, birth of children, decision tree analysis
“Mastery for Service” internalized in the graduates:  
—Analysis of a survey of alumni of School of Sociology at Kwansei Gakuin University (5)—

Yasuto NAKANO

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this paper is to describe how alumni of the Faculty of Sociology at Kwansei Gakuin University internalize their school motto “Mastery for Service”. Analysis of a survey of alumni of the Faculty of Sociology reveals concrete situations when alumni are conscious of the motto. One of the most mentioned terms in their response is “work” related terms. “Voluntary activities” is also frequently mentioned. Age, gender, occupational experience, satisfaction, attachment and grades in university are examined as to whether they have any effect on alumni’s recognition of the motto. We find that internalization of the motto promotes feelings of attachment to KG and satisfaction with their former school lives and their current lives.

Key Words: school motto, text analysis, causal inference
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Cross-national comparison of the dimensions and structure of religiosity:
ISSP 2008 Data Analysis

Kazufumi MANABE

ABSTRACT

A variety of studies have been conducted on the structure of religiosity. The term “religious consciousness” is more often used in Japan than “religiosity,” but here we use the term “religiosity” for the convenience of cross-national comparison. These studies suggest that religiosity has a multidimensional structure, and they primarily aim to extract and measure those multiple dimensions through data analysis of questionnaire surveys. Based on previous studies, this paper divides religiosity into three dimensions: (1) religious denomination, (2) religious practice, participation, and behavior, and (3) religious belief. By conducting a secondary analysis of the data from the Religion Module Survey (2008) of the International Social Survey Programme, we focus on these three dimensions, and try to clearly identify the characteristics of religiosity in three countries: Japan, Germany, and Sweden. Almond and Verba argued that one of the methodological advantages of cross-national comparative surveys is that “cross-national research encourages the reinvestigation and clarification of concepts (variables) and ensures that equivalence problems are carefully examined.” Based on this methodological perspective, we select three countries with different religious backgrounds for data analysis in this study. For the same reason, data analysis is conducted by dividing Germany further into West Germany and East Germany.

Key Words: religiosity, ISSP, data analysis, measurement model, causal model, denomination, religious belief, religious behavior
Re-affirming Identity
Japanese backpackers in Asia and the consequence of their “self-seeking” travels

Tetsuya OHNO

ABSTRACT

Many people in contemporary Japan face a situation wherein they ask themselves “Who am I?”. The search for self-identity has induced people, especially of the younger generation, to discover backpacking. An individual's identity is formed through the process of differentiation with the “other” and backpacking, wherein one experiences various cultures for long periods of time, can be regarded as a social practice that constructs this identity. In the field of tourism studies, research on backpacking has repeatedly indicated that one's identity can be transformed through the course of adventurous traveling. Assuming these processes, this paper introduces a case study of Japanese backpackers traveling in Asia. This paper explores the relation between backpacking and identity, especially focusing on the backpackers’ changing identities during travel and their “new life” after their travels.

Key Words: backpacking, identity, re-affirmation
The Theory of Relative Deprivation Revisited (4)

Kenji KOSAKA

ABSTRACT

The present paper is the continuation of earlier articles by the author on the same topic. The present paper delineates how the notion of relative deprivation was examined and discussed by Merton and Kitt (1950) and Kendall and Lazarsfeld (1950) right after The American Soldier had been published in 1949. Merton and Kitt ingeniously emphasize that the notion of relative deprivation was inevitably intertwined with its correlative, the notion of reference group behavior, in particular. However, they missed the following opportunities: (1) they failed to define the concept of relative deprivation, just as Stouffer failed; (2) they failed to elucidate the underlying mechanism which might generate relative deprivation and its linkage to the reference group; (3) they failed to use and analyze the numerical data on relative deprivation in The American Soldier, focusing upon delineating descriptive summary of the data instead. Kendall and Lazarsfeld, on the other hand, pointed out the significance of the notion of relative deprivation from the viewpoint of methodological clarification of “level of complexity,” but never went so far as to recapture the opportunities missed by Merton and Kitt.

Key Words: relative deprivation, The American Soldier, reference group, missed opportunity
Statistical data analysis using correspondence analysis

Keiichiro NAKAYAMA

ABSTRACT

Based on previous research, this research examines the applications of canonical correspondence analysis (CCA) of data using R. CCA is combined with correspondence analysis for regression analysis. Question variable is connected to the demographic variables to develop geometric data analysis in correspondence analysis. From the point of view of statistical theory, such analysis has many interesting implications. CCA has wide application in the field of numerical ecology, such as in Ordination analysis. It is hoped that an exploratory multivariate statistical analysis will contribute to the field of social science.

Key Words: correspondence analysis, canonical correspondence analysis, R