

Re-recognition of East Asian Cultural Sphere (*Kanji Cultural Sphere*)

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Japanese people touch Chinese character (*kanji*) before introduction of *Analects of Confucius* or *Thousand Character Classic*. Thereby they shared *kanji* culture with people in China and Korea. As a result, a lot of Japanese-Chinese words, translated terms of Western social and cultural ideas to Japanese, were introduced to China and Korea after the Meiji Era. China and Korea belonged to the same cultural sphere, therefore they could introduce outcomes of Western culture accepted by Japanese. The term East Asian cultural sphere (*kanji cultural sphere*) is the expression which indicates cultural interrelationship among Japan, China, and Korea. We can recognise the cultural connection of East Asia by this expression. When we see East Asian countries through a *kanji*, what is cleared is cultural reciprocal relation in this area. In this presentation, I want to advocate re-recognition or re-discover of East Asian cultural sphere.