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From the Editor

A NEW EDITOR

I am pleased to be able to announce that the *East Asian Library Journal* has a new editor. Starting with volume eight, number one, Sören Edgren will assume that post. Dr. Edgren was first introduced to the readers of our journal as a contributor to the special (Winter 1992) issue *East Asian Women: Materials and Library Research*, and he has written three other articles for us, the fourth of which appears in this issue. Dr. Edgren also serves as the editorial director of the Research Libraries Group Chinese Rare Books Project, and we are all looking forward to the energy and skill he will bring to this task.

Working with Dr. Edgren and the advisory board will be a newly created editorial board. Its members include Professors Martin Collcutt, Susan Naquin, and Willard Peterson, as well as Dr. Martin Heijdra.

Dr. Edgren's first issue will contain a major contribution on Chinese book binding and the restoration of old Chinese books. To coincide with its publication in the spring of 1995, the Friends of the Gest Library are planning an exhibition, to be held at Princeton. The exhibition has as its working title "Traditional Chinese Books: Form, Format, and Function." Further information will go out to all members of the Friends and to subscribers to the *East Asian Library Journal* in due course.

VISITORS TO THE LIBRARY

From January 1993 to March 1994, the Gest Library welcomed 107 visitors, including publishers, researchers, librarians, and professors. Forty were from the United States, 28 from Japan, 25 from China, 7 from Taiwan, 4 from Korea, and 1 each from Holland, Germany, and India.

THE CONTRIBUTORS

Timothy Brook is associate professor of history at the University of Toronto. A specialist on imperial and modern China, he received his doctorate from Harvard University. Professor Brook has engaged in extensive travel, study, and research in China. Among his numerous publications, the most recent are *Quelling the People: The Military Suppression of the Beijing Democracy Movement* (Toronto: Lester Publishing, 1992), and *Praying for Power: Buddhism and the Formation of Gentry Society in Late-Ming China* (Cambridge, Mass.: Council on East Asian Studies, Harvard University, 1993). He is now involved in research on the collaboration between the Chinese local elite and the Japanese occupying forces during the Sino-Japanese war from the 1930s to the 1940s.

Sugihashi Takao is professor of Japanese history, Department of Letters, Ritsumeikan University. He received both his master's and doctoral degrees from Kyoto University. After graduation in 1974, Professor Sugihashi was appointed to a teaching position in Kyoto University, where he worked until 1977. The next year he joined Ritsumeikan University as associate professor of Japanese history, and was promoted to full professor in 1989. Professor Sugihashi's research covers a broad scope, ranging from legal history and ancient documents to the local histories of many cities. He has numerous publications to his credit. Among the most recent is *Source Materials: A History of Kyoto (Shiryō: Kyoto no rekishi)* (Tokyo: Heibunsha, 1991), of which he is one of the co-authors. Professor Sugihashi is no stranger to Princeton. From October 1988 to March 1989, he was a visiting fellow at the Department of East Asian Studies, Princeton University.

Professor Sugihashi's article for this issue of the journal has been translated into English by Ronald K. Frank, visiting associate professor of Japanese history, Old Dominion University. A German national, Professor Frank was educated at Leningrad and Humboldt universities. He conducted postdoctoral research at the University of Tokyo and Harvard University. A specialist on Japanese legal history, Professor Frank is preparing a monograph entitled "A Comparative Analysis in Sengoku Law," which will be published by Harvard University Press.

So Kee Long is lecturer at the Department of History, Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). He received his B.A. and M.Phil from CUHK. In 1979, he was awarded a Commonwealth Scholarship to pursue doctoral studies at Australian National University. Before joining CUHK in 1993, Dr. So taught at the Department of Chinese Studies, National University, for more than five years. He has two books in Chinese to his credit: *Studies in the Historical Geography of T'ang-Sung South Fujian* (Taipei: Commercial Press, 1991) and "Studies in the Law and Political Institutions of T'ang and Sung China" (forthcoming). He is also the author of more than a dozen articles in both Chinese and English. These articles deal with Chinese historical geography, political institutions, socioeconomic history, legal history, and China's relations with the West.

Sören Edgren is the editorial director of the Research Libraries Group Chinese Rare Books Project which is located in the Gest Library, Princeton University. Dr. Edgren received his doctorate in sinology from the University of Stockholm. A specialist on Oriental books, Dr. Edgren has contributed three other articles to the *East Asian Library Journal*: "The *Ching-ying hsiao-sheng* and Traditional Illustrated Biographies of Chinese Women," which appeared in the special issue (Winter 1992) *East Asian Women: Materials and Library Research*; "Comments on Professor Cui's Articles" in the Spring 1993 issue; and "I. V. Gillis and the Spencer Collection" in the Winter 1993 issue. Dr. Edgren's scholarly activities and achievements were presented to the readers in greater detail in the special issue.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Upon the publication of the 1994 autumn issue of the journal, the last for which I serve as editor, I would like to acknowledge my heartfelt gratitude toward those who have rendered me timely and unfailing support, without which editing an academic journal would have been an impossible task for me. I am particularly indebted to Professor Mote. His devotion to excellence in scholarship has maintained a high academic standard for the journal, and his sensitivity to the new trends in modern scholarship has constantly provided new guidance to the journal. It has been a great experience working with and learning from him. Barbara Westergaard, manuscript editor, and Judith Waterman, designer of the journal, are two great colleagues whose efforts have made the smooth operation of the journal possible. Since I accepted a teaching position in Toronto in 1990 and then in Singapore in 1993, a major part of the daily business of the journal has been managed by Ms. Westergaard. Thanks to Ms. Waterman's efforts, the journal has been successfully transformed from a publication using type-setting technology to one employing advanced computing software. This transformation has substantially reduced publication costs, and thus put the journal on a sounder financial basis. Last but not least my gratitude is due to Antony Marr, curator of the Gest Library, and Mrs. Kim Soowon, Japanese and Korean bibliographer. Their help and cooperation have made it possible for the journal to keep its readers abreast of the major news and activities in the library.

A NOTE ON THE NEW COVER

Many readers have commented on the new design of the *East Asian Library Journal* cover. The material represented on the cover is a silk brocade typical of those used for Chinese book and album covers in the Ch'ing period (1644-1911). Our example is derived from a photograph of the boards of an album of nineteenth-century paintings in the collection of F. W. Mote.