



A FRIEND IN DEED: LU XUN, UCHIYAMA KANZŌ, AND THE INTELLECTUAL WORLD OF SHANGHAI ON THE EVE OF WAR

BY JOSHUA FOGEL — ASIA SHORTS BOOK SERIES

SUGGESTED COURSES:

- History
- East Asian Studies
- Modern Chinese Literature

KEY CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS:

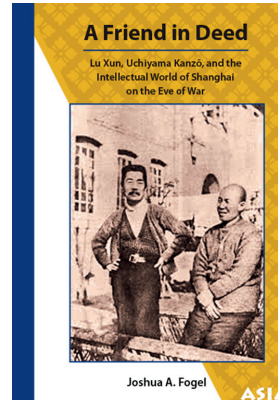
- Japanese living in prewar China
- Sino-Japanese friendship
- Political rifts within the Chinese world
- Political rifts within the Japanese world
- Friendship vs. politics

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How does knowledge that war would break out with the Japanese invasion of China in 1937 color discussion of Sino-Japanese friendships before this time?
2. How does this image of Lu Xun presented here differ from his image in China now?
3. What thoughts are elicited by someone by Uchiyama Kanzō who devoted his career to working with Chinese?
4. Does the fact that Uchiyama had only a 6th-grade education and Lu Xun is considered the greatest writer of his time make sense? In what way?
5. Looking at the cover, what does the image of these two men together reveal?

EXTERNAL LINKS & RESOURCES:

- http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/special/china_1900_luxun.htm
- <https://jhiblog.org/2019/09/09/lu-xun-1881-1936-and-uchiyama-kanzo-1885-1959/>
- http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/main_pop/kpct/kp_1900-1950.htm



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AFTER LU XUN'S DEATH: A FRIEND INDEED

“Joshua Fogel’s superb command of Japanese has allowed him to access sources untapped by Chinese and Western scholars to compile this tour-de-force treatment of a cross-cultural, cross-political, cross-religious, and cross-linguistic friendship between Lu Xun (1881-1936) and Uchiyama Kanzō (1885-1959)... Fogel does a masterful job in assembling the pieces of a puzzle, tracing the rumors that Uchiyama was a spy back to their source, and examining the role that Japanese Doctor Sudō Iozō (1876-1959), Lu Xun’s personal physician, played in the days leading up to his death.”

— JON EUGENE VON KOWALLIS, UNSW Sydney

“Drawing on his extensive knowledge of Sino-Japanese exchange, Joshua Fogel paints a captivating portrait of Lu Xun and Uchiyama Kanzō, two men of very different temperament, background, and political outlook. We see their friendship in ordinary moments over a cup of Karigane tea, a specially-reserved rattan chair, and the efforts at mounting exhibits of woodblock prints but also in extraordinary moments when Uchiyama protected Lu Xun from GMD spies and Japanese military police in the tumultuous years before total war. Theirs was a remarkable friendship indeed.”

—HU YING, University of California, Irvine

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