

I hope readers enjoyed a peaceful holiday season. "Asia: Biographies and Personal Stories, Part I" includes accounts of individuals who have significantly affected history, culture, economics and politics, as well as profiles and personal stories of lesser-known people who help us better understand historical and contemporary Asia.

Paige Tan's lead feature on Aung San Suu Kyi is an excellent introduction to an internationally acclaimed champion of democracy and of her transition from freedom fighter to politician in Burma (Myanmar). In "Popo's World: Youth and College Life" by Chow-soon Chuang Ju (Hsin-jen), she tells the story of her successful efforts to complete secondary school and university in 1930s and 40s war-torn China. Matthew Portwood and John Dunn's "A Tale of Two War Lords" use the lives of two prominent warlords to assist readers to better understand this turbulent period in twentieth century Chinese history.

In the Special Segment that follows, three historians of China write essays on the *Berkshire Dictionary of Chinese Biography*, one of the most outstanding English-language pedagogical tools on China I've ever encountered. Thanks to Berkshire Press, readers can read an entry on Soong Mei-ling in our online supplements for this issue to get a better sense of the *Dictionary*. Ambassador Nicholas Platt in Peter Frost's interview offers illuminating first-hand insights on Richard Nixon, Mao, and subsequent developments in China since he accompanied the then-US President on the historic trip. The ongoing migration in recent years of millions of Chinese from rural to urban areas is one of the world's most significant demographic developments. A special segment coauthored by three outstanding college, middle school, and high school instructors: David Kenley, Karen Gaul, and Matthew Sudnik, in our online supplements section provides both a content overview of Chinese internal migration and multiple resources to teach about this topic. Sincere thanks go to EAA editorial board member Brenda Jordan who after conducting a National Consortium for Teaching about Asia seminar that included Chinese migration, suggested this topic and helped to coordinate the development of the special segment.

John Sagers' "Shibusawa Eiichi and the Merger of Confucianism and Capitalism in Modern Japan" chronicles the life, achievements, and philosophies of one of Japan's most outstanding individuals. Daniel Métraux's "American Visitors to Meiji Japan" is a series of vignettes about Americans, some of whom came to Japan because of a fascination with the "East" and others who assisted the nation in its latter-nineteenth century economic, political, and cultural transformations. Franklin Rausch describes in his biographical essay on An Chunggūn, the assassin of Japanese statesman Itō Hirobumi, how an apolitical member of the rural Korean gentry reinvented himself as a nationalist and freedom fighter. Rausch also writes how An's deed affected East Asian and world history. David Gordon, in his article on Swami Vivekananda and Okakura Tenshin indicates how these popularizers of Asian culture influenced Western attitudes toward Asia at the end of the nineteenth century and how their ideas still have global impact. Our special section ends with Nasim Yousaf's story of Akhtar Hameed



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Khan, whose community oriented rural development efforts in what is now Bangladesh and elsewhere in South Asia continue to have global influence fifteen years after his death. Judith Ames Web Gleanings column also, as usual, complements the special section.

In addition to our special section we include five non-thematic teaching resource essays, and reviews, along with the annual interview with the 2014 winners of the AAS Franklin R. Buchanan Teaching Prize.

The spring 2015 *EAA* special section is "Southeast Asia in the Humanities and Social Science Curricula." We are accepting manuscripts for our fall special section "Asia: Biographies and Personal Stories, Part II." The deadline for initial receipt of manuscripts is March 31, 2015. The winter 2015 special section is "India: Past, Present, and Future" and the deadline for initial receipt of manuscripts is July 22, 2015. Readers and organizations that prefer print issues are urged to please renew their subscriptions. Print copies can also be passed on to colleagues and the subscription revenues help AAS pedagogical efforts.

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