

Preface

Foreword

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After the inaugural meeting of the Society for Cultural Interaction in East Asia was held on June 27, 2009 at Kansai University, conference meetings have been held at National Taiwan University (2010, Taipei), Central China Normal University (2011, Wuhan), Korea University (2012, Seoul), City University of Hong Kong (2013, Hong Kong), Fudan University (2014, Shanghai), Kaiseimachi (2015, Kanagawa), and again last year back at Kansai University (2016, Osaka).

In terms of keynote speakers, from Taiwan we have invited Professor Su Jing (formerly of National Yunlin University of Science and Technology); from Germany, Professor Michael Lackner (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg); and from Japan, Professor Saito Akira of Tokyo University. Each keynote speaker gave speeches that related their own areas of expertise with cultural interaction studies. Each conference has been divided into panel sessions in which about 150 scholars have given presentations; there have been lively discussions on cultural interaction studies in a variety of areas and fields.

This is the eighth issue of the *Journal of Cultural Interaction in East Asia* (JCIEA) published by the Society. I am very happy that in addition to the above-mentioned keynote speeches at our yearly meetings, many excellent articles have been published in the journal. I believe this is evidence that the new academic framework that we proposed of “cultural interaction studies” has truly acquired social awareness around the world. With this foreword, I pray that the Society and cultural interaction studies will continue to develop and flourish.

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