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Author(s): Marta Hanson

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The historiography of cartography of Vietnam is still in its infancy, but the overview by John K. Whitmore shows that, not unlike the Chinese model, the development of Vietnamese cartography followed efforts of the governments to centralize and extend their control over the country. There is no doubt that traditional Vietnamese cartography, once more examples become known, will show equally distinct features in the framework of Chinese influenced cartography as Korea and Japan do.

The history of East Asian cartography together with a chapter on celestial mapping in East Asia fills only two-thirds of this voluminous tome. Another 236 pages are devoted to the history of cartography in greater Tibet and Mongolia and in Southeast Asia. Being unfamiliar with the cultural and historical background of these regions, the reviewer will refrain from a detailed discussion of these chapters.

In summary, this history of cartography in the traditional East and Southeast Asian societies, lavishly illustrated with map reproductions (many in color) and accessible through an impressive index, is an unrivalled basic work of reference. It summarizes our knowledge of the development of cartography in these parts of Asia and presents a fresh, broader view that brings the history of cartography into the mainstream of the history of science as an integral part of cultural history.

ECKART DEGE
Universität Kiel

Current Perspectives in the History of Science in East Asia. Edited by YUNG SIK KIM and FRANCESCA BRAY. Seoul: Seoul National University Press, 1999. xi, 546 pp. \$19.00 (cloth).

To represent current trends in this fast-changing, diverse, and exciting field, editors Yung Sik Kim and Francesca Bray selected fifty-three of the more than one hundred papers presented August 1996 in Seoul at the Eighth International Conference on the History of Science in East Asia. The strengths and weaknesses of this volume stem from its origins in the proceedings of this conference. In their preface, the editors emphasize three new trends: regional expansion beyond China to the history of science in greater East Asia, temporal extension into the twentieth-century practice of science, and increasing methodological sophistication in the shift from internalist to contextual readings of scientific texts. All of these trends merit introduction to a wider audience.

We can see, for example, that historians of science in Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Tibet, and the frontier hinterlands of China have begun to redress the Sinocentrism of earlier scholarship by showing that scientific thought in East Asia had multiple sources throughout the region. Scholars of science, technology, and medicine in the twentieth century are equally changing the field by bridging the gap created by previous scholarship focused primarily on science in the premodern societies of East Asia. Recent postcolonial interpretations of the interaction between Western science and East Asian societies and research on the sociology of scientific knowledge have transformed how scholars now interpret both the "modern encounters between Western and East Asian science" (p. iv) and the scientific activity that predated these encounters throughout East Asia. The new emphases on practitioners, patients, and practice in medical history illustrate the shift from strictly internalist and clinical interpretations of medical texts to more sociological and historical readings of a wider

range of medical-related sources. This shift also appears more subtly in the greater emphasis placed on how scientific ideas were expressed through language, how they related to other fields of inquiry such as philosophy, cosmology, and religion, and in which kinds of textual genres they were recorded.

The editors organize the articles under eight general themes: historiographical considerations, intellectual background, ideas and assumptions, institutions, mathematical sciences, medicine and technology, medical practitioners, and western science and scientific transmissions. The first section opens the volume well by offering a range of perspectives on historiography by Korean, Japanese, Chinese, European, and American scholars. The first three articles give readers a good idea of the very different issues that guide the history of science in Korea (Park Seong-Rae), Japan (Nakayama Shigeru), and China (Xi Zezong). Jean-Claude Martzloff's review of French scholarship on Shen Kua's *Mengqi bitan* (Brush Talks from Dream Brook, 1095 C.E.), and Fu Daiwie's argument for a contextual translation of science-related passages from this same text, provide methodological models broadly relevant to the history of science in East Asia. Christopher Cullen and Peter Golas both use sociological interpretations to explain differences between China and Europe, respectively, in ancient mathematics and post-1500 mining practices. Nathan Sivin's "Future of Research," the most comprehensive of these historiographical essays, has been considerably expanded into his editor's introduction to *Science and Civilization in China* Vol. 6, Part VI (Cambridge University Press, 2000).

All seven articles in "Intellectual Background" focus on China. Karine Chemla, Francesca Bray, and Chu Pingyi write the most methodologically sophisticated and thus most interesting articles. Karine Chemla, for example, argues that the reasoning of third-century and later Chinese mathematicians reflected not only their pragmatic concerns, but also their philosophical engagement with the concept of change (*bianhua*) first systematized in the *Yijing* (Book of Changes). Francesca Bray moves beyond her original research using the content of agricultural treatises to an analysis of the structure of these same texts into three genres she defines as the landlord, Confucian agronomic, and statecraft traditions. Chu Pingyi closely reads Tai Chen's astronomy as a failed attempt to reconcile the new western methods with the traditional cosmological function of Chinese calendar making and astronomy to safeguard the social order.

The articles in "Ideas and Assumptions" tend more toward the conventional intellectual history of scientific ideas in China, except for Vera Dorofeeva-Lichtmann's innovative argument that in order to understand the plethora of geographic locations recorded in the *Shanbaijing* (The Canon of Mountains and Seas, ca. first century B.C.E.), one must discern the rationale of this ancient conceptual organization of space rather than try to fit it into modern-day standards of topographical accuracy.

Although the first two articles in "Institutions" focus on the organization of scientific China in the early Qing (Han Qi) and Republican periods (Liu Bing), the remaining three concentrate on non-Chinese institutions in the modern period: the Japanese Shanghai Science Institute (Morris Low), the Vietnamese national medical system (Annick Guénel), and Postech, Korea's newest research university (Gyeong Soon Im).

"Mathematical Sciences" returns to the traditional focus on pre-modern China with articles on mathematical astronomy (Ōhashi Yukio, Qu Anjing) and the calculation of *pi* (Alexei Volkov), but branches out to complementary articles on the Arabic origins of Song-era tables of planetary latitude (Yano Michio, Benno van

Dalen) and an interesting comparison of three Korean Almanacs of the Yi dynasty (Fung Kam-wing).

“Medicine and Technology” has the broadest range of articles, from late-seventeenth-century Tibetan medical *thangkas* (Cai Jingfeng) and eighteenth-century Korean interpretations of the *Huangdi neijing* (Nam-il Kim) to the medical discourse on Chinese eunuchs (Jennifer W. Jay), brickwork technology (Guo Qinghua), and salt production (Hans Ulrich Vogel). By contrast, the six articles in “Medical Practitioners” illustrate deep methodological changes in the field and, except for one article on the early medical licensure for herbalists in Korea (Dongwon Shin), largely focus on late imperial China. Paul Unschuld’s study of the lack of separation between Chinese pharmacists and physicians, Joanna Grant’s analysis of a sixteenth-century physician’s case records, and Charlotte Furth’s discussion of women healers during the Ming dynasty are excellent introductions to their subjects.

“Western Science and Scientific Transmission” concludes the volume with articles that complicate the process of the transmission of science from the West to East Asia. The articles cover seventeenth-century French astronomy in the Qing imperial court (Hashimoto Keizo and Catherine Jami), Chinese science in eighteenth-century France (Colette Diény), and comparisons of translations of Western scientific terminology into Chinese and Japanese (Wang Bing, Sugiyama Shigeo). The one article that takes a promising new direction toward understanding the transmission of scientific and technological knowledge among minority populations in southwest China, however, is too superficial for the complexity of its subject (Liao Boqin and Zhang Shiya).

This volume suffers from inconsistencies related to the multiple native languages, writing styles, software programs, and translation conventions of the contributors. The editors did not attempt to enforce conformity or consistency across the articles, nor did they carefully proofread the individual contributions. Nevertheless this volume is an excellent introduction to the field and a useful reference for those participating in it.

MARTA HANSON
University of California, San Diego

Business Networks in Asia: Promises, Doubts, and Perspectives. Edited by FRANK-JÜRGEN RICHTER. Westport, Conn.: Quorum Books. 1999. 320 pp. \$75.00.

Since the 1997 financial crisis that whiplashed its way around the world, most Asian economies have struggled. The economies hardest hit—especially South Korea, Thailand, Indonesia, and Malaysia—are still trying to find their economic footing. Japan continues to linger in a decade-long recession. Even Hong Kong, once so vibrant and expansive, is weighted down by overhanging property values and shifting markets. Among Asian economies only the Taiwanese economy remains healthy and growing. Not even the region’s largest earthquake in a decade, measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale and hitting near the heart of Taiwan’s export production in September 1999, appreciably slowed that economy. There can be no question: Asian economies are not alike now, nor in retrospect have they ever been.

Before the financial crisis, however, when it appeared to some that Asian economies would continue to grow at rates similar to those of the previous twenty years, more than a few analysts were inspired to discover what common factors could