



# CITIES, AUTONOMY, AND DECENTRALIZATION IN JAPAN

Edited by Carola Hein and Philippe Pelletier

# Cities Autonomy And Decentralization In Japan

## Routledge Contemporary Japan

**John Mock, Hiroaki Kawamura, Naeko  
Naganuma**



## **Cities Autonomy And Decentralization In Japan Routledge Contemporary Japan:**

Cities, Autonomy, and Decentralization in Japan Carola Hein,Philippe Pelletier,2006-09-27 Adding a new perspective to the current literature on decentralization in Japan Cities Autonomy and Decentralization in Japan approaches the subject from an urban studies and planning approach The essays in the collection present a cogent compilation of case studies focusing on the past present and future of decentralization in Japan These include small scale development in the fields such as citizen participation machizukuri urban form and architecture disaster prevention and conservation of monuments The contributors suggest that new trends are emerging after the bursting of Japan s economic bubble and assess them in the context of the country s larger socio political system This in depth analysis of the development outside of Japan provides a valuable addition to students of Urban Asian and Japanese Studies     Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Japan Hiroko Takeda,Mark Williams,2020-09-21 The Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Japan presents a synthesized interdisciplinary study of contemporary Japan based on up to date theoretical models designed to provide readers with a comprehensive and full understanding of the dynamics of contemporary Japan In order to achieve this the Handbook is organized into two parts Part I Foundations clarifies the state of contemporary Japan topic by topic by referring to the latest theoretical developments in the relevant disciplinary fields of politics international relations economy society culture and the personal Part II Issues then offers a series of concrete analyses building upon the theoretical discussions introduced in Part I to help undergraduate and postgraduate students learn how to conduct independent analysis Locating Japan in a comparative and interdisciplinary perspective this Handbook is an essential resource for students and scholars interested in Japanese studies Asian studies and global studies     *The SAGE Handbook of Modern Japanese Studies* James D Babb,2014-12-15 A welcome addition to any reading list for those interested in contemporary Japanese society Roger Goodman Nissan Professor of Modern Japanese Society University of Oxford I know no better book for an accessible and up to date introduction to this complex subject than The SAGE Handbook of Modern Japan Studies Hiroko Takeda Associate Professor Organization for Global Japanese Studies University of Tokyo Pioneering and nuanced in analysis yet highly accessible and engaging in style Yoshio Sugimoto Emeritus Professor La Trobe University The SAGE Handbook of Modern Japanese Studies includes outstanding contributions from a diverse group of leading academics from across the globe This volume is designed to serve as a major interdisciplinary reference work and a seminal text both rigorous and accessible to assist students and scholars in understanding one of the major nations of the world James D Babb is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Geography Politics and Sociology at Newcastle University     *Parkscapes* Thomas R. H. Havens,2010-11-30 Japan today protects one seventh of its land surface in parks which are visited by well over a billion people each year Parkscapes analyzes the origins development and distinctive features of these public spaces Green zones were created by the government beginning in the late nineteenth century for state purposes but eventually evolved into sites of negotiation between bureaucrats and ordinary citizens who use them for

demonstrations riots and shelters as well as recreation Thomas Havens shows how revolutionary officials in the 1870s seized private properties and converted them into public parks for educating and managing citizens in the new emperor sanctioned state Rebuilding Tokyo and Yokohama after the earthquake and fires of 1923 spurred the spread of urban parklands both in the capital and other cities According to Havens the growth of suburbs the national mobilization of World War II and the post 1945 American occupation helped speed the creation of more urban parks setting the stage for vast increases in public green spaces during Japan s golden age of affluence from the 1960s through the 1980s Since the 1990s the Japanese public has embraced a heightened ecological consciousness and become deeply involved in the design and management of both city and natural parks realms once monopolized by government bureaucrats As in other prosperous countries public private partnerships have increasingly become the norm in operating parks for public benefit yet the heavy hand of officialdom is still felt throughout Japan s open lands Based on extensive research in government documents travel records and accounts by frequent park visitors Parksapes is the first book in any language to examine the history of both urban and national parks of Japan As an account of how Japan s experience of spatial modernity challenges current thinking about protection and use of the nonhuman environment globally the book will appeal widely to readers of spatial and environmental history as well as those interested in modern Japan and its many inviting green spaces

### **The Routledge Handbook of Planning History**

Carola Hein, 2017-12-14 2018 IPHS Special Book Prize Award Recipient The Routledge Handbook of Planning History offers a comprehensive interdisciplinary overview of planning history since its emergence in the late 19th century investigating the history of the discipline its core writings key people institutions vehicles education and practice Combining theoretical methodological historical comparative and global approaches to planning history The Routledge Handbook of Planning History explores the state of the discipline its achievements and shortcomings and its future challenges A foundation for the discipline and a springboard for scholarly research The Routledge Handbook of Planning History explores planning history on an international scale in thirty eight chapters providing readers with unique opportunities for comparison The diverse contributions open up new perspectives on the many ways in which contemporary events changing research needs and cutting edge methodologies shape the writing of planning history The Open Access version of this book available at <http://www.taylorfrancis.com> has been made available under a Creative Commons Attribution CC BY 4.0 license

**The Impact of Internationalization on Japanese Higher Education** John Mock, Hiroaki Kawamura, Naeko Naganuma, 2016-02-10 Deftly avoiding both the zealous idealism of the policymaker and the cynical realism of the practitioner the contributions to this volume offer empirically grounded culturally nuanced analyses of university internationalisation in practice Recommended reading for anyone interested in Japanese higher education today and a fine example of how to blend engaging insider stories with rigorous scholarly analysis Jeremy Breaden PhD Melbourne Lecturer in Japanese Studies School of Languages Literatures Cultures and Linguistics Faculty of Arts Monash University An excellent timely publication This book brings

together critical insights and multi dimensional understandings of internationalization and international and intercultural practices in Japanese higher education It will be an important sourcebook a must read for all interested in Japanese higher education and internationalization It will certainly raise the bar of competencies and knowledge of the field Terri Kim PhD London Reader in Comparative Higher Education Leader of the Higher Education Research Group University of East London

*Japan's Foreign Aid to Africa* Pedro Amakasu Raposo, 2013-09-05 The Tokyo International Conference on African Development TICAD was established in 1993 with the intention of creating opportunities for trade and investment on both sides and the promotion of sustainable development In 2003 the conference translated Japanese aid policy to Africa into three key pillars human centered development poverty reduction through economic growth and the consolidation of peace and since 2005 Africa has on several occasions been the largest recipient of Japanese overseas aid Tracing Japanese foreign aid to Africa during and after the Cold War this book examines how the TICAD process sits at the intersection of international relations and domestic decision making Indeed it questions whether the increase in aid has been driven by domestic changes such as demands from civil society and donor interest or pressures emanating from the international system Taking Angola and Mozambique as case studies the book explores how Japan s development cooperation with Africa has assisted previously war torn states make the transition from war to peace and in doing so demonstrates the centrality of human security to Japanese foreign policy as a means of ensuring sustainable development This book will have great interdisciplinary appeal to students and scholars of Japanese and African studies Japanese politics international relations theory foreign policy economic development and sustainable development Tradition, Democracy and the Townscape of Kyoto Christoph

Brumann, 2012-08-06 As the historic capital of the country and the stronghold of the nation s most celebrated traditions the city of Kyoto holds a unique place in the Japanese imagination Widely praised for the beauty of its townscape and natural environments it is both a popular destination for tourists and home to one and a half million inhabitants There has been a sustained lively debate about how best to develop the city with a large number of local government officials citizen activists urban planners real estate developers architects builders proprietors academic researchers and ordinary Kyotoites involved in discussions forming a highly peculiar social arena that has no match elsewhere in Japan This book based on extensive fieldwork and interviews provides an ethnographic study of this particular social field It analyses how people in Kyoto deal with their most cherished traditions such as the traditional town houses and the famous Gion matsuri festival which calls into question several of the standard social scientific assumptions about the functions of cultural heritage for present day societies The book looks at the way concerned citizens government bureaucrats and other important players interact with each other over contentious modern buildings often with the best intentions but constrained by set role expectations and by the superior power of national level regulations and agencies This book contributes to debates on the social uses of tradition and heritage and the question of how to create sustainable liveable urban environments *Living Cities in Japan* André

Sorensen,Carolyn Funck,2007-08-07 Over the last fifteen years local citizens movements have spread rapidly throughout Japan Created with the aim of improving the quality of the local environment and of environmental management processes such activities are widely referred to as machizukuri and represent an important development in local politics and urban management in Japan This volume examines the growth and nature of such civil society participation in local urban and environmental governance raising important questions about the changing roles of and relations between central and local government and between citizens and the state in managing shared spaces The machizukuri processes studied here can be seen as the focus of an important emerging trend toward increased civic participation in managing processes of urban change in Japan The contributors provide a comprehensive overview of the machizukuri phenomenon through examination not only of theory and history but also of case studies illustrating real changes in the institutions of place making and neighbourhood governance Living Cities in Japan will be of particular value to readers interested in social urban geographical and environmental studies

Japan's Contested War Memories Philip A. Seaton,2007-03-12 Japan's Contested War Memories is an important and significant book that explores the struggles within contemporary Japanese society to come to terms with Second World War history Focusing particularly on 1972 onwards the period starts with the normalization of relations with China and the return of Okinawa to Japan in 1972 and ends with the sixtieth anniversary commemorations Analyzing the variety of ways in which the Japanese people narrate contest and interpret the past the book is also a major critique of the way the subject has been treated in much of the English language Philip Seaton concludes that war history in Japan today is more divisive and widely argued over than in any of the other major Second World War combatant nations Providing a sharp contrast to the many orthodox statements about Japanese ignorance amnesia and denial about the war this is an engaging and illuminating study that will appeal to scholars and students of Japanese history politics cultural studies society and memory theory

**Marriage in Contemporary Japan** Yoko Tokuhiko,2009-09-25 The phenomenon of bankonka postponement of marriage is increasingly reported in contemporary Japanese media clearly illustrating the changing patterns of modern lifestyles and attitudes towards marriage personal obligation and ambition This is the first book in recent years to explore the contemporary state of marriage in Japanese society Setting out the different perceptions and expectations of marriage in today's Japan the book discusses how economic issues and the family impact on marital behaviour Contrary to the views of some feminists that young women have no interest in improving their status and position this book argues that by delaying marriage and childrearing young women can be seen as rebels challenging Japanese patriarchal society Unlike many other studies it gives equal attention to male gender roles and masculinity exploring what constitutes being a real man in Japan through the analysis of mainstream and non mainstream conceptions of masculinity that co exist in contemporary Japan and considers the implications of such different roles for the institution of marriage It investigates the roles of wife and mother articulating why the strict division of labour defining men as

breadwinners and women as homemakers became popular Moreover it describes the changing character of courtship relationships explaining why the norm has shifted from arranged marriages pre 1945 to love marriages after that period Finally it puts the Japanese experience into cross cultural international context with a series of comparisons with marriage elsewhere both in Asia including in Korea and Hong Kong and in western countries such as France Sweden Italy and the United States

**Linguistic Stereotyping and Minority Groups in Japan** Nanette Gottlieb,2006-02-01 This book is the first full length study in English to examine the use of discriminatory language in Japan As in other countries there has been much debate about the public use of language deemed demeaning to certain groups within society especially in relation to the issue of minority rights versus freedom of speech Adding a new dimension to the discussion of language and society in Japan the book focuses on an aspect of language and power which highlights some of the dissent underlying Japan s officially promoted ideology of a harmonious society The text presents a revealing examination of the discriminatory language known as sabetsu yogo as identified by five minority groups the Burakumin the Ainu people with physical or mental disabilities women and ethnic groups within Japan

**Homosexuality and Manliness in Postwar Japan** Jonathan D. Mackintosh,2010 This book examines the history of the relationship between male homosexuality and conceptions of manliness in postwar Japan It provides a detailed account of the formative years of the homo magazine genre in the 1970s and explores its evolution in subsequent years analyzing key issues including homophobia gay liberation male male sex love and friendship the masculine body and manly identity

**Visions of Precarity in Japanese Popular Culture and Literature** Kristina Iwata-Weickgenannt,Roman Rosenbaum,2014-11-27 Recent natural as well as man made cataclysmic events have dramatically changed the status quo of contemporary Japanese society and following the Asia Pacific war s never ending postwar period Japan has been dramatically forced into a zeitgeist of saigo or post disaster This radically new worldview has significantly altered the socio political as well as literary perception of one of the world s potential superpowers and in this book the contributors closely examine how Japan s new paradigm of precarious existence is expressed through a variety of pop cultural as well as literary media Addressing the transition from post war to post disaster literature this book examines the rise of precarity consciousness in Japanese socio cultural discourse The chapters investigate the extent to which we can talk about the emergence of a new literary paradigm of precarity in the world of Japanese popular culture Through careful examination of a variety of contemporary texts ranging from literature manga anime television drama and film this study offers an interpretation of the many dissonant voices in Japanese society The contributors also outline the related social issues in Japanese society and culture providing a comprehensive overview of the global trends that link Japan with the rest of the world Visions of Precarity in Japanese Popular Culture and Literature will be of great interest to students and scholars of contemporary Japan Japanese culture and society popular culture and social and cultural history

**Planning Asian Cities** Stephen Hamnett,Dean Forbes,2012-03-29 Stephen Hamnett and Dean Forbes

have brought together some of the region's most distinguished urbanists to explore the planning history and recent development of Pacific Asia's major cities. They show how globalization and the competition to achieve global city status has had a profound effect on all these cities. But how resilient are these cities to the risks that they face? How can they manage continuing pressures for development and growth while reducing their vulnerability to a range of potential crises? And given the tradition of top-down centralized state-directed planning which drove the economic growth of many of these cities in the last century, what prospects are there of them becoming more inclusive and sensitive to the diverse needs of their populations and to the importance of culture heritage and local places in creating liveable cities?

*Superhuman Japan* Marie Thorsten, 2012-03-15 This book examines the imaginative narratives that shaped the attitudes of Americans and others toward Japan. Focusing on cultural aspects of economic nationalism and US-Japan relations during the trade war, Marie Thorsten uses examples from public discourse, film, documentaries, novels, acts of racism, and comparison of international education assessments to examine the way in which Japan has been constituted in a global political gaze as an economic hegemon. In times of heightened rivalry, we often try to find superior others so that we can motivate ourselves against an imagined future of decline. During the Cold War, Americans and other nations in the West took advantage of being the underdog against the perceived superiority of the Soviet Union, especially by turning the Sputnik launch of 1957 into a lodestone for an educational renaissance. As postwar Japanese power became increasingly threatening, American policymakers again tried to fashion Japan into another Sputnik to motivate American people. This book explores 1980s Bubble Japan as a Superhuman Other in the consciousness of Americans, especially as reflected in popular culture and policy discourses. Making Japan into a Superhuman often resorted into the same stereotyping that invented Japan as a Subhuman. It was difficult for many to see that America, Japan, and other nations were actually sharing the same global economic circumstances affecting attitudes toward knowledge and nation. This book will be of interest to students and scholars of Japanese politics, International Relations, and Japanese culture and society.

*A Life Adrift* Soeda Azembo, Michael Lewis (Translator), 2008-11-21 *A Life Adrift* the memoir of balladeer, political activist Soeda Azembo, 1872-1944, chronicles his life as one of Japan's first modern mass entertainers and imparts an understanding of how ordinary people experienced and accommodated the tumult of life in prewar Japan. Azembo created enka songs sung by tenant farmers in rural hinterlands and factory hands in Tokyo and Osaka. Although his work is still largely unknown outside Japan, his poems and lyrics were so well known at his career's peak that a single verse served as shorthand expressing popular attitudes about political corruption, sex scandals, spiralling prices, war, and love of motherland. As these categories attest, he was embedded in his songs contemporary views on class conflict, gender relations, and racial attitudes toward international rivals. Ordinary people valued Azembo's music because it was of them and for them. They also appreciated it for being distinctively modern and home-grown qualities rare among the cultural innovations that flooded into Japan from the mid-nineteenth century. *A Life Adrift* stands out as the



only memoir of its kind one written first hand by a leader in the world of enka singing

**Japan and the High Treason Incident** Masako Gavin, Ben Middleton, 2013-08-21 The High Treason Incident rocked Japanese society between 1910 and 1911 when police discovered that a group of anarchists and socialists were plotting to assassinate the Emperor Meiji Following a trial held in camera twelve of the so called conspirators were hanged but while the executions officially brought an end to the incident they were only the initial outcome as the state became increasingly paranoid about national ideological cohesion In response it deployed an array of new technologies of integration and surveillance and the subsequent repression affected not only political movements but the whole cultural sphere This book shows the far reaching impact of the high treason incident for Japanese politics and society and the subsequent course of Japanese history Taking an interdisciplinary and global approach it demonstrates how the incident transformed modern Japan in numerous and unexpected ways and sheds light on the response of authoritarian states to radical democratic opposition movements elsewhere The contributors examine the effects of the incident on Japanese history literature politics and society as well as its points of intersection with broader questions of anarchism colonialism gender and governmentality to underline its historical and contemporary significance With chapters by leading Western and Japanese scholars and drawing on newly available primary sources this book is a timely and relevant study that will be of great interest to students and scholars working in the fields of Japanese history Japanese politics Japanese studies as well as those interested in the history of social movements

*Japanese Women in Science and Engineering* Naonori Kodate, Kashiko Kodate, 2015-07-30 The gender gap in science technology engineering and mathematics STEM varies greatly from country to country and the number of Japanese women in these fields remains relatively few This prompts us to ask why the proportion of female scientists in Japan is still remarkably low and what measures the government universities and research institutes are taking to address this issue This book sheds light on historical developments and the current gender equality situation in Japan through the lens of women in STEM It shows how a policy of gender equality in science and engineering has been introduced through the coordinated efforts of academia scientific societies and the government and how this has led to a slow but steady increase in female representation The book draws on extensive data including interviews with government officials scientists and educators in Japan to provide a revealing case study on how the underrepresentation of women in the fields of science technology and engineering has been approached and dealt with by a national government It heralds a new era for female scientists by showcasing several programmes undertaken by government universities and national research institutions to support multiple career paths for and the progression of female scientists in Japan Tracing the historical development of Japan's policies towards women in science and education this book will be welcomed by students and scholars interested in Japanese studies comparative social policy gender studies employment and the history of science and technology

Japanese-Russian Relations, 1907-2007 Joseph Ferguson, 2008-04-03 This book presents a comprehensive survey of Japanese Russian relations from the end of the

Russo Japanese War until the present Based on extensive original research in Japanese and Russian sources it shows how the hopeful period of the late 1990s when acrimonious relations between the two briefly ceased was not in fact unique

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