Prof. Iokibe examines modern disaster response in Japan and the evolving efforts of rebuilding, from earthquake preparations and regulations to immediate emergency procedures at the national, prefectural, and city levels in hope of minimizing the tragic effects of the next great disaster. This book focuses on three major earthquakes from Japan’s modern history (1923, 1995, 2011), unveiling not only the disasters themselves but the humanity underneath, in hope that we might learn from the past and move forward with greater wisdom, knowledge, and community.

The security of the Asia-Pacific region is at an important turning point as China’s intensifying maritime activities cause growing instability. With the existing order of the region under threat, the Japan-US alliance is an “alliance of hope” for peace and prosperity.

This book analyzes that alliance and discusses its future direction from the perspective of maintaining maritime security in the region.
Population and the Japanese Economy
Longevity, Innovation, and Economic Growth
YOSHIKAWA Hiroshi

In light of Japan’s shrinking population, decreasing work force, expanding fiscal deficit, and rural regions facing a crisis of disappearance, isn’t the decline of the nation inevitable? The answer from economics is a resounding “No!” The key to economic growth is innovation, and the fact that Japan is one of the world’s leading “longevity societies” is precisely what poses an opportunity. This book sweeps away the “population decline pessimism” that has spread throughout Japan and approaches the real issues of the Japanese economy.

How Human Is Human?
The View from Robotics Research
ISHIGURO Hiroshi

Dr. Ishiguro presents an overview of androids he created, along with episodes and difficulties encountered during their development. Unlike industrial robots, these androids are designed to provide new tools for human interaction and communication. Users can project their voice and movements remotely over the Internet, giving a sense of presence that is impossible through technologies such as video conferencing. These androids represent a first step toward telepresence technologies so far encountered only in science fiction.

Lost in Evolution
Exploring Humanity’s Path in Asia
KAWABATA Hiroto

This work explores these questions with an unequalled focus on events in Asia, providing new information and insights, and a thoughtful look at humanity’s evolutionary background.

The Legacy of Kano Jigoro
Judo and Education
Edited by The Committee for the Commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the Birth of Jigoro Kano

KANÔ Jigorō, the founder of judo, lived life according to his own words—seiryoku zen’yō and jita kyōei—the best practical use of one’s energies and putting one’s efforts to good use for the benefit of both oneself and society. This biography reveals how Kanō Sensei laid out the foundation for sports in Japanese education and his immense devotion and commitment to bringing the Olympic Games to Japan, all the while never ceasing to develop and promote the sport he created.

Lost in Evolution
Exploring Humanity’s Path in Asia
KAWABATA Hiroto

Translated by Larry Greenberg

Technical advisor KAIFU Yousuke

Societies may wrestle with such insigificant differences as skin color, yet Homo sapiens are broadly homogeneous. We’re all basically the same, and we’re the only human species alive. Yet it has not always been that way. Species such as the Peking Man and the Cro-Magnons lived eons ago. Who were they and where did they live? How is it that only Homo sapiens remain? This book explores these questions with an unequalled focus on events in Asia, providing new information and insights, and a thoughtful look at humanity’s evolutionary background.
The Japanese Linguistic Landscape
Reflections on Quintessential Words
NAKANISHI Susumu

Beautiful words have an ageless quality, regardless of when they first appeared in a language. This book introduces a balanced mix of new and old words that reflect the singular beauty of the Japanese language. Only by submerging ourselves in a language can we perceive its splendid subtleties and appreciate its true beauty. This book offers readers an opportunity to delve into the nuances of Japanese, explore the language’s history, and savor its unique beauty.

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Making Xavier’s Dream Real
Vernacular Writings of Catholic Missionaries in Modern Japan
Nanyan Guo

This book reveals how St. Francis Xavier’s (1506–1552) dream of evangelizing Japan was realized by four Catholic missionaries who lived in Japan and published in Japanese for the populace: Aimé Villion (1843–1932), Sauveur Candau (1897–1955), Hermann Heuvers (1890–1977), and Georges Neyrand (1920–2011). The literature penned by these missionaries not only enhances our understanding of the five-centuries-long dialogue between Europe and Japan, but also enables us to recognize and appreciate the extremely important role that Christianity has played in shaping today’s Japanese culture.

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Traditional Cuisine of the Ryukyu Islands
A History of Health and Healing
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This modern version of the Gozen honzo, a nineteenth-century guidebook on diet therapy written in 1832 by TOKASHIKI Pechin Tsukan, chief physician to the king of the Ryuku Kingdom, will lead you to understand that the Okinawan saying “food is kusuimun (medicine)” is truly so. It covers 60 traditional Ryukyu foodstuffs from grains and vegetables to meat and fish, explains their medicinal effects, required preparation, and effective combinations. Seventy recipes from the original text reproduce the various delicacies that are the foundation of Okinawan cuisine.

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