

South Korea in Northeast Asia – the Question of War and Peace

Prof. LEE Eun-Jeung / Eric Ballbach

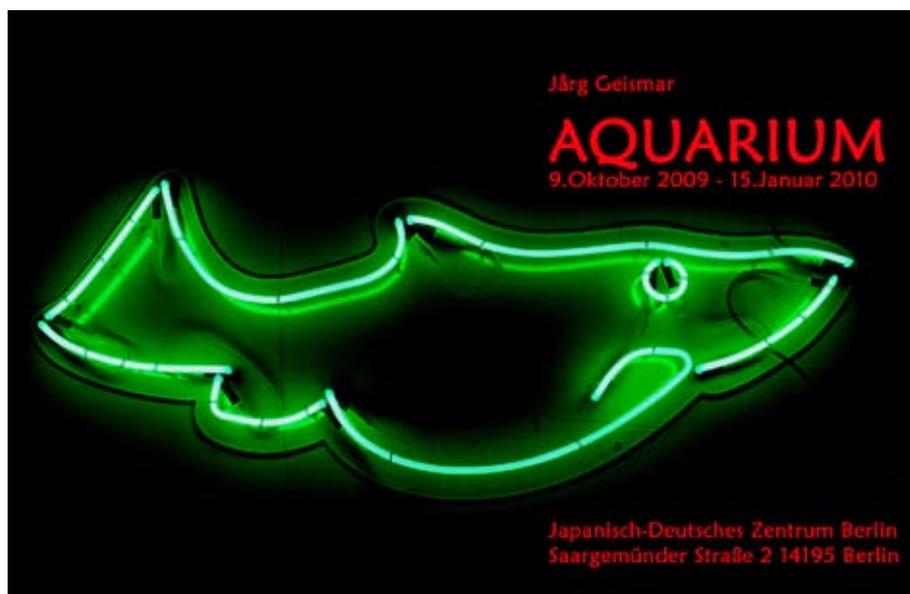
Currently we are witnessing dramatic changes in the political situation on the Korean peninsula and in Northeast Asia, these include: the worrying development of North Korea's nuclear program and the looming upheavals in its political leadership; possible changes in the power structure of Japan; and China's search for new perspectives in view of the greatest economic crisis experienced for decades. South Korea's President LEE Myung-Bak is faced with the difficult task of establishing within this framework a new position for South Korea in Northeast Asia. This is extremely difficult because relations have clearly deteriorated between the two Korean States since President LEE assumed the role of leader in 2008. Moreover, the smoldering conflict about territories and the shared history with its

neighbors of China and Japan have not been resolved.

Precarious developments of inter-Korean relations

South Korea's policies toward North Korea have undergone significant changes since LEE Myung-Bak came to power. Since his inauguration he has turned sharply away from the *policy of engagement* focus of his predecessors KIM Dae-Jung und ROH Moo-Hyun toward a more "pragmatic North Korea policy." The nucleus of what some observers have labeled *disengagement* is linking inter-Korean relations with the denuclearization of North Korea. Even though theoretically we can sympathize with the immediate concernment of South Korea, this policy is immensely difficult – not

only due to Seoul's accompanying loss of influence. A major achievement of the "sunshine policy" or "policy for peace and prosperity" was the opening and institutionalization of inter-Korean contact for the government in Seoul, enabling thereby independent influence or at least independent lines of communication with North Korea. This autonomy was surrendered by linking both processes to North Korea's denuclearization, which in any case is regarded by the governing powers there as a bilateral issue with the USA. The government in Seoul appears to be speculating once again about the collapse of North Korea and seems willing to wait until this happens – i.e., "waiting is also a strategy." Thus, LEE's North Korea policy fundamentally lacks a proactive and constructive foundation.



"Small Fishes, big Fishes" Installation with Neon; Drawings on cellophane with glas colors; Installation with up to 2000 Photos from Tôkyô; Approx. 50 films made in Japan; Sound installation; Installation with drawings and slide projections – Opening of the next JDZB exhibition on October 9, 2009, at 7 p.m.

CONTENT	
South Korea in Northeast Asia LEE / Ballbach	1–2
<i>Editorial</i>	2
<i>Interview</i> City Development of Berlin	3
<i>Conference Report</i> Post-Kyoto and the "Green New Deal"	4
<i>Exchange Programs</i> Youth Work Specialists in Japan	5
<i>Other Events</i>	6
<i>Preview of Events 2009</i>	7
<i>20 Years Fall of the Wall</i>	8

Territorial conflict with China and Japan

Despite areas of existing cooperation between the two Korean States, above all when it concerns emotional, nationalist issues such as the history and the traditional territories of Korea, it seems that both countries assume a “one nation” approach toward China or Japan. For example, a study group established by the Chinese government within the framework of a “Northeast Project” claimed that Koguryō – a kingdom that ruled from the first century B.C. to 668 A.D. on the northern part of the Korean peninsula (an area that stretches today from most of North Korea to a large part of Manchuria) – would be part of Chinese history; we now have South and North Korean historians collaborating on a project to negate this claim. Moreover, the two Korean States joined forces to take a stand against Japan with regard to the “history textbook dispute” and when Japanese Prime Minister KOIZUMI visited the Yasukuni Shrine. Another important factor endangering the peaceful relations between the north-eastern neighbors is the seemingly unsolvable conflicts about borders in the region, for example the ocean border with China or the conflict about the island of Tokdo/Takeshima with Japan. Despite de-escalation measures, the effect of these conflicts is too serious for us to just dismiss them as nationalist-chauvinistic emotional outbursts – more so because there have not been any trust or peace dividends since the end of the Cold War. Instead competition in the military sector has become fiercer.

South Korea’s search for a new role within Northeast Asia

Despite or because of this problem South Korea is forced to find a way for peaceful co-existence with its neighbors – as war cannot be an option for Northeast Asia and the Korean peninsula due to security policy reasons. Thus, negotiations and compromises can be the only realistic alternative to guarantee peace in Korea and Northeast Asia. If for no other reason South Korea will continue to raise the discussion of creating a regional community similar to the EU model. ROH Moo-Hyun’s government has expressed its desire to play a mediatory role in Northeast Asia to avoid new conflicts and clashes in the region, and to establish new peace and prosperity. According to LEE Su-Hun (political scientist and chair of the Presidential Committee for Northeast Asia under ROH Moo-Hyun) South Korea must stand in the centre of a framework for peace in Northeast Asia, because without peace on the Korean peninsula there is no chance for peace in Northeast Asia. It is particularly worth noting the hegemony claims of South Korea as a “balancer” within this region will increase. The moral justification for this role will be ascribed to the fact that throughout history South Korea has neither attacked its neighbors nor fought for hegemony in the region. Nevertheless, we may ask ourselves the question of how the “balancer” concept of South Korea shall differentiate between the Asianism of Japan and Sinicism of China – with which each country makes a claim for its leadership of Asia, especially when it does not conquer the framework of nationalism.

.....

Dr. LEE Eun-Jeung is Professor, Eric Ballbach Research Fellow at the Institute for Korea Studies at the Free University of Berlin.



Dear “jdzB echo” readers!

Elections in Japan and Germany, the Asia Pacific Weeks in Berlin and the 20th anniversary commemorating the fall of the Berlin Wall: all these events set the framework for the JDZB’s activities this fall. When the Japanese-German Forum meets in Tôkyô in November this year, both Japan and Germany will have new governments and their parliaments may send new representatives to the Forum. Still, many of the agenda items will remain the same: overcoming the global financial and economic crisis and the security situation in Northeast Asia will continue to be items of intense discussions.

We will use the events of November 9th, 1989, as an opportunity to present to Tôkyô the City of Berlin and how it has evolved since then. Every Berliner, but also every visitor to the city has followed the development of new architecture and a new city-scape, sometimes quite critically, but always with great fascination. Over the past 20 years the JDZB has consistently dealt with the evolution of the divided city into the German capital and even contributed to this itself; indeed our move from the borough of Tiergarten to Dahlem is one of the consequences of the fall of the Berlin Wall. We look forward to welcoming you all back.

Dr. Friederike Bosse
Secretary General of the JDZB

jdzB echo

Published quarterly in March – June – Sept. – Dec.

Publisher:
Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB)
Editor: Michael Niemann
Tel.: +49-30-839 07 186, E-Mail: niemann@jdzB.de

The jdzB echo can be downloaded as a pdf-document from the JDZB Homepage or subscribed to by E-Mail.

Address of the JDZB:
Saargemünder Str. 2, 14195 Berlin, Germany
Tel.: +49-30-839 07 0 Fax: +49-30-839 07 220
E-Mail: jdzB@jdzB.de URL: <http://www.jdzB.de>

Opening hours of the Library:
Mon + Thu 10 am–4 pm; Wed 12 noon–6 pm
New: Lending possible from September 1, 2009.

Society of Friends of the JDZB: freundeskreis@jdzB.de

To commemorate the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, the JDZB and the Goethe Institute in Japan will outline the development of the German capital city over the past two decades and host discussions with renowned German and Japanese architects, and urban planners. The event will be held in Tôkyô on October 27, 2009.

Below is an interview with leading Berlin urban and city planner Prof. Hans Stimmann who has had a decisive influence on building and planning activities of Berlin in his incumbency as Berlin Senate's Director of Construction and State Secretary from 1991 to 2006.

What is meant by the term "European City"?

The European city defines itself through the tension between public and private sectors, between the community and the individual: streets and town squares are public; the bordering buildings of houses and apartments are private. Nevertheless, buildings are constructed so that the "face" of the buildings point toward the street. When you walk through the streets you view their facades. In contrast, we could say that the Japanese city has tended to develop more inwardly with a non-uniform external appearance with many small laneways and inner courtyards. Another element of the European city is the continuity of the city layout. In my hometown of Lübeck, streets and town squares have had the same names for 800 years; not to mention cities such as Rome which has an even longer history and where you can easily still trace the steps written by Goethe in his travel journal.

How does Berlin's development compare?

This history or continuity was broken during the divided post-WWII period of Berlin, through the American car-friendly city of the West and the socialist or Soviet city of the East; both sides built without taking into account the old city layout, ownership structures and typology.

I have tried to turn this principle back around, and in 1991 we did not create a new city plan, rather we retrieved the city plans from 1930 with its layout of old construction developments. Within the framework of the "European city" prime examples for planning and construction include the Potsdamer Platz, Pariser Platz and the bordering baroque-style of Friedrichstadt.

The first "battle" was fought at Potsdamer Platz. At the time an international competition was advertised by the investors Sony and Daimler (then still known as DaimlerChrysler) and ABB: they wanted to re-invent the city and I thought this approach was wrong. In the end the winning project was a compromise between tradition and modern, and ultimately Potsdamer Platz is fairly successful. Most successful relatively speaking is the Sony part built by the architect Helmut Jahn, which is the most American element of the Platz. This

has to do with the fact that Sony – and above all the personal engagement of the then Chair Ôga Norio – had a vision of incorporating new media and this was then used. I also like to see movies at the new cinema center there.

In debates to reconstruct the baroque city the term "critical reconstruction" is constantly referred to, and you were a supporter of this. What does this term mean?

It's about the creation or recreation of traditional city plans and layout. The streets in Berlin are up to 28 meters wide, the Friedrichstraße is 22 meters. The houses were built to a height of 22 meters which resulted in the typical quadratic street profile of Berlin. A completely different impression is created if the houses are 40 meters or 80 meters high. For example, in Tôkyô traditionally houses were built rather low but after the war – then again over the past ten to fifteen years – you can look ever upward in newer areas that are more American – and we don't want that in Berlin... Even the largest department store of Berlin, the KaDeWe, is – even though it's very young from an urban planning perspective – a typical example aligned to the exact Berlin eaves' height!



You are often accused that you're an opponent of modern architecture. From your perspective do you think there is good and bad architecture?

My critics have always confused or equated urban planning and architecture. Urban planning is when the State stipulates the regulations for building on private estates to ensure there is uniformity. Urban planning naturally interferes with architecture, which many architects think is unreasonable.

Many modern architects create solitary building, or buildings that do not align with others in a row. The best example here is the Guggenheim Museum by Frank Gehry in Bilbao.

Let's take a counter example such as Pariser Platz and Brandenburg Gate. Here we have exact specifications for the height of the eaves even down to the size of the window openings. Gehry kept to the specifications given for his DZ Bank building and created a façade out of sandstone, but he developed an exceptionally creative interior – it is one of my favorite buildings, it's a prototype of the European city: a conventional exterior but an interior that is very individual.

One of the current debates in Berlin is focused on the oldest part of the city, the Old Town that was destroyed by the war and by East Germany and which is located to the east of the future Palace or Humboldtforum. The agenda for discussions include the topic of how do we deal with history and tradition in the course of a new construction.

Could you summarize the last 20 years of Berlin's development? Are you satisfied with your efforts?

I am pretty satisfied. Mainly because my program, which was heavily criticized at the start, is now the general policies of the state and the urban planning department: 20 years ago everybody wanted to move to the green meadows beyond the city's boundaries, today everyone wants to live in the city center and that was exactly my goal for Berlin: living and working in a reconstructed European city! Moreover this has happened against the background of demographic development, the current economic crisis and above all the environmental factors that all speak out in favor of living and working in the city.

Symposium: Post-Kyoto and the Green New Deal: Green Opportunities for Japan, Germany and the U.S.

Andrew DeWit (Director, Economic Research Center, Rikkyô University, Tôkyô)

On June 10, 2009, the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation (FES), the Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB), the Fujitsu Research Institute (FRI) and Rikkyô University's Economic Research Centre held this conference at the International Forum in Tôkyô.

The first panel was titled "Post-Kyoto: New targets, New opportunities." Japan's former Environment Minister, KOIKE Yuriko, spoke together with Matthias Machnig, State Secretary of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety. Commenting on the American political process was Robert Orr, chairman of the Panasonic Foundation and former member and President of Boeing Japan and a member of the Obama foreign-policy network and economy group. Also, TAKAHASHI Yasuo spoke as director of the Office of Market Mechanisms, Climate Change Policy Division, for Japan's Ministry of the Environment.

These speakers emphasized a variety of points that will become increasingly important as this year progresses. KOIKE took issue with media portrayals of her "Cool Biz" policies of the mid-1990s, and stressed that they were not limited to simply removing neckties and upping the settings on air conditioners. She depicted such efforts as the core of a larger program to conserve energy and instill an ethic of sustainability. A more policy-oriented presentation was offered by Machnig, who opened his remarks by noting the urgency of acting on energy and climate change as well as the increasing successes that Germany has had in the renewables field. The Federation of German Industries (BDI), he noted, had only the previous day declared that renewable and sustainable energy products would become the single largest sector of German industry in the near future. The sector already exceeds the

German automobile business in terms of size. Machnig also forcefully reminded the audience that this year, with its Post-Kyoto culmination in Copenhagen, is without precedent in human history. He declared quite movingly that we must act, and act responsibly, using the proven tools of smart public policy in shaping the incentives in the overall economy. Robert Orr followed up Machnig's enthusiasm for responsible action with very sobering remarks about the difficulties of the political process in Washington. He noted that there is no doubt that the Obama regime is committed to robust targets in order to engineer an industrial transformation. But the devil is in the details, as well as in the committees of the Congress. America's extremely open and fragmented system of governance allows the representatives of the status quo ample opportunity to interfere in efforts to change it. Using the metaphor of the Old Man and the Sea, Orr warned that there is every possibility that we will see an enormous opportunity whittled down by compromises to the insatiable jaws of vested interests, to the point where the ensuing legislation is a mere skeleton of the initial vision. Mr. TAKAHASHI'S comments reflected the continued reluctance of the Japanese policy community to use robust state sector mechanisms rather than rely on nudging the market. Both he and KOIKE highlighted the difficulties in facilitating wind and geothermal power production, a sharp contrast to the eagerness with which these technologies are being deployed in Germany, the United States and just about everywhere else in response to robust public sector targets for renewable energy production as a percentage of overall electrical output.

The second panel was addressed more to the politics of the green new deal, and titled "Post-Kyoto and the Green New Deal." There

were five speakers, including LIDA Tetsunari (Managing Director of the Institute of Sustainable Energy Policy), IKUTA Takafumi (Fujitsu Research Institute), Martin Jänicke (Member of the Board of the Bundesstiftung Umwelt), Pavan Sukhdev (Director of the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity at the United Nations Environmental Program), and Stacy VanDeveer (Professor at the University of New Hampshire).

This mix of speakers allowed for a thorough discussion on the policy mechanisms and the political processes that are becoming the core elements of the ongoing energy revolution. All of the speakers illustrated the fact that we are in the midst of an industrial revolution. They depicted how the progress of various nations and regions varies according to the package of public policies and other mechanisms they deploy to encourage the renewable revolution. The Japanese specialists, LIDA and IKUTA, highlighted a reluctance of the main actors in the business community and the political process to use public sector mechanisms, including the feed-in tariff and robust portfolio standards, that are widely recognized as key drivers of structuring market incentives. Professor Jänicke eloquently emphasized the crucial point that industrial revolutions always feature a crucial role of the state. Sukhdev also contributed an important global perspective on the challenges of getting the policies right in order to foster sustainable ecosystems. VandeVeer presented an important perspective on the way reluctance at the federal level in the United States, under the Bush regime, was met by a very aggressive action at the local and regional level. One thing that many observers continue to misunderstand about the United States is that its federal system has provided a great deal of policy room for innovative states and urban centers to act on climate change and renewable energy policy. No matter what happens with the Obama regime, and its goals at the federal level, these local developments will continue to be strengthened. Indeed, one can look at the Obama regime as an effort to nationalize, or more strictly speaking, "federalize," these innovative state policies.

Overall it was clear from the conference that this is a year in which action is about most importance. It was also clear that the course of action needs to be a deepening of the policy and political innovations detailed by the speakers.



German-Japanese Study Program for Youth Work Specialists 2009

Delegation of Experts: "Promoting disadvantaged youths", May 16–30, 2009, Japan
 Prof. Sabine Pankofer, Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Social Work, Munich Catholic Advanced Technical Foundation College

Four shy, equally nervous but also equally determined 31 to 37-year old men are seated before us, eight youth work specialists from Germany. They are accompanied by a member of the non-profit organization "Sodateage Net" in Tōkyō. The young men are former so-called "nesters" who until recently have lived for up to twelve years in their parents' house and have socially isolated themselves. In various training sessions they will learn how to work up enough courage to leave the house, to develop social skills and - how to work; things they have not done previously. Their parents are paying for this training and are happy that they have managed to secure a place, even if they have to travel across Tōkyō to get there.

We're interested in the question: How can somebody not go out of their house for 12 years? How do they look after themselves? Which role do their families play? Is there any professional help available? Do we have a similar "phenomenon" in Germany, and if yes, what do we call them?

Adult children still living at home is not a rare one-off phenomenon; rather it's a complex and epidemiologically growing problem in Japanese society. It starts in childhood, occurs most frequently in puberty and can continue in adulthood. The ratio of female to male nesters is 1:2. The triggers are often mobbing episodes, social anxiety, shyness about the other people's reactions, problems asserting themselves, or those who suffer under performance anxiety. It can result in, for example, absences from school, the most important social space for Japanese students. Nesters who no longer want to or are unable to attend school, remain in the care of their family whose decision is then to either seek support

or not. It's a difficult decision for otherwise helpless parents because nesters are regarded as shameful. We were impressed with the number of self-help parent initiatives that have been established with open meeting rooms accessible to all without high expectations or pressure.

Youth are a demographically valuable because limited social resource. The social withdrawal that accompanies the nester brings with it not only social but also economical problems, which is why this phenomenon is receiving much attention in Japan. We can see it as a particular "artefact" of the economic, political and social changes that have happened to youth, education and employment sectors, which have been evolving since the 1990s. Even in Japan today we can see the individualization processes previously documented for European-post modern societies. In the course of evolving prevailing social structures, we are witnessing a growth in the pluralisation of lifestyle choices; lives have become deconstructed; identity and the meaning of life have become increasingly more a personal achievement.

Such phenomena are already recognizable when we look at Japanese employment resumes: "nesting" as a complete withdrawal from society is just one of the more problematic reactions, greater numbers of and increasingly younger people no longer wish to devote their lives to just one company, which would be the norm for most traditional Japanese workers. Young people no longer believe in the integrity or meaningfulness of large companies and have decided in massive numbers to join the labor force as "freeters" or "job hoppers" (young people who out of their free will or reasons dictated by the labour market do not



take on permanent positions and work in the low-wage sector moving from job to job). Another sub group that continues to grow are the so-called NEETs (youth who are Not in Education, Employment or Training, who out of lack of will to become independent have no desire to seek further education or find a job). These many deconstructed lives have a dramatic effect on the Japanese higher education and pension systems with unknown consequences.

So what extraordinary things have we learnt about our societies by delving into the lives of others? We have become far more sensitive to the barely audible tones that ring out for those who suffer silently and under difficult conditions to lead fulfilling lives.

A lasting echo of the study trip was that the phenomenon of "Nesters" is not as unknown to most of the study trip participants as we thought. Although on the one hand withdrawal behaviour is recognized in Germany, particularly among male children and youth, on the other hand the focus on most youth services is directed toward the "aggressive recluse" rather than the silent, unobtrusive recluses.

Thus we haven't coined a German term for this phenomenon which is already well known in the US as "apathy syndrome."





Left photo: Panel discussion at the conference “The Global Economic Crisis and Socio-Political Challenges” held on June 17, 2009, in Tôkyô.

From left: Dr. Dr. Dirk Vaubel (Roland Berger Ltd., Tôkyô / Member of the JDZB Foundation Council); Prof. Dr. Herbert Brückner (Institute for Labor Market and Occupational Research, Nürnberg / University of Bamberg); Dr. Rolf Kroker (Institut der deutschen Wirtschaft, Cologne); TOYAMA Kazuhiko (CEO Industrial Growth Platform Inc.); PROF. YASHIRO Naohiro (International Christian University); Chair: Dr. Andreas Moerke (President, Messe Düsseldorf Japan Ltd.).



Above photo: Opening of the exhibition “Traditional Mino Washi – The Renaissance of Japan Paper from Mino” by ICHIHARA Keiko held on June 26, 2009, at the JDZB.

This well-visited exhibition provides an impressive overview of the different ways Japan paper can be utilized (everyday clothing and wedding dresses, jewellery, hand towels, umbrellas etc).



Above photo: JDZB Open House June 21, 2009.

As every year, our Open House offering Japanese “culture to touch” was a great success. In addition to the well proven offerings such Origami, Ikebana or Manga drawing classes, this year we offered an introduction to the Asian board game “Go” giving visitors a chance to learn and play.



Participants of the Summer School about “Impacts of the Financial Crisis” of the German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum (25th July to 2nd August) 2009, and the alumni of the program at the Shiunso Ryokan in Hakone Yumoto, where they held the closing discussions.

CONFERENCES BY FOCAL AREAS

GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY

Conference: Global Responsibility in Development Cooperation of Japan and Germany – Supporting State-building in Asia

C: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA, Tôkyô); Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Berlin
November 7, 2009, in Tôkyô

POLITICS AND POLICY MAKERS

Symposium Commemorating the 20th Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall: Berlin after the Fall of the Wall – A Metropole in the Tradition of the “European City”?

C: Goethe Institute Japan, Tôkyô
October 27, 2009, in Tôkyô

DEMOGRAPHY

Symposium: Metropolitan Peripheries in Japan and Germany

C: Institute of Behavioral Sciences, Tôkyô
October 28-30, 2009, in Tôkyô

PROGRESS THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

Symposium: Sustainable, Life-long Learning and Digital Media

C: Graz University; University of Electro-Communication, Tôkyô
September 10, 2009

GOVERNMENT, CORPORATIONS, CIVIL SOCIETY

Conference: Risk and East Asia

C: Association for Social Science Research on Japan; Duisburg-Essen University
November 19–22, 2009

Conference: Corporate Social Responsibility

C: Free University Berlin
Date: December 2009

DIALOG OF CULTURES

3rd German-Japanese-Korean Grantees' Seminar (10th meeting of grant recipients from the German Academic Exchange Service)

C: German Academic Exchange Service, Bonn
October 2–3, 2009

Panel Discussion: The Role of Art Within Public Space

C: Jårg Geismar, Tôkyô
October 9, 2009, 5.30 p.m.

SPECIAL PROJECT

18th Meeting of Japanese-German Forum

November 5–6, 2009, in Tôkyô

EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

- Junior Experts Exchange Program
- German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum
- Youth Group Leaders Exchange Program
- Study Program for Youth Work Specialists
- Exchange Program for Young Employees
- Takenoko Fund

For details of the programs, please refer to “<http://www.jdzb.de> --> Exchange Programs”

Library News

The JDZB has installed a new book lending system; borrowed books may be taken home from now on.

Nihongo
Learning Japanese at the JDZB

There will be new Japanese language courses, starting from November, running until October 2010; the courses run every day from 5.30 p.m. at the JDZB.

Registration October 20–23, 2009, during office hours, and on **Saturday, October 24**, from 2–4 p.m. at the JDZB.

CULTURE

CONCERTS

Concert in Commemoration of the 100th Birthday of Kôichi KISHI

C: Japanese Cultural Institute (The Japan Foundation), Cologne; Embassy of Japan, Berlin
September 7, 2009, 7.30 p.m.

95th Dahlem Music Evening

Ensemble „Piano Percussion”
November 5, 2009, 7.30 p.m.

96th Dahlem Music Evening

Christmas Concert
December 11, 2009, 7.30 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

“Traditional Mino Washi – The renaissance of Japan paper from Mino” by ICHIHARA Keiko

Since June 26, until September 30, 2009

Exhibition “Aquarium” by Jårg Geismar

C: Starke Foundation, Berlin; Neon Formlicht, Düsseldorf; Daitokai Restaurant Berlin
Opening: October 9, 2009, 7 p.m.
Showing until January 15, 2010



This Event is part of
www.APWberlin.de

Opening hours of exhibitions:
Monday to Thursday 10 am to 5 pm,
Friday 10 am to 3.30 pm.

C: = in cooperation with
Venue: JDZB, if not stated otherwise.

For **more information** please refer to:
<http://www.jdzb.de> --> Activities

For **information on JDZB language courses** please refer to:
<http://www.jdzb.de> --> Japanese Courses



The building of the former Japanese Embassy on Tiergartenstraße, half-destroyed and in a deep sleep;
Reconstruction 1986 to 1988;
Home of the JDZB as of November 1987;
Once again the Embassy of Japan since 1999.



JDZB and the 20 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, clockwise from above:

- Participants from the first conference on "Land Divisions and Land Policy" held in April 1990 standing at the Berlin Wall.
- Renaming of the Graf-Spee-Straße to its current name (location of the chancellery of the Embassy of Japan) Hiroshimastraße in September 1990.
- Symposium in September 1993 about the "City of the Future – Berlin: Visions of Berlin in the Year 2000" with Berlin's Senator for Urban Planning and Environmental Protection, Volker Hassemer, in Tôkyô.
- Japanese teachers from Europe in the Info-Box located at the newly reconstructed Potsdamer Platz in July 1997.
- Presentation of the German-Japanese Community Project for the virtual reconstruction of the Berlin City Palace and the Nobunaga Residence in Gifu by the Governing Mayor of Berlin Eberhard Diepgen in September 1999 at the JDZB.



The former US Forces (NCO) Officer's Club in Saargemünder Straße in Dahlem abandoned after the withdrawal of the allied troops;
Home of the JDZB since March 1998.

