

ROUTLEDGE HANDBOOK OF JAPANESE SOCIOLINGUISTICS

Presenting new approaches and results previously inaccessible in English, the *Routledge Handbook of Japanese Sociolinguistics* provides an insight into the language and society of contemporary Japan from a fresh perspective.

While it was once believed that Japan was a linguistically homogenous country, research over the past two decades has shown Japan to be a multilingual and sociolinguistically diversifying country. Building on this approach, the contributors to this handbook take this further, combining Japanese and western approaches alike and producing research which is relevant to twenty-first century societies. Organised into five parts, the sections covered include:

- The languages and language varieties of Japan.
- The multilingual ecology.
- Variation, style and interaction.
- Language problems and language planning.
- Research overviews.

With contributions from across the field of Japanese sociolinguistics, this handbook will prove very useful for students and scholars of Japanese studies, as well as sociolinguists more generally.

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ROUTLEDGE HANDBOOK OF JAPANESE SOCIOLINGUISTICS

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*For Katsue Akiba-Reynolds and Orié Endo,
and in memory of Jiří Václav Neustupný (1933–2015)*

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Japanese sociolinguistics has, since its inception more than 50 years ago, suffered from the absence of a comprehensive overview of the field, both in Japanese and in English. The chance to edit a handbook of Japanese sociolinguistics fills a long-standing gap, and we are very grateful for having had the opportunity to do so. As educators teaching Japanese sociolinguistics, we are also happy to now have a book at hand that will hopefully prove helpful for many students of Japanese sociolinguistics. We also hope that it will inform students of sociolinguistics specializing in other languages, too. We seek to update readers how different Japan is from the stereotypical but inept view of a monolingual and socially homogenous society. The handbook presents Japan as a multilingual and diversifying society, reflecting a trend that has by now become mainstream among specialists.

There is diversity between the authors assembled in this book, too. The handbook brings together scholars of critical sociolinguistics, Japanese sociolinguistics that developed from the expansion of Japanese dialectology and language life studies, but also scholars who were trained outside of Japan and who have applied ideas and concepts developed in other countries on Japanese cases and examples. Each and every one of these traditions provides for important insights, and we spent most of our time as editors ensuring that all these directions in Japanese sociolinguistics are equally well represented in this volume. We made great efforts to put these various works into perspective, and we hope that we have succeeded in this.

We are grateful to all authors assembled in this book for taking the time to write a chapter and share their expertise with us and our readers. Working with everybody has been a pleasant and enriching experience. A number of colleagues have also helped us in editing chapters. We are grateful for the assistance of Goro Christoph Kimura, Riikka Länsisalmi, Kazuko Matsumoto and Yuko Sugita. A special thanks goes out to Mark Anderson for helping to systematize the grammatical annotations in this book. At Routledge, everybody has been extremely supportive from the start, and we also greatly appreciate their patience, as we had to push back the deadline for submission of the manuscript a couple of times. As editors of a book on Japanese sociolinguistics, we are aware that we are following in the footsteps of many great scholars from whom we have ourselves learned so much. Due to their work, research on Japanese sociolinguistics is today “at home” both in and outside of Japan. We are dedicating this handbook to three scholars of Japanese sociolinguistics who have exemplified how to present research on Japanese sociolinguistics that stands the test of time, because it exemplifies something on the

Acknowledgements

example of Japan that is insightful for sociolinguists around the world. This book is dedicated to Jiří Neustupný, Orié Endo and Katsue Akiba-Reynolds.

Jiří Neustupný had studied with such different scholars as Roman Jakobson, Tokieda Motoki and Hattori Shirō in the 1960s, and he had a crucial impact on the formation and development of sociolinguistics in Japan. Patrick vividly remembers his disappointment and his words for all studies that he saw as being too narrowly concerned with the case of Japan only, but also with studies that failed to properly understand Japanese language and society. He always sought and encouraged his students to grasp “what is really going on”. When one traces Orié Endo’s accumulative work since 1970s, it becomes obvious that it paved the way for the current stream of research examining the ideological nature of “women’s speech” in Japanese. By challenging common-sense assumptions about language and language use through the analysis of dictionaries, historical documents and lexical innovation by contemporary young women, Endo was able to elucidate the differences between language ideologies and actual descriptions of language. This marks a crucial leap in the field. Katsue Akiba-Reynolds demonstrated that many supposedly “recent” changes in language have been with us for a long period of time. At the same time, what are seen as sociolinguistic “restrictions” on certain personal pronouns, grammatical structures, final particles and the ensuing consequences when breaking those restrictions only make sense when juxtaposed with ideological notions of Japanese. As a researcher as well as a professor, Akiba-Reynolds advocates a critical stance where one never ceases to question one’s own assumptions. Yumiko, who has studied with her, has very much benefitted from this important lesson and feels forever grateful for this.

All in all, we truly hope that this book captures some of the originality, thoroughness and intellectual curiosity of these three scholars. May students of Japanese sociolinguistics around the world find this handbook helpful in their very own way and in their own novel attempt to capture, deepen or expand our knowledge of Japanese language and society.

*Patrick Heinrich and Yumiko Ohara
Venice and Hilo*

CONVENTIONS

Some brief words on conventions. Japanese terms in the text are transcribed in the modified Hepburn system. Japanese personal names are a problem. Their usual order is of course that of family name first. At the same time, a great number of Japanese scholars are very active outside Japan and treating their names as “foreign” there by keeping the Japanese order and putting macrons on long vowels unduly marks them as “outsiders”. There is no solution to this that will make everyone happy and do justice to all. We chose to use the first-name family-name order for our authors in this book and for all those who are well known outside Japan in contemporary scholarship, but we kept the traditional order for other Japanese nationals. We should however add that Goro Kimura Christoph and Masiko Hidenori prefer to have the Japanese order. On the other hand, we follow the preferred transcriptions of personal names by Japanese, using thus Masiko instead of Mashiko or Sibata Takesi (instead of Shibata Takeshi). We live in a postmodern world, and we can deal with some ambiguity. Long vowels in Japanese are represented with a macron, e.g., Jōmon period. Long vowels in Ryukyuan languages are instead represented by double vowels, e.g., *uchinaa*. We refrained from marking the long vowels in all Japanese places as many of them are widely used in English, that is, we treat words like Ryukyu, Hokkaido, Tokyo, Kyoto or Osaka as English words. Many chapters make reference to the Japanese periodization of history. The most frequently used are the following: Edo Period (1603–1868), Meiji Period (1868–1912), Taishō Period (1912–1926), Shōwa Period (1926–1989) and Heisei Period (1989–2019).

This leaves us with grammatical annotations. We are grateful to Mark Anderson for having assisted us on this thorny issue. Below, the conventions we use in this handbook:

- 1 first person
- 2 second person
- 3 third person
- 4 fourth person
- = clitic boundary
- ∅ bare case marking
- A transitive subject or possessor
- ABL ablative
- ACC accusative

Conventions

ADV	adverbial
ALL	allative
ALT	alternative
CAUS	causative
CL(HUMAN)	classifier for human
CND	conditional
CNJ	conjunction
COLLOQ	colloquial term
COM	committative
COMPL	completive
COP	copula
DSC	discourse maker
EMPH	emphatic particle
EVID	evidential
EXIST	existential
FOC	focus
FREQ	frequentative
GEN	genitive
GER	gerund
HON	honorific
IMP	imperative
IND	indicative
INE	inessive
INF	infinitive
INSTR	instrumental
INT	intentional
IP	interactional particle
IPFV	imperfective
LAT	lative
LOC	locative
LOCR	localizer
MAS	masculine form
MODP	modal particle
NEG	negative
NOM	nominative
NMLZ	nominalizer
NPST	non-past
OBJ	object
PART	part of long form
PASS	passive
PCP	participle
PERF	perfect
PL	plural
POL	polite
POSS	possessive
POT	potential
PR	pragmatic marker
PRO	pronoun

Conventions

PROG	progressive
PST	past
PURP	purposive
Q	question/interrogative marker
QT	quotative particle
RECP	reciprocal
RES	resultative
S	intransitive subject
SEQ	sequential
SFP	sentence-final particle
SG	singular
TOP	topic marker
VOL	volitional
VULGAR	vulgar form
WHQ	<i>wh</i> -question

PROOF