

RIHN 13th International Symposium
第13回地球研国際シンポジウム

Humanities on the Ground: Confronting the Anthropocene in Asia

アジアから人類世を問い直す：
現実に寄り添う人文学を目指して

Lecture Hall,
Research Institute for
Humanity and Nature
Kyoto, Japan

総合地球環境学研究所 講演室

〒603-8047 京都市北区上賀茂本山 457 番地 4

December
13-14, 2018

Language

English

日本語同時通訳あり

Session 1 Knowledge, science, and
the experience of nature
自然を表現する — 知識、科学、自然体験

Session 2 Facing the ever-present
agency of environment
主体としての環境と向かいあう

Session 3 Management systems of
the Anthropocene
人類世が作り出す社会・生態システム

Keynote Address

Risk and Responsibility
in the Anthropocene



Sheila Jasanoff

Professor, John F. Kennedy School of
Government, Harvard University, USA

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Humanity and Nature

RIHN 13th International Symposium
**Humanities on the Ground:
 Confronting the Anthropocene in Asia**

アジアから人類世を問い直す：現実に寄り添う人文学を目指して

Initially formulated to indicate humankind's total impact on the global environment, the concept of the Anthropocene draws all humanity into Earth history. Especially in the modern period of dramatic human-environmental change, it distinguishes the Earth as a grand collective project and problematic, so appearing to justify and legitimize a new round of techno-scientific management of the 'Earth System'.

At the same time, the 'environmental crisis' has also been called a crisis of culture, and thus of imagination. In this sense, it begs the attention of the humanities, which have always been concerned with the human experience, even as it challenges their underlying assumptions and practices.

This symposium engages the tripartite challenge facing humanities scholarship today: the need to expand beyond Western narrative/disciplinary super-structures—in which human separation from nature is a fundamental component—and to simultaneously address 'alternative' subjects and societal experience and the role of environment and nature itself as constituent element in this experience. In this sense the Anthropocene concept—useful now as it encapsulates in a single word the grand theoretical tradition that has so defined Western understandings of modernity and nature itself—must be taken down to the ground, to the lived experience that composes the long cultural-ecological histories of Asia.

The Anthropocene therefore presents an epistemological problem that, if taken seriously, is also ultimately an ontological opportunity. The question of the knowledge that is considered legitimate and relevant now as human societies face rapid social-ecological change is linked so closely to particular cultural understandings of the agencies that constitute the known world. How to see such knowledge, cultures and ecologies in themselves as agents that indeed have also created the Earth?

This symposium asks humanities and interdisciplinary scholars how to re-conceptualize the significance of the humanities now, in light of the history and modern day contexts of Asia, in which humankind's inevitable experience has formed part of an always dynamic, yet changeable nature.

Thursday - December **13**, 2018 10:00-17:15

Plenary Session Chair: Hein MALLEE (RIHN)

Keynote Address **Risk and Responsibility in the Anthropocene**
 Sheila JASANOFF (Harvard University, USA)

Session 1 Chair: Daniel NILES and Masahiro TERADA (RIHN)

**Knowledge, science, and
 the experience of nature**

自然を表現する — 知識、科学、自然体験

Matthias SCHEMMELE (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Germany)
 Eiko HONDA (University of Oxford, UK)
 Chaya VADDHANAPHUTI (Chiang Mai University, Thailand)
 Julia Adeney THOMAS (University of Notre Dame, USA)
 Daniel NILES (RIHN, Japan)

Friday - December **14**, 2018 9:20-17:40

Session 2 Chair: Kaoru SUGIHARA (RIHN)

**Facing the ever-present
 agency of environment**

主体としての環境と向かいあう

Augustin BERQUE (École des hautes études en sciences sociales, France)
 Maya KÓVSKAYA (AMOR MUNDI Guerilla Think Tank for Ecological Justice, Anthropocene Research and Curatorial Platform, Thailand/USA)
 Emily SEKINE (The New School for Social Research, USA)
 Julia Mariko JACOBY (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Germany)

Session 3 Chair: Steven MCGREEVY and Christoph RUPPRECHT (RIHN)

**Management systems of
 the Anthropocene**

人類世が作り出す社会・生態システム

Atsuro MORITA (Osaka University, Japan)
 Stéphane GRUMBACH (INRIA & ENS Lyon, France)
 Stephanie PINCETL (Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, University of California Los Angeles, USA)

Final Session Chair: Hein MALLEE (RIHN)

Discussion across all sessions

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By City Subway and Kyoto Bus

From Kyoto Station, take the Karasuma Line to Kokuzaikaikan Station (the last station), and transfer to Kyoto Bus. From Kokuzaikaikan Station, take bus No. 40, 50 or 52 to Chikyuken-mae. RIHN is at the base of the hill on your left.

By Eizan Railway

From Demachiyana Station in Kyoto City, take the Kurama Line. Get off at Kyoto-Seikadai-mae Station. RIHN is a 10-minute walk from the station.

By Car, Taxi

From Kyoto International Conference Hall, take Route 40 to Nikenchaya.

