

There is no question that the New Men were and are an extremely creative and active “group” on a global level. Gran writes: “the new men were and are a group entering into history from outside of it. They were not professional representatives of existing establishments; rather, they are a group which has been very much attuned to the market as well as to political conditions and which uses its knowledge for the interests of the rich but for its own interests as well. The new men today as in the past are mainly self-made individuals who aspire to power, in other words, who aspire to belong to the rich and are prepared to do its dirty work helping build the world market if that is what it takes to get there. These new men - criminals, pirates, military adventurers, speculators, diplomats, businessmen, lobbyists and others - given their diversity and their extreme versatility can take credit for a number of things, among them, the organization of the periphery of the world market, or what later gets called the Third World or “capitalism’s main plunder zone” (“Rise of the Rich-A Contribution to the Analysis of the Present Crisis”).

In sum, Gran’s meta-narrative in his latest book *The Rise of the Rich* provides a new way to look at the power in global history. His exploration of the Rich and of the New Men or “go-betweens” appears to have potential utility for the study of many subjects of concern to our field. Gran is a critical scholar who has always been thinking and making you think. The book is recommended as an original contribution to the rethinking of modern world history.

***Atarashii Sekaishi e—Chikyu-shimin no tame no Kosou*
[Towards New World History: A Conception for Global Citizenship]**

By Masashi HANEDA. Tokyo: Iwanami-publisher, 2011. 220 pp.
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Masashi Haneda is one of the leading historians in the field of Global/World History in Japan, who works at the Institute of Advanced Studies, University of Tokyo, and leads a joint research project on 'Modern Eurasia and New World History description.' His latest small book now attracts keen attention from Japanese historians as well as from many prominent high-school teachers, who teach the compulsory subject 'World History' at senior high-school level. Haneda's book presents us with a new manifesto of research and education in World History studies. The contents of the book are as follows: Introduction—The Power of History; Chap.1 History of 'World History' as a subject in Japan; Chap. 2 What kind of problems does current World History have?; Chap. 3 The creative way to New World History; Chap.4 A Conception for New World History; Conclusion—A Reshuffle of the modern knowledge system.

Haneda's main arguments can be summarized in three points in order to create World History up to the first half of the 19th century. The first point is to present a rough sketch of World History, by paying attention to a wide variety of 'groups of human beings.' The analysis of social order and political systems leads to the modeling of groups of human beings. A typical example is the comparative studies of sovereign state Europe with large Asian dynasty-states (empires) in the early modern period. Putting different types of political order on the same comparative basis enables us to transcend the traditional differentiation between Europe and non-European areas.

The second point is to abandon the chronological order of history, and to make a comparison between a specific past and contemporary times. By making several sketches of World History in every century and comparing them to the contemporary world, Haneda suggests, it becomes easier to clearly comprehend the features of the present day. One example is the changing nature of the Indian Ocean World from the 16th century to the pre-

sent, due to the indifference to ‘nationality’ of trading merchants in the 16th century and the establishment of the ‘free trade’ regime of the contemporary Indian Ocean. Comparing a specific past with the present, rather than adhering to chronological order, enables us to create an uncentered World History. This insistence on the renunciation of chronological order analysis by Haneda is very provocative and challenges historians’ ordinary way of thinking, because they have assumed that their work aims at revealing the chains of cause and effect in historical events, based on chronological order.

The third point is the creation of ‘relational history’ by horizontally connecting several regions and countries through trade and exchange of goods and the interaction of peoples. On this point, we have already accumulated many excellent works on ‘world commodities,’ such as the interregional trade of spice, silver, Indian cotton goods, sugar, tea, coffee, and opium. For example, the British Industrial Revolution in the late 18th century occurred owing to the development of the Atlantic slave trade, and it developed as import-substitution industrialization to compete with popular imported Indian cotton goods. These connections were formed beyond borders through the activities of several merchants and the formation of their intimate trading networks around the world.

These new proposals of Haneda for writing New World History may seem quite challengeable and controversial. However, in Japanese academic circles, especially in the Kansai region (the western part of Japan) centered on Kyoto and Osaka, we already have several excellent works on World/Global History studies, especially by using the analytical methods of ‘relational’ history or the history of connection. At Osaka University, we regularly hold Global World History seminars and workshop, and its details are introduced by Shigeru Akita, “Creating Global History from Asian Perspectives,” in *Global Practice in World History: Advances Worldwide*, ed. Patrick Manning (Princeton: Markus Wiener Publishers, 2008), chapter 4.

We have tried to integrate some excellent works on area studies, especially those on Asian studies, with which we are more familiar and where we have the comparative advantage of multi-

archival researches in indigenous Asian languages. In order to examine the interactions or connections between the regional factors revealed through area studies and global history, we have adopted a stimulating field of research into 'maritime history,' and organized several workshops with specialists in Asian, Japanese and European maritime history. For example, Momoki Shiro and his group (Fujita Kayoko, Yamauchi Shinji and Hasuda Takashi) have revealed the densely developed trading networks of Chinese, Indian and local merchants in Asian waters from the tenth century onwards to the early modern period, especially from the time of the Ming dynasty in China in the latter half of the fourteenth century. By fully utilizing local Asian historical documents as well as European sources, they published an introductory book, *Kaiiki-Ajiashi Kenkyū Nyūmon* [Introduction to Research on Maritime Asian History] (Tokyo: Iwanami-publisher, 2008; Korean version, Seoul: Min Sol Won, 2012, 396 pp. ISBN: 978-89-285-0371 -1), which was the first comprehensive book on Asian maritime history in the world.

This is only one example of the creation of New World/Global History from Japanese perspectives. The publication of Haneda's book may further accelerate discussion and debate on World/Global History studies from Asian perspectives.