PREFACE

A number of years ago, I began assembling what has become a relatively substantial private library of Japanese, Chinese, and Ryukyuan materials on the Ryukyu Islands and their people. Perusal of these materials early led to the realization that here was a rich field of research virtually untouched by Western orientalists, despite the fact that the people of the Ryukyu Islands have not only had a most interesting history and culture of their own but indeed have had periods of importance that should not be overlooked in any serious study of East Asian and Southeast Asian history and culture.

The ethno-linguistic ties between the early inhabitants of the Ryukyu Islands and the early inhabitants of the Japanese islands; the diverse cultural and economic influences of China upon Ryukyu since the fourteenth century; the tremendous maritime activity of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries that saw Ryukyuan ships engross the trade lanes from Northeast to Southeast Asia; the impact of Satsuma hegemony and Japanese culture upon Ryukyu after 1609; the role of Ryukyuan scholars in the transmission of Chinese learning to Japan; the writings of Chinese scholar-envoys and their influence on Japanese and Western conceptions of the Ryukyus; the manifold problems that attended Japanese governance of the islands as a prefecture after the 1870s; the important studies produced by Japanese, Ryukyuan, and Chinese scholars in modern times; the current major question of "Reversion to Japan," from the viewpoint of Ryukyuans and Japanese—these are but a few of the many topics that await the labors of Western scholars who are also to handle the native materials.

In the early months of 1961, the University of Hawaii had the singular good fortune of being able to purchase the notable Ryukyuan collection of the late Frank Hawley, of Yamashina, Japan—a collection of books, manuscripts, scrolls, maps, etc., that is beyond argument the most comprehensive of its kind in existence. Soon afterward, the University of Hawaii welcomed two eminent Ryukyuan scholars, Shuncho Higa and Zenchu Nakahara, as

Visiting Scholars at the Center for Cultural and Technical Exchange between East and West.

The acquisition of the Hawley Collection and the arrival of the two Ryukyuan scholars marked the beginning of an intensified program of Ryukyuan studies, which was presently bolstered by the coming to the University of Hawaii of two cultural anthropologists specializing in Ryukyuan research, Dr. William P. Lebra and Dr. Thomas W. Maretzki, as East-West Center Visiting Scholar and Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology respectively.

The present study seeks to indicate the nature and scope of the literature on Ryukyu in East Asian languages, particularly in the fields of the social sciences and the humanities, from earliest times until the summer of 1961. Annotated descriptions are provided for most of the major primary materials. Many of the secondary sources are also described in greater or less detail. Topical classification of a sort has been attempted. However, some works do not lend themselves to easy assignment to a specific subject heading, and there are a number of multiple listings in this work.

Not included herein, with some exceptions, are routine government reports and other official publications after the year 1879, when Ryukyu became a prefecture of Japan. Also not included are articles published in newspapers and in obscure, ephemeral periodicals. It should be noted, however, that some of these articles are of substantial scholarly value and interest, and it is hoped that some day they will be reviewed by competent bibliographers.

Most of the materials listed in this work have been seen and described at firsthand. Exact dates of publication, serial numbers of journals, and pagination are furnished wherever possible. In some cases, of materials not studied at firsthand, the sources used do not give all the foregoing details. However, rather than omit such items for want of the full particulars, it has been deemed desirable to include them in order to furnish researchers with even fragmentary information about materials that might be of value.

Dates in texts written prior to the adoption of the Gregorian calendar in Japan as of January 1, 1873, have been carefully transposed from the lunar-calendar originals to their exact solar-calendar equivalents. This was done mainly with the aid of the chronological tables compiled by William Bramsen and Ernest W. Clement, published in the *Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan*, XXXVII, Supplement (1910).

Asian names in this work, with only a few exceptions, are rendered in Asian style—with surnames preceding personal names. The exceptions are generally Asian surnames with Western personal names and Asian names written in roman writing and in Western style in the works cited. Ryukyuan names (and dialectal terms) are often subject to regional and individual

variations in pronunciation, and the romanized transcriptions in this work represent, in some instances, a calculated "best guess."

Ryukyuan names and terms have been transcribed in Japanese style, partly to avoid confusion. If a reader should wish to pronounce them in their dialectal forms, the following suggestions will be helpful. (1) Pronounce the short *o* as *u*, and the short *e* as *i*; then, "omoro" would be pronounced "umuru," "eto" would become "itu," "Nerome" would become "Nirumi," and "Shimozato" would become "Shimuzatu." (2) Change *ki* to *chi*, and *gi* to *ji*, e.g., "Shikina" to "Shichina," "Mashiki" to "Mashichi," "Gima" to "Jima," and "magiri" to "majiri." (3) Change *ae* or *ai* to *ē* (long *e*), e.g., "Taira" to "Tēra," and "Maedaira" to "Mēdēra." (4) Change *awa* to *ā* (long *a*), e.g., "Arakawa" to "Arakā," "Okinawa" to "Uchinā," and "Kawakami" to "Kākami." There are other phonetic variants, but the foregoing will cover most situations.

Some Ryukyuan names are Chinese in origin or style. These, however, are pronounced in Japanese fashion, and are so rendered in the present work. Furthermore, writings in Chinese by Ryukyuans and Japanese were generally expected to be read in Japanese style, and the titles of such works are transcribed in this work in accordance with their Japanese pronunciations. The names, and the titles of the writings, of Chinese authors are rendered in standard (Mandarin) Chinese.

Long vowels in Japanese and Ryukyuan names and words are marked with a bar over the letter, as in *kuichā*, *pēchin*, *sōshi*, and *Chūzan*. In well-known names, such as Ryukyu, Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka, the long vowels are marked only when such names are part of a title in Japanese. Where a double "o" is used, the second being a separate syllable, the umlaut is placed over the latter, as in *Hiroō*. Where an "n" immediately precedes a vowel in the ensuing syllable of a word or name, as in *Genichirō*, an apostrophe is used (*Gen'ichirō*) to indicate that the "n" should be pronounced with the preceding rather than the succeeding syllable. In the names of publishing firms, the term *kabushiki-kaisha* (joint-stock corporation) is rendered "k.k."

The Chinese and Japanese characters for names, titles of books, and periodicals cited in this work are given in the Indices. For a glossary of terms, characters for other terms, and a note on Ryukyuan names, please see the Appendix. Also in the Appendix are: a bibliography of the Amami Ōshima archipelago, and a chronological listing of the rulers of Chūzan (Ryukyu).

The compilation of this work has been largely a single-handed one, over a period of several years, and I must assume full responsibility for its shortcomings and errors. However, it is a pleasure to acknowledge various kinds of assistance, and I extend my grateful thanks to all who helped, including: the venerable scholars Shuncho Higa and Zenchu Nakahara; Professors Shiro Amioka, Albert E. Dien, Hiroko Ikeda, George Akita, William P.

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SHUNZO SAKAMAKI

University of Hawaii
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