

COMPLETION REPORT

Research Result

Focusing on the Japanese-run Chinese newspapers in China (1890s-1940s), this research first studies the East Asia Common Culture Association (EACCA) and the views of “Saving China” reflected in four Chinese newspapers run by the EACCA from 1896 to 1906, namely *Han Bao*, *Tong Wen Hu Bao*, *Shuntian Times*, and *Mukden Times*.

From the appearance of the first Japanese periodicals in Shanghai in 1882 to the end of World War Two in 1945, the Japanese have had produced and published in China more than 140 newspapers in a variety of languages, including Japanese, Chinese, English, Russian and Mongolian, etc., with the Chinese ones being the most influential, and were served to maintain their interests in China. Of the 28 Japanese-run Chinese newspapers circulated in China before World War Two, 12 were run by the members of EACCA. And from 1896 to 1906, all Japanese-run Chinese newspapers except *Guo Wen Bao* were created by EACCA members. Therefore, this period witnessed a peak of EACCA-run newspapers. Besides, with the occurrences of Trifle Intervention on Retrocession of Liaotung Peninsula, G-8 Coalition Invasion and Russo-Japanese War in this decade, the danger of China being curved up aggravated; meanwhile, the preach of “Saving China” views in the EACCA-run newspapers also overflowed. As a result, Chinese intellectuals’ attitudes towards Japan shifted from hostility to admiration during this period. This shift is, of course, attributable to various factors, yet we cannot deny the relevance of the EACCA-run Chinese newspapers’ agitation for the “Saving China” views to such shift, which is worth studying.

Having analyzed the “Saving China” views in four EACCA-run Chinese newspapers, the present research finds that these newspapers are served as important tools to sugar-coat Japanese aggression against China. The so-called “Saving China” views are a camouflage, and actually aim to maximize Japanese interests in China in view of its geopolitics and national power.

The research then analyzes the opinions in *Shuntian Times* both before and after Yuan Shikai proclaimed himself emperor (1915-1916), and also discusses the characteristic and substantiality of the opinion orientation in *Shuntian Times*. Founded in 1901, *Shuntian Times* is a typifier of Japanese-run Chinese newspapers in China and considered as an epitome of Japanese propaganda in China. Thus, an analysis of its opinions is conducive to understanding the nature of Japanese journalism in China at that time.

After the founding of the Republic of China in 1912, *Shuntian Times* had offered multi-support to Yuan’s Regime in speech in order to maintain Japan’s interests in China. However, when Yuan staged his farce to become the emperor, the newspaper had covered a large number of reports to expose his conspiracy, and became an essential anti-Yuan force in newspaperdom. Thanks to this, the newspaper soon won a widespread approval and acclaim from Chinese intellectuals. Its circulation from 1916 to 1917 jumped to 120,000, making it the largest newspaper in North China.

After the analysis of the opinions in *Shuntian Times* (1915-1916), the present research holds that the newspaper’s anti-Yuan move goes with the then political situation. The real goal behind this move is to win favor and trust from Chinese people so as to eventually lead the public opinion in China, and thereby, prepare for Japan’s further expansion in China.

Last but not least, this research also conducted a historical study on the Japanese-run Russian newspapers and Japanese control over Russian’s newspaper-running activities in China after the September 18th Incident of 1931.

Comparatively speaking, although the Japanese-run Russian newspapers in China are small in

number, they are also an important part of Japanese propaganda system in China, and reflected the general features of Japanese-run newspapers in China. The Japanese-run Russian newspapers in China mostly appeared after the September 18th Incident of 1931, and were targeted to bulks of Russian nationals in Northeast China to imbue them with fascism. For instance, on Nov. 3, 1931, a Russian daily newspaper was created by a group of White Russians (or Anti-soviet Russian nationals) called in by the Japanese Consulate General in Harbin, Harbin Spy Agency and Mantetsu Harubin Jimusho. It was named *Harbin Times* («Харбинское время»), and later changed to *Times* («Время»). For another instance, while a daily Russian official newspaper of Russian Fascist Party, *Our Road* («Наша Путь»), started publishing on Oct. 3, 1933, with the support of Japanese militarism, a weekly named *Voice of Nationals* («Голос эмигрантов») was founded by the Japanese-backed Bureau of Russian National Affairs on May 22, 1938.

Meanwhile, in order to ensure the influence of Japanese-run Russian newspapers in Northeast China, the Japanese exerted strict control over the Russian nationals' newspaper-running activities. Before the September 18th Incident of 1931, the Bolshevik Party as well as the Russian nationals had published some newspapers in Northeast China; however, after the Japanese occupied Northeast China, only those run by the White Russians survived. In spite of this, these newspapers still lost their autonomy on news coverage, and had to suffer from the Japanese censorship, creating public opinions in favor of the Japanese aggression among Russian nationals. As a result, most Russian newspapers, be it founded by Russian nationals or Soviet Union's news organizations in China, were all forced to close down; those Japanese-run or Japanese-backed Russian newspapers became dominated, and eventually monopolized the Russian newspaper market in Harbin.

Publication of the Results of Research Project:

Verbal Presentation (Date, Venue, Name of Conference, Title of Presentation, Presenter, etc.)

Verbal presentation titled “On the Propaganda Strategies and its Effects of Japanese-run Chinese Newspapers in China” at the 8th seminar on “Japanese Expansionist Trends and Media Orientation (1894-1905)” held by Center for World Chinese Media Studies, Peking University on Nov. 13, 2010.

Thesis (Name of Journal and its Date, Title and Author of Thesis, etc.)

1. Yonghua Zhao & Yichen Dong, “East Asia Common Culture Association and ‘Saving China’ Views in Japanese-run Chinese Newspapers in China (1896-1906)”, *Xinwen Chunqiu*, May, 2011. (11,000 Chinese characters)
2. Yonghua Zhao & Yichen Dong, “Analysis on Anti-Yuan Opinions in *Shuntian Times* before and after Yuan Shikai Became Emperor”, *New Media*, Vol. 2, China Radio and Television Publishing House, June, 2011. (6,000 Chinese characters)
3. Yonghua Zhao, “A Historical Study on the Japanese-run Russian Newspapers in China and Japanese Control over the Russian's Newspaper-running Activities after the Sept. 18 Incident of 1931”, *Journal of International Communication*, No.6, 2011. (7,000 Chinese characters)

Book (Publisher and Date of the Book, Title and Author of the Book, etc.)