

# GPJ

## GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON JAPAN

A Yearly Academic Journal

Nº 7

2024

Centennial of Turkish-Japanese  
Diplomatic Relations



## Scope

“Global Perspectives on Japan” focuses on developing a global perspective on the study of Japan and Asia. The journal promotes innovative, interdisciplinary, inter-regional and transnational approaches to Japanese Studies.

The journal aims to be a venue for scholarship in E.M.E.A. region with a special focus on Turkey and neighboring regions. It especially encourages scholars from the Middle East, Balkans, Central Asia and the Mediterranean but also welcomes scholars from other parts of the world.

GPJ invites papers in the fields of history, humanities, and social sciences including topics of the past and the present. In addition to articles, the journal publishes occasional article size translations, book reviews, and surveys of current trends in Japanese and Asian Studies.

## GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON JAPAN (GPJ)

Publisher: FORUM TAURI Press  
Osmanağa Mah. Vişne Sk. No: 50, Kat 2, Kadıköy/İSTANBUL [www.forumtauripress.com](http://www.forumtauripress.com)



Partner Institution: Japanese Studies Association/Japonya Arastirmalari Derneği (JAD)  
[www.jad.org.tr](http://www.jad.org.tr)



Editor-in-chief: Erdal K. Yalcin (Ph.D.)

Assistant Editor: Jennifer Leigh Norris

Design: Ergun Kocabıyık

ISSN: 2687-6132

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# GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON JAPAN

No. 7



# Centennial of Turkish–Japanese Diplomatic Relations



TÜRKİYE  
JAPAN  
**100**<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY  
OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS





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## **Editor's Note**

**Erdal K. Yalcin**

Dear Readers,

We are proud to be able to present you the seventh issue of *Global Perspectives on Japan*. This issue was made possible with the generous support of FORUM TAURI Press, our publisher, which proved its commitment to academic publishing on Japanese studies by financing this issue in the absence of other funds this year.

GPJ 7 is dedicated to the “Centennial of Turkish-Japanese Diplomatic Relations” which started officially with the coming into effect of the Lausanne Treaty August 6, 1924 following its ratification by the government of Japan on May 15 the same year. With the Lausanne Treaty, the Republic of Türkiye has gained international recognition of its sovereignty over its territories. The two countries have enjoyed continuous friendly relations since then. In 2024, marking the hundredth anniversary of Turkish-Japanese diplomatic relations, many academic and cultural events will be held on both sides to commemorate the occasion.

This issue features a number of articles which highlight various facades of the relations:

Ali Akkemik from Fukuoka University gives an updated account of his recent research on mutual economic relations in his article titled “Türkiye-Japan FTA and Türkiye’s Changing Economic Relations with the East Asian Economies”.

Nobuo Misawa from Toyo University, in his “Modern Japanese Images of Turks and Turkey”, outlines how the Japanese people were informed about Turks and Turkey initially via foreign illustrated books brought to Japan

by Dutch merchants during Tokugawa period and how visual depictions helped create an image of Turks via both Japanese and Western travelers' publications in the Meiji era with Bunmei Kaika.

Oğuz Baykara from Yeditepe University locates the place of Nobel Laureate Orhan Pamuk translated work within the 100 years of Turkish literature translations into Japanese language in his "Orhan Pamuk Literature in Japanese". He gives the paratexts of Pamuk's books and analyzes each in detail including physical aspects like bands, jackets, covers et al.

Merthan Dündar from Ankara University with "Atatürk and Japan", delves into the notes of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and traces the footprints of his interest in Japan. Dündar demystifies the legend of Atatürk having learned Japanese in his school years.

Erdal Küçükyalçın from Boğaziçi University portrays an important Japanese intellectual and public opinion leader Count Otani Kozui, who was active in the early years of the newly established Republic of Türkiye, and shows how Otani had led the growing economic interest of Japan to Türkiye and even realized the first Japanese foreign direct investment in Ahi Mesud Ranch (Later called 'Atatürk Forest Ranch') by collaborating with the founding president, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk.

Volkan Erdemir from Erciyes University gives the opinions of two foreign visitors of Istanbul, namely French Pierre Loti and Japanese Yamada Torajirō on Turkish women within a comparative framework. His paper "An Overview of the Nineteenth-Century Women of Istanbul in the Works of Pierre Loti and Yamada Torajirō" mainly focuses on their respective works "Aziyade" and "Toruko Gakan" in an attempt to reveal the characteristics of "Western" and "Eastern" perspectives on Turkish women.

Yuriko Öncü from Boğaziçi University shares the results of her research on the impact of the usage of manga as a tool for teaching Japanese language. In her paper titled "The Use and Application of Mangas as Course Materials in Intermediate Japanese Language Teaching for Turks: An Active Learning Method in Online Classrooms" Öncü argues that the medium of manga proves to have a strong positive effect and serves as a significant motivation for learning Japanese.

Hasan Topaçoğlu from Üsküdar University with his paper titled "Japan's Diplomatic Reactions to the Cyprus Conflict of 1974", provides insights into

Japan's diplomatic position during the Cyprus Issue, Cyprus Conflict of 1974 and after.

Selçuk Esenbel from Boğaziçi University summarizes the milestones of the hundred years of relations and introduces a list of events that paved the way for mutual friendship between the two countries. Her paper "Enduring Friendship amidst Challenges: Turkish-Japanese Relations" features a preliminary draft of a detailed chronology under preparation with the purpose of a complete, comprehensive list of events and people that shaped these hundred years.

And finally, Altay Atlı from Boğaziçi University offers insights into the evolving nature of Türkiye's engagement with the dynamic economies of the Asia-Pacific and its implications for regional and global dynamics. In his paper "Forging New Frontiers: Türkiye's Economic Relations with the Asia-Pacific Region" Atlı gives a broader perspective for mutual relations and highlights the possibilities for the future.

This issue ends with a list of selected recent publications in the field of Japanese Studies.

With my best regards to all...From a cloudy spring day in Istanbul...

Erdal K. Yalcin (Ph.D.)  
Editor-in-chief



# Abstracts

## Türkiye-Japan FTA and Türkiye's Changing Economic Relations with the East Asian Economies

K. Ali Akkemik  
(Fukuoka University)

Türkiye has always run a large trade deficit against Japan due to the low value-added and technology contents of its export products and the very high technology content of Japanese export products. Japan was not viewed as a major trading partner considering that around six-tenths of Turkish exports were destined for Europe. However, some industrial products such as electronic machines and motor vehicles were essential not only for consumption but also for industries as inputs. In Türkiye's trade with East Asia, Japan dominated its position as the major trading partner of Türkiye in the region. During the early 2000s, Japan lost its top position first to China and then second position to Korea, dropping to the third rank. The decreasing importance of Japan in Türkiye's trade with East Asia reflects the demise of Japanese industries which have been losing competitiveness against Korean and Chinese industries. Recently, a free trade agreement (FTA) has been proposed between Türkiye and Japan. The negotiations started in 2014 but are yet to be completed due to disagreements about opening up the agricultural sector in Japan and other trade-related issues. The proposed FTA is expected to improve the ailing trade relations between Türkiye and Japan. In this paper, we evaluate the trade relations between the two countries, in conjunction with the rise of China and Korea in Türkiye's trade, by a careful comparison of trade statistics and a simulation analysis using a computable general equilibrium model.

**Keywords:** Türkiye-East Asia relations; Japan; free trade agreement; general equilibrium model; simulation.



## Modern Japanese Images of Turks and Turkey

Nobuo Misawa  
(Toyo University, Japan)

The image of Turks and Turkey in Modern Japan had been heavily influenced by the image of European and American sources described in this paper. For example, even after 1924, the Japanese merchants and officers of various ministries continued to adopt the divisions of European Turkey and Asiatic Turkey. We can find examples in the bulletin of the Japanese Commercial Museum in Istanbul, published in 1928-37. The Museum still calculated and sent the statistics of imports and exports about Turkey, not as a single country but divided into two divisions, European Turkey and Asiatic Turkey, even after the establishment of the Republic of Turkey! It was only after the Japanese defeat in WWII in 1945, that Japan adopted a single name and area concept of Turkey. In addition, the Ministry of Education ordered the government's official textbook writers to describe the name of the country as the Ottoman Empire (1299-1922) and the Republic of Turkey (1923- ). In these circumstances, private publications had begun to follow the government's official textbooks, while some of them still used the outdated name, "Ottoman Turkey", which neither the Europeans nor the Americans were no longer using.

**Keywords:** Asiatic Turkey; European Turkey; Ottoman Empire; ukiyoe; nishikie.



## Orhan Pamuk Literature in Japanese

Oğuz Baykara  
(Yeditepe University)

This article gives an account of the paratexts of the Orhan Pamuk translations into Japanese between "2004-2024" and is based on my "descriptive and product-oriented" paratextual research on the Japanese translations of Pamuk literature (Oğuz Baykara, *Orhan Pamuk Japoncada*, Forum Tauri Press, İstanbul). This study has four basic aims: The first aim is to identify the paratexts of Pamuk Literature in Japanese and create a corpus. The second aim is to obtain empirical data from the Japanese paratexts inside the Orhan Pamuk translations (peritexts: such as the book cover, dust jacket, bands, introduction, preface, epilogue, etc.) and some paratexts outside the book (epitexts: such as translation-related articles, translation criticisms, promotional texts, etc.) and translate them into Turkish. The third aim is to present the translated empirical data to the readers in the form of texts, diagrams, tables, and statistical figures. The fourth



and final aim is to determine the position of Orhan Pamuk Literature in the “Turkish-Japanese Translation History” in the last 100 years and evaluate its contributions to the global visibility of Turkish Literature in the Japanese context.

**Keywords:** Orhan Pamuk in Japanese, paratext, peritext, epitext, polysystem.



## **Atatürk and Japan**

A. Merthan Dündar  
(Ankara University)

Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the founder of the Republic of Türkiye, and Emperor Mutsuhito (Meiji), the architect of modern Japan, are two important leaders who tried to bring their countries, (which had experienced great social, economic, and political traumas), to the level of developed countries with the revolutionary innovations they introduced by restructuring their administrative systems. Western civilization has undoubtedly set a great example for this path of innovation. Following Meiji Japan’s success on the road to Westernization, its transformation from a poor and powerless country into a powerful country with industry, economy, know-how, and even an army, along with its defeat of first China (1894-1895) and then Russia (1904-1905) in war, influenced Atatürk, like many other intellectuals of the period. Today, based on some of Mustafa Kemal’s writings about the Russo-Japanese War, it is claimed that he had great sympathy for Japan and used Japan as an example when carrying out his revolutions. It is also claimed that Atatürk learned Japanese and even had the Tokyo Mosque built. In this study, Atatürk’s views on Japan and whether Japan served as an example in the Turkish revolutions will be discussed in light of the available information and documents.

**Keywords:** Atatürk; Türkiye-Japan; Emperor Meiji; Tokyo Mosque; Yamada Torajirō.



## **Ötani Kōzui's Leadership in the Establishment of Turkish-Japanese Economic Relations during the Early Years of the Republic**

Erdal Küçükyağcı

(Boğaziçi University, Asian Studies Center)

Ötani Kōzui (1876-1948) was the first Japanese, or perhaps the first foreigner to point towards Turkey (Feb. 1924) as soon as the Republic was declared (Oct. 1923); the first to bring foreign direct investment to the Turkish Republic through his collaboration with the founding father of the Republic of Türkiye, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk at the Ankara Gazi Farm (Feb. 1927); the first to make a foreign industrial investment with his collaboration with Memduh Gökçen in Bursa (Apr. 1929). Ötani was also one of the co-founders of the Japanese-Turkish Trade Association in Osaka (Nov. 1925), the Japanese-Turkish Association in Tokyo (June 1926), and he was the author of the lines on "Ötani Kōzui Epitaph" dedicated to Turkish soldiers who lost their lives at the *Ertuğrul* Figate Incident in 1890, erected at the Kushimoto *Ertuğrul* Memorial (Mar. 1929). This paper traces his footprints in the early years of the newly founded Republic of Türkiye.

**Keywords:** Ötani Kōzui; Mustafa Kemal Atatürk; Ahi Mesud; Ankara; Gazi Farm.



## **An Overview of the Nineteenth-Century Women of Istanbul in the Works of Pierre Loti and Yamada Torajirō**

A. Volkan Erdemir

(Erciyes University)

By the nineteenth century, the image of Turkey as "the other" to the West was already established in Europe, and "the harem" was the favorite theme in most of the oriental novels, the images of which will be dwelled upon in the following pages. Much ink has been spent on the Westerner's view of Turkish women, and Loti is a leading figure and typical example of this, however only a few studies have ever tried to figure out the Easterner's views of Turkish women. In this paper, we aim to make clear the difference in their opinions via a comparison between French Loti and Japanese Yamada.

**Keywords:** Yamada Torajiro; Pierre Loti; Turkish women; Aziyade; Toruko Gakan.



## **The Use and Application of Mangas as Course Materials in Intermediate Japanese Language Teaching for Turks: An Active Learning Method in Online Classrooms**

Yuriko Öncü  
(Boğaziçi University)

The purpose of this study is to clarify the potential of using manga as a teaching tool in Japanese language education in Turkey. Manga is generally recognized as an entertainment product, with a wide variety of genres and diverse images of manga. In addition, prejudice against manga also exists. Therefore, it is necessary to first analyze learners' candid feedback on the academic use of manga and present an evaluation of its usefulness as a teaching material. This will diversify Japanese language education, which has been limited to conventional teaching materials, and will motivate learners to learn more, thereby contributing to the discovery of effective teaching methods, the improvement of Japanese language teaching methods, and the development of educational programs. This research can be positioned as basic research to provide more attractive and effective Japanese language education.

**Keywords:** Manga; Japanese language education; JLPT; Botchan; survey.



## **Japan's Diplomatic Reactions to the Cyprus Conflict of 1974**

Hasan Topaçoğlu  
(Uskudar University)

In the 1970s, both Japan and Türkiye experienced significant events. Japan, having rapidly recovered from World War II, emphasized peace diplomacy alongside economic progress. Events like the Osaka World Expo in 1970, themed "*Progress and Harmony for Mankind*" reflected Japan's commitment to stability. Diplomatically, Japan worked to strengthen ties with the United States, successfully reuniting Okinawa in 1972 through peaceful means. In contrast, Türkiye witnessed political turmoil and social unrest throughout the 1970s, leading to the military coup of 1980. One of the defining moments for Türkiye during this period was the Cyprus Conflict of 1974, resulting in the division of Cyprus into the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and the Republic of Cyprus. Despite nearing the 50th anniversary in 2024, complete peace has not been achieved on the island. This study aims to analyze Japan's diplomatic response to the Cyprus Issue and Cyprus Conflict of 1974. It will explore whether Japan pursued a stance of peace diplomacy and adopted a

balanced policy or took a strong stance in favor of or against either side. Utilizing official government statements, Record of Diet Proceedings, Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, and the Diplomatic Bluebook published by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the study employs descriptive content analysis. The analysis seeks to provide insights into Japan's diplomatic position during the Cyprus Issue, Cyprus Conflict of 1974 and after.

**Keywords:** Cyprus; Cyprus Conflict; Cyprus Issue; Japan's Diplomacy; Politics.



### **Keeping a *Trust-Network* amidst Challenges: Turkish-Japanese Relations**

Selçuk Esenbel  
(Boğaziçi University)

The historical relations between Turkey and Japan have roots that go back to more than a century as the longest and most stable relationship that Turkey has had with an Asian country. Since the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the acceleration of communication between countries and societies due to globalization has brought the interaction between Turkey and Asian countries and societies closer. Japanese-Turkish relations stand out among them for their continued amicable relations which has served both societies in times of crises. Moreover, Japanese relations have grown in recent years to become a significant strategic partnership that encompasses deepening relations in political, military, economic, social, and cultural spheres.

**Keywords:** Turkish-Japanese Relations; Chronology; Economic Cooperation; JICA; O.D.A.



### **Forging New Frontiers: Türkiye's Economic Relations with the Asia-Pacific Region**

Altay Atlı  
(Bogaziçi University, Asian Studies Center)

Türkiye's economic relations with the countries of the Asia-Pacific region have undergone significant evolution over the years, reflecting broader geopolitical shifts and economic transformations. From historical ties dating back to the Ottoman Empire's engagements with East Asia to contemporary dynamics shaped by

globalization and regional integration, the relationship between Türkiye and the Asia-Pacific countries holds immense significance in the context of Türkiye's foreign policy objectives and economic development aspirations. This article aims to examine the multifaceted dimensions of Türkiye's economic interactions with the Asia-Pacific region. By delving into the complexities of trade, investment, and strategic partnerships, this study seeks to offer insights into the evolving nature of Türkiye's engagement with the dynamic economies of the Asia-Pacific and its implications for regional and global dynamics.

**Keywords:** Asia-Pacific; Asia Anew; Türkiye's Foreign Trade; Value-added; Distant Countries Strategy.

