

# **Expanding the Perspectives of the Previous Symposium Held in 2005 on the Theme of “Coexistence with Nature in a ‘Glocalizing’ World”**

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## **1. KYOTO UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL SYMPSIUM HELD IN 2005**

Kyoto University held an international symposium on the theme of “Coexistence with Nature in a ‘Glocalizing’ World -Field Science Perspectives-” in 2005. The main objectives of the previous symposium was to pursue the interdisciplinary and integrated approach in area studies in the recognition of the complex ‘Glocalizing’ world we as human beings live in. Contrasting currents interwoven with globalization are manifested as “localist responses” by communities defending their “tradition” against globalization and as localization by countries bounding themselves into “regions” to come up with an effective response to globalization. This global-local contradictory intertwining process, called as a new term “glocalization,” exists not only in politics and culture but also in ecological changes.

In line with the objectives, the symposium in 2005 was held in November 23-24, 2005, in Bangkok with four sessions: 1) Learning lessons from recent disasters in the Indian Ocean, 2) Health, disease, aging and locality, 3) Restoration of human-nature coexistence systems in tropics and 4) Exploring new paradigms for coexistence in a glocalizing world. It brought together scholars from different departments of Kyoto University to engage in a dialogue and discussion with their counterparts from various Asian and African countries on the subject.

## **2. EXPANDING THE PERSPECTIVES**

The previous symposium was also organized to present the fruits and results of the 21st Century COE programme “Aiming for COE of Integrated Area Studies” which had started from 2002 on the common research theme of “Human-Nature Coexistence in a Glocalizing World.” This year’s symposium integrates seven 21st Century COE programmes running in Kyoto University on the common theme of “Towards Harmonious Coexistence within Human and Ecological Community on this Planet” providing much wider perspectives than that provided by integrated area studies solely. Special contributions of science and technology are expected to add new perspectives towards harmonious coexistence within human and ecological community in Asia through the discussions in the symposium.

## CV

### **HIRAMATSU, Kozo**

HIRAMATSU, Kozo is Professor and Dean of the Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies, Kyoto University. He graduated from the Engineering department of Kyoto University in 1969 and received his Dr. Eng. from Kyoto University in 1979. He was Assistant Professor of Kyoto University from 1972 to 1992, British Council Scholar at the Institute for Sound and Vibration Research, Southampton University, UK, from 1981 to 1982 and Professor of Mukogawa Women's University from 1992 to 2003. His major research interests have been fieldwork-based acoustic environmental studies, epidemiology of noise effects and laboratory experiments of psychoacoustics. He received Award for the Most Outstanding Paper of the Japanese Society for Hygiene in 2005. His recent work is epidemiology study on aircraft noise and fieldwork of acoustic ecology in Thailand and Laos. His publications include a translation of F. V. Hunt's *Origins in Acoustics* (1984) and *Narrative Life-history of an Okinawan Woman* (2001).

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