

Research Activities

The Tokyo Bunko functions as a centre for academic research on Asian history and culture. The research organization was completely revamped in April 2003 in order to supplement and strengthen traditional approaches to Asian Studies with the establishment of a Supradisciplinary Studies Group to deal mainly with contemporary issues in the region. The new organization consists of six sections, and twelve research teams. They are:

Supradisciplinary Studies Group

Contemporary Asian Section

Contemporary Chinese Studies
Interdisciplinary research on China

Contemporary Islamic Studies
Research on the Islamic cultural sphere Comparative study of the development of parliamentary politics and constitutionalism

Historical and Cultural Studies Group

East Asian Section

Premodern Chinese Studies
Ancient Chinese regional studies (Analysis of *Shuijing Zhu*).
Compilation of a dictionary of Song period socio-economic terminology.
Archeological study of ancient East Asian cities
Law and society in premodern China.

Modern Chinese Studies
Japanese perceptions about China during the 1910-30s.

Northeast Asian Studies
Study of source materials preserved in Japan on late premodern Korea.
Manchu archival sources.
Structural historical analysis of East and Northeast Asia during the Qing period.

Japanese Studies
Bibliography for the rare archives in the Iwasaki Collection.

Inner Asian Section

Central Asian Studies
Dunhuang and Turfan documents preserved at Saint Petersburg.
Ethnic groups in modern and contemporary Central Asia.
Philological research on the Chinese documents unearthed at Dunhuang and Turfan.

Tibetan Studies
Philological research on Tibetan Canonical works omitted from the Tripitaka.

Indian and Southeast Asian Section

Indian Studies
Power politics and culture in South Asia.

Southeast Asian Studies
Images of self and other observed in the ports of Southeast Asia during the transition to modernity

West Asian Section

West Asian Studies
Contractual documents in the Islamic sphere.

Source Materials Section

East Asian Source Materials Research Team
Historiographical surveying and research.

Regional Studies Programs

Two ongoing projects in conjunction with the Institutes for the Humanities and participating universities.

Documentation Center for China Studies
Constructing a system of collecting and studying source materials for China Studies.

Documentation Center for Islamic Area Studies
Constructing a system of collecting and studying source materials for Islamic Area Studies.