

## Editor's Note

With this issue, a new Editorial Board assumes responsibility for publication of *The Journal of Asian Studies*. We aim to continue the high quality of scholarship, the disciplinary breadth, and geographical coverage that the Journal has consistently upheld. As always, we intend to give preference to articles that will be of interest to all of us; and, as before, we hope to maintain the tradition of thematic issues and of review articles. We will also continue to feature articles assessing the state of the art in fields of interest. These articles are often commissioned by the regional councils of the AAS; some we may attempt to generate in order to highlight important research or pedagogical concerns and to further debate and scholarship on topics of wide interest. We also hope to encourage writings that engage newer theories and methodologies in a variety of disciplines.

Contrary to lore in some quarters of the profession, there is no large backlog of articles awaiting publication. We have most of this year's issues mapped out, but we have not lined up the contents of any of the four issues of 1996. Therefore, an article accepted now could appear as early as the February issue of next year. So, please do send us your best articles (and in the appropriate Journal format). Our aim is to respond promptly to your submissions, to provide you with evaluations of your pieces within two or three months at the latest. And don't hesitate to send something in just because you assume that the Journal does not publish in that field or on that topic or time period. The JAS includes *all* of us!

Thoughtful, timely, and informative book reviews will continue to occupy a major portion of the Journal. We are well aware that this section rates highly with our readers. To ensure that we have the best pool of reviewers for the job, we wish to invite many more of you to volunteer to share in this responsibility. The next issue of the AAS Newsletter will contain a card soliciting reviewers. Please return these cards to the editor's office.

David D. Buck deserves a standing ovation for serving as the 'great helmsman' of the Journal for the last five years. He has filled the role of editor with extraordinary distinction and energy. I am grateful as well for his graciousness and generosity in making the transition to the new Editorial Board smooth and easy. The Secretariat and Board of Directors of the Association should also be commended for their ongoing commitment and support. May the Journal continue to prosper as *the* flagship publication of the AAS!

I welcome comments from our readers on any matter relating to the Journal.