

Preface

The publishers and the editorial board have decided to change the name of Copenhagen Papers in East and Southeast Asian Studies to *The Copenhagen Journal of Asian Studies*. We believe that the new name better reflects the breadth and depth of Asian studies in this part of the world. Also it is a less cumbersome title, which hopefully should facilitate the circulation and marketing of the journal in this computerized post-Modern world, where short search words are essential. The change does not involve any substantial alterations in the leadership and institutional affiliation of the journal. The present editor has agreed to continue his duties for the journal for another year and in this work he will be joined by Kirsten Refsing, who has agreed to serve as Associate Editor.

This issue brings together papers dealing with contemporary Japan. The papers by Bert Edström and Marie Roesgaard were first presented at the first and second annual conference of the "State and Society in East Asia" Network, held in Copenhagen and Gentofte in May 1993 and May 1994 respectively. Ian Reader's contribution is a revised version of a talk given at a seminar arranged by the network in February 1994. Finally, there is an article by Sam Steffensen, who also took part in the May 1993 conference.

I would like to thank Susan Aagaard Petersen for assistance in the editorial process and Axel Lunddahl for preparing a camera-ready version of the manuscripts. We are also grateful to the Danish Research Council for the Humanities for support towards meeting the cost of this publication.

January 1995

Kjeld Erik Brødsgaard
Editor

After the editorial process was concluded, we received the sad news of the sudden death of Søren Egerod, Professor in East Asian Languages at the University of Copenhagen. For technical reasons, we are unable to include an obituary in this issue of *The Copenhagen Journal of Asian Studies*. However, the next issue of the journal will carry an obituary and be dedicated to Søren Egerod in memoriam.

Kjeld Erik Brødsgaard