

Obituary

SAEKI YUUICHI 1923–1998

Saeki Yuuichi, formerly of the Institute of Oriental Culture, University of Tokyo, passed away on 24 February 1998 of lung cancer. Professor Saeki was a leading scholar of China's late imperial social and economic history with important articles written in the 1950s and 1960s concerning China's handicraft industries, agricultural economy, and social protests. Beginning in the 1970s he played an instrumental role in integrating Western scholarship on China into a more international community by reading with his seminar in Tokyo major English-language works. He also graciously hosted numerous Asian, European, and North American graduate students and eased their entry into the Japanese world of scholarship on Chinese history. Despite his own often rigorous Marxist analytical frame of reference, he welcomed a broad variety of students and topics. The international community of historians of China has lost a major leader from a pivotal period when scholarship on late imperial Chinese history began to flow across the Pacific.

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