

Editor's Note

Every reader of the *Journal of Asian Studies* reads other journals that are more precisely related to his or her research interests than is *JAS*. But what the *Journal of Asian Studies* does in a way that no other journal can is provide a forum where all Asianists can talk to one another across disciplinary, geographic, and theoretical boundaries. As I was pondering ways to increase this feature of the journal—ways to encourage sinologists to read, for instance, what Tania Li has to say on upland Sulawesi, or to entice specialists in medieval Japan to become engaged by what Arun Agrawal has to say on people who depend on forests in the Kumaon Himalaya—it occurred to me that an interesting strategy would be to ask the authors of the articles in a particular issue to read and comment on each others' essays. So I sent the articles out, asked for comments, and all five authors responded. I have incorporated their responses in a somewhat expanded "In this Issue" section. I hope that this expanded introduction, by showing sometimes unexpected thematic resonances, will encourage readers to read across geographic disciplinary lines.

To facilitate further discussion, we have also provided each author's e-mail address. The editorial offices of the journal can be reached at jasianst@umn.edu. The authors and the editor welcome your comments.