Concerning Japanese politics and law, there has been a focus on the postwar system and reforms, and in this context research has touched upon the Constitution and Diet, economic and educational law, diplomatic normalization policy, and the reform of factionalized civil service and administration. Research on Japanese foreign policy and general security strategy has since the Meiji Restoration emphasized the "rich nation, strong defense" policy and broad military strategy. It also examined various topics beginning with the reconstruction of the postwar period: under the heading of strategies for economic superiority the goal was to establish Japan as a great trading power. After that, as Japan aimed to become a major political power and international player, economics was moved to the background and diplomacy and national defense were strengthened. Japan was active as an ally of the U.S. and thus, as one of the western powers, with its weight in the Asia-Pacific region, it was expected to establish a world position.

Finally, due to limited space, I will omit any material concerning research on philosophy and religion. Regarding the comprehensive picture of research on Japan in China, detailed information may be found in the Annual Report on Japanese Studies in China, from the Beijing Japanese Studies Research Center.

The annotations are better, and the selection more discriminating, for the links surveyed by a number of individual academics in their own websites such as Academic Resource Guide (http://www.ne.jp/asahi/coffee/house/ARG/index.html) and The Underground Theatre (http://www.hongo.ecc.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~ee77030/index.j.html). These sites treat both government-sponsored and free-lance "vanity" sites, with many of the latter standing out for the high quality of their content.

Note that government sites tend to provide "free" access only for an undefined "experimental" period, and only after users submit a registration form. A few URLs are characterized below.

1. The Japanese Literature Text File (http://kuzan.f-edu.fukui-u.ac.jp/bungaku.htm) provides annotated links to some 150 sites from which one can access full texts of Japanese literature, from the Kojiki to Richi Yokomitsu. The site is maintained by Akihiro Okajima, whose communication log with users and contributors is an interesting and informative read.

2. The National Institute for Japanese Literature (http://www.nijl.ac.jp/) provides registered users with online access to its collection catalogs and Japanese literature Index, as well as access to its famous medieval waka collections, starting with Kokin wakashū (http://www.nijl.ac.jp/forum/waka21Forum.html).

3. The University of Tokyo Historiographical Institute (HI) (http://www.hi.u-tokyo.ac.jp/) is producing and offering full-text databases of major historical documents and archives, as well as its catalog of holdings. This ongoing text database project will be an essential virtual resource of primary materials for historians.

Chinese Taoist Jōfuku to Japan has become extensive and has treated both positive and negative arguments. For the modern period, there are represented various positions concerning the character of the Meiji Restoration, the bourgeois revolution, the absolutist imperial system, and the bourgeois popular democratic movements considered as a bourgeois revolution. There is research concerning the periodization of the Meiji Restoration, often treating the Perry arrival in 1853 as the initial boundary, but providing a variety of interpretations of the ending boundary; for example, the period may be 1853 to 1869 (bukan tsu, restoration and civil war) or it may be 1853 to 1911 (the whole bourgeois revolution). (Perhaps even various other dates serve as the boundary: the Meiji Restoration emphasized the "rich nation, strong defense" policy and broad military strategy. It also examined various topics beginning with the reconstruction of the postwar period: under the heading of strategies for economic superiority the goal was to establish Japan as a great trading power. After that, as Japan aimed to become a major political power and international player, economics was moved to the background and diplomacy and national defense were strengthened. Japan was active as an ally of the U.S. and thus, as one of the western powers, with its weight in the Asia-Pacific region, it was expected to establish a world position.

The National Center for Science
4. The Institute of Developing Economies (http://www.ide.go.jp/) provides a bibliographic database on contemporary Asian affairs, based on its collection that includes research materials not available elsewhere. Note especially its useful statistical database for twenty-one Asian countries, starting in the early 1990s.

5. The Economic Literature database (http://rio.andrew.ac.jp/econ/bunken.html), created by Jun Matsuo, searches over 50,000 records very efficiently. Osaka City University’s ERI-Biblio (http://sm1.eri.osaka-cu.ac.jp/) is another useful index of economics-related articles from 1,500 journals since August 1994.

6. The Fiscal Policy databank (http://www.iss.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~tdoi/pdata.html) offers numerical data broken out by prefecture and going back as far as the mid-1950s. The database, created by Takeo Doi, is in Lotus 123 and Excel-ready format. He also offers links to retrieve full-text discussion papers on fiscal policy.

7. In his Socius Pro (http://www.honya.co.jp/contents/knomura/links/link.html#09) website, Kazuo Nomura selects, annotates and provides links to websites maintained by Japanese scholars in sociology and related fields.

8. SOCIO (http://sociodb.rikkyo.ac.jp/default.htm) is a sociology bibliography with 12,000 records, including books and journal articles published in Japan from 1991. SOCIO is maintained by a consortium backed by the Japan Association of Sociology.

9. The Institute of Social Science in the University of Tokyo (http://www.iss.u-tokyo.ac.jp/) is compiling social science databases, such as an archive of labor surveys taken from the 1940’s into the 1960’s. The institute invites social scientists to share their original data for use in the creation of new research databases, which is a rather new approach in Japan. Users are required to submit an official application form to gain access to the data.

10. The Ohara Institute for Social Research(http://oohara.mt.tama.hosei.ac.jp/) is well-known for its useful labor bibliography database and other resources on labor. It has recently added data files in 22 labor categories, such as the population of female workers by age, for the period after 1945.

11. The International Research Center for Japanese Studies (http://www.nichibunken.ac.jp/dbsel.html) makes available its image databases of old photos, illustrations on Japanese culture, and photos of Japanese arts held in overseas museums, as well as a bibliographic database of books on Japanese in western languages published prior to 1900. Registered users can access the databases for free during an “experimental” period.

The Japanese Collection of the Harvard-Yenching Library: An Update

James K. M. Cheng and Toshiyuki Aoki, Harvard–Yenching Library

The Harvard Yenching Library was founded in 1928 as the Chinese-Japanese Library of the Harvard-Yenching Institute at Harvard University. The Institute, which was named for the two universities that were instrumental in its establishment — Harvard and the former Yenching University at Peiping (now Beijing) in China — is an independent foundation whose primary purpose is to promote higher education in Asia, particularly the study of the history and cultures of the region. The Library was founded to facilitate the development of an East Asian Studies program at Harvard, where professional advice would be continuously available to the Institute, and where East Asian scholars could come to develop their skills with the contact and advice of international scholars in a broad range of disciplines in the social sciences and humanities. Building on a collection of several thousand volumes of Chinese and Japanese books that the Harvard College Library had collected since 1879, the Library grew rapidly in the ensuing years to become the largest library for East Asian research among academic libraries outside of Asia. The Library took its present name in 1965 and remained under the administration of the Harvard-Yenching Institute until 1976, when it became an administrative unit of the Harvard College Library.

The beginning of the Japanese collection at Harvard can be traced to 1914 when two Japanese professors, Anesaki Masaharu (1878–1949), a Buddhologist, and Hattori Unokichi (1867–1939), a Sinologist, both of the Tokyo Imperial University, came to lecture at Harvard and donated several important groups of Japanese publications on Buddhism and Sinology to the Harvard College Library. But it was not until 1959 that the first Japanese bibliographer was appointed to guide the steady growth of the Japanese collection in ensuing years. Since then, the Japanese collection has developed strengths that cover many subject areas.

In 1948, the Library acquired the Petzold Buddhist Library of 6,500 volumes. Dr. Bruno Petzold, an Austrian scholar who resided in Japan for many years and became a practicing Buddhist, studied and practiced Mahayana Buddhism, especially the doctrines of the Tendai sect. His collection contained a wealth of iconographic matter and many important studies printed in the Tokugawa period (1600–1868), as well as about 200 manuscripts from the 13th and 14th centuries.

Both classical and modern Japanese literature are well represented in the Japanese collection, often in multiple-volume sets. In modern Japanese fiction, the Library’s holdings are particularly extensive, and every significant contemporary Japanese novelist is represented. Poetry is also a strong element in the collections, which include modern studies and texts of all the classic anthologies.

With numerous reproductions of manuscripts—from monasteries, from the collections of feudal lords, and from government and private libraries—Japanese history is also richly represented in the Japanese collection. The Library’s holdings on Japanese prefecture histories are extensive and represent one of the best in the country. The Library’s