

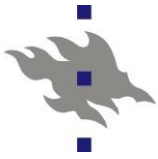


HELSINGIN YLIOPISTO
HELSINGFORS UNIVERSITET
UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

On Learning Chinese and Japanese in the 1970s and 1980s

Kauko Laitinen
Department of World Cultures
University of Helsinki

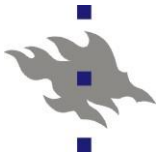




Learning Chinese in China

- First Finnish **missionary Vilhelmiina Arpiainen** went to China in 1892 - for many decades the missionaries were the only Finns who mastered the Chinese language.
- Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission focused on Northern Hunan
- **Kalle Korhonen** (1885-1963) translated *Great Learning* into Finnish
- **Toivo Koskikallio** (1889-1967) translated *Daodejing*, *Analects*, *Mencius* and even the *Odes* (still remaining as a manuscript).

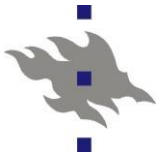
- **Hugo Lund (1872-1915)**, a promising young sinologist, in China during the Boxer Uprising



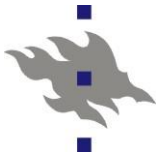
C. G. Mannerheim in China



- Marshal **C. G. Mannerheim** is known as the most influential figure in the 20th century Finnish history. He served as the Commander in Chief in three wars and as Finland's sixth President in 1944-1946.
- Before this important role in Finnish history, he had 30 years long career in the Russian Imperial Army, which included 2 missions in China.

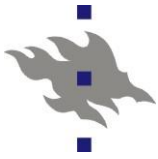


- During the 19th century many Finnish officers serving in the Russian army came into contact with China.
- Colonel Carl Gustaf Mannerheim (1857-1951) took part in Russo-Japanese war in Manchuria in 1904-1905.
- In 1906-1908 Mannerheim made a military survey on China's northern border provinces by horse from Xinjiang via Gansu, Inner Mongolia, Shaanxi, Henan and Shanxi to Beijing. 1,370 unique photographs & travel diary *Across Asia from West to East* (1940)
- Assumption: learned simple Chinese during his 4 years in China. According to his own statement, gave up learning Chinese.

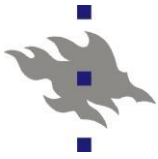


First Finnish students to China after 1949

- 1950s & 1960s: invitations from Chinese Communist Party to Finnish Communist Party to send students to China
- The first Finnish students to study in the People's Republic of China were **Kalle Kuittinen** and **Aarre Nojonen**, arrived in Beijing 1953.
- The second generation of Finnish students were **Helena Hölttä**, **Raimo Laine**, and **Kirsti Ryynänen**. They studied in China in 1960-1963.



- The third generation of students from Finland went to China in 1973 on the basis of a bilateral governmental exchange agreement. **Annikki Arponen, Marja Kaikkonen** and **Olli Salmi** started their studies in 1973, **Seppo Kemppainen** in 1974, **Kauko Laitinen** 1975, **Erik Halme** and **Kari Varis** 1976, **Pertti Seppälä** 1977, **Hannu Aitalaakso, Marja Härkönen** and **Vesa-Jussi Vuori** 1978. This governmental exchange still continues.
- Since late 1980s Finnish universities began signing exchange agreements with Chinese universities in order to enlarge student exchange.
- In the early 1990s number of self-financed students grew rapidly.



In the 1970s even foreign students at the Chinese universities took part in "Open Door Schooling" at people's communes and factories. Kauko Laitinen, a history student at Peking University, worked at February Seventh Diesel Engine Plant in January 1977.

”Kiinan on annettava panoksensa ihmiskunnan hyväksi”

Opetusministeriön asuntola Helsingin Koskelassa on aivan tavallinen kerrostalo. Soitamme kelloa toisessa kerroksessa. Oven takaa kuuluu Kiinan modernin teollisuuden tuottamien velvetossujen tassutusta. Oven avaa Loistava Pilvi, Lin perheen toinen poika, Kuang-yun. Eteisessä seisovat Poutapäivä ja Kukka, Man ja Changin perheen tyttäret.

Kiinan opetusministeriö on lähettänyt heidät opiskelemaan suomenkieltä maiden välisen vaihto-oppilassopimuksen puitteissa. Kolmen vuoden opiskelun jälkeen he palaavat Kiinaan palvelukseen kansaansa, miten, sitä he eivät vielä tarkalleen tiedä.

Suomen suhteet Kiinaan ovat pitkät ja lämpimät. Suomi oli ensimmäinen Euroopan maa Englannin jälkeen, joka tunnusti kommunistisen Kiinan vuonna 1950. Suomen suurlähetystö Pekingissä on eräs maamme suurimmista, sillä vientikauppaamme, joka käsittää pääasiassa seluloosaa, mutta yhä enemmän koneita, hoidetaan suurlähetystön kautta.

”Olimme suurlähettiläs Veli Heleniuksen luona päivällisellä ennen lähtöämme Pekingistä”, kertoo Li Kuang-yun.



Li Kuang-yun, Ma Ke-ching ja Chang Wei-hua pelaavat vapaa-aikoinaan pingpongia.

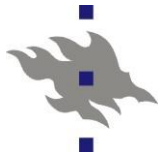
Kansaa voi palvella suomentaidollakin





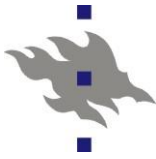
Evolution of Chinese Language Teaching in Finland

- In the early 20th century Prof. **G. J. Ramstedt**, expert on Altaic philology, started developing East Asian studies. He invited missionary **Kalle Korhonen** to teach the first course in spoken Chinese
- **Aulis J. Joki**, professor in Finno-Ugric studies, worked in 1946-1947 in Stockholm, where he attended a Chinese language course taught by professor **Bernhard Karlgren** (1889-1978), an expert on East Asian languages and historical linguistics.
- Professor **Göran Malmqvist** - also a student of Karlgren - from Stockholm University gave an introductory Chinese course at the University of Helsinki in spring 1972.
- In 1973 Joki managed to convince the university about the need to establish a **Unit of East Asian and Altaic Studies**. In 1974 became formally upgraded to the **Institute for Asian and African Studies**. In 2010, it merged with other units to form the **Department of World Cultures**.

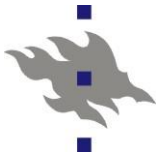


Evolution of Chinese Language Teaching

- Chinese language education on university level was arranged on a permanent basis after Ms. Marjatta Väänänen, Minister of Education, paid a visit to China in spring 1973 and it was decided that China will send visiting lecturers of Chinese language to the University of Helsinki.
- The first teacher, Mr. **Zhao Shuangzhi**, arrived already in autumn 1973. He taught until the end of 1974. His successors were **Zheng Dexin** (1975-1978), **Tan Jingxun** 1978-1980, **Wan Huizhou** 1980-1984, **Wang Xizeng** 1984-1986, **Tian Shanji** 1986-1990, **Wang Zhiwu** (1990-1992), and **Wang Depei** (1992-1996).
- Since 1996 Dr. **Gao Mingming** has been Lecturer (now University Lecturer) of the Chinese Language.

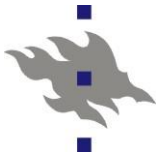


- In 1987 a full **East Asian Studies Degree Programme** was established (BA-PhD)
- The University of Turku established in 2006 the **Institute of East Asian studies** offering an M.A. programme.
- The **Confucius Institute at the University of Helsinki** was opened in 2007 in co-operation with Renmin University of China. The Institute even sends teachers to five language centres in four other universities (Eastern Finland, Jyväskylä, Oulu, and Tampere).



Learning Japanese in Japan

- First Finnish missionaries to Japan in 1900
- Opiskelija- ja tutkijanvaihto-ohjelmilla pitkä perinne alkaen 1970-luvulta



Japanese Teaching in Finland

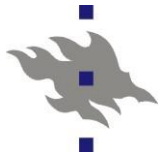
- G. J. Ramstedt 1938 (Spring term)
- Tsutomu Kuwaki 1943-1944

- Tamotsu Koizumi 1964-1966
- Tadaaki Kawata 1970-1974
- Takashi Ogishima 1975
- Hiroshi Shoji 1976-1977
- Tadaaki Kawata 1977-1981



Japanese Teaching in Finland: Visiting Lecturers sent by Japan Foundation

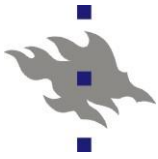
- Tomoko Kataoka 1980-1983
- Yukiyo Yamazaki 1983-1986
- Emiko Iida 1986-1989
- Yoshimi Hori 1989-1992
- Michiko Yazawa 1992-1993
- Yukako Uemura 1993-1996



Japanese teaching in Finland: lecturers

- Junichiro Okura, Helsinki University of Technology 1987-
- Yukako Uemura, University of Helsinki 1996?-2013
- Riikka Länsisalmi, University of Helsinki 2013-

Now many university language centres, upper secondary schools, folk high schools, etc. offer Japanese language courses



Thank you for your attention!

A Chinese language teachers' meeting

