



*ICS Lecture Series: Understanding China – Its Roots and new Frontiers &
IJS Lecture Series: Japan in Historical Context*

Chinese Vernacular Narratives and Early *Yomihon*- Japanese Adaptation of the Story of Du Shi-niang

Abstract: This paper examines the reception of Chinese vernacular language and adaptations of vernacular narratives in Japan during the Edo period, with a specific focus on the works of Tsuga Teisho (1718-1794). Starting from the mid-seventeenth century there was rapidly growing interest in Japan in vernacular Chinese, both as a spoken language and as a literary style. Chinese vernacular narratives became widely popular among Japanese writers, who were inspired to experiment. Among them, Tsuga Teisho, who published three anthologies of stories, many of which were adapted from Ming vernacular narratives by Feng Menglong (1574-1645). This talk considers one *yomihon*: the story of “Du Shi-niang.” The comparison of the Japanese adaptation to its source yields insights into how the process of translation and adaptation impacted Japanese popular literature.

Biography: *Nan Ma Hartmann is Assistant Professor of Japanese Studies at Earlham College. She received her Ph.D. in Japanese literature from Columbia University. Her research interests include vernacularization in early modern Japan, translation literature, and reception of vernacular Chinese (baihua) in Japan.*

Co-sponsors: Institute for Chinese Studies
Institute for Japanese Studies
East Asian Studies Center
Literacy@OSU
U.S. Department of Education, Title VI Grant



Nan Ma Hartmann

Assistant Professor
Earlham College

Friday, January 31

2:30 p.m.

Jennings Hall, Room 140
(1735 Neil Ave., OSU Campus)

Free and open to the public

Contact:
Jeffrey Chan chan.184@osu.edu
Janet Stucky Smith stucky.7@osu.edu
<http://easc.osu.edu>

