



Oriental Institute

The Czech Academy
of Sciences

The Oriental Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences is seeking qualified candidates for a researcher position in the field of Japanese Studies, starting in July 2021 (negotiable). This is a non-teaching research position on a two-year contract with a possibility of extension. The successful candidate will have a Ph.D. in Japanese Studies or relevant fields where Japan remains the focal point of the research. We are particularly interested in candidates who work closely with the primary sources in the era of Japanese imperialism and whose work addresses social and cultural phenomena in the contact zones within the empire. Comparative approaches in the study of imperialisms/empires, as well as historical investigations into Japanese modernity, which reflect on the intellectual aspects of rise and fall of the Japanese empire, are welcome. The successful candidate is expected to be in residence in Prague but will have access to our Taipei Research Center at Academia Sinica. S/he is also expected to publish academic journal articles and monographs, present the research at international conferences, create networks of scholars, make valuable contributions to our “Power Project,” and vitalize the field of Japanese Studies in the Czech Republic. For more on the “Power Project,” see <<http://power.orient.cas.cz/about-the-project-2/>>.

The Institute will provide office space, a computer, funding for proofreading services and publication expenses, library services, and funding for research trips and academic mobility. Proficiency in the Japanese language is required.

To Apply:

Please send a cover letter, curriculum vitae, research proposal of current and future projects (no more than 5 pages), two writing samples (e.g. dissertation chapter or published articles), and two letters of recommendation to <OrientJ2021@gmail.com>. All materials should be addressed to Dr. Jakub Hruby, Head of the East Asia Department. Please provide all documents in PDF and have the letters of recommendation sent separately by the referees. Applications must be received by **January 31, 2021**, to ensure maximum consideration.

Please note that the Oriental Institute is committed to excellence through diversity, and all OI employees must have permission to work in the Czech Republic. This might result in the delay or complication of the start date due to current COVID-19 restrictions. Questions may be directed to Dr. Nobuko Toyosawa (toyosawa@orient.cas.cz).

About the Oriental Institute:

The Oriental Institute (www.orient.cas.cz) is a public non-university research institution. The Institute currently employs approximately 30 researchers from across the Czech Republic, Europe, Asia, and the United States. Formally established in 1922, the Oriental Institute is one of the oldest institutions dedicated to the study of Oriental cultures in Central and Eastern Europe. Since 1993, it has fallen administratively under the auspices of the Czech Academy of Sciences (CAS), an umbrella research institution similar in function to its counterparts in continental Europe, such as the CNRS in France. The CAS was established in 1992 as the Czech successor to the former

Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. It is set up as a complex of 54 public research institutions. The primary mission of the CAS and its institutes is to conduct basic research in a broad spectrum of the natural, technical and social sciences and the humanities. This research, whether highly specialized or interdisciplinary in nature, aims to advance developments in scientific knowledge at the international level, while taking into account the specific needs of both Czech society and national culture. In a country such as the Czech Republic, where university departments dealing with Oriental studies tend to be small and understaffed, the structure of non-university research bodies with permanent research positions brings numerous benefits. Among other things, scholars are enabled to pursue their specializations according to the needs of relevant fields of study, aiming correspondingly at the highest levels of research quality. The framework of the Institute allows for a flexible and open ended approach to research initiatives in Asia-related topics, creating, in effect, an ideal environment for interdisciplinary research. The research quality is guaranteed by the Council of the Institute, composed of both internal and external members, and regular – both Czech and international – peer-review evaluations. Currently, the work of our researchers is mainly focused on the Arab world, Iran, Israel, Turkey, India, Central Asia, Southeast Asia, China, Tibet, Japan, and the ancient Near East.