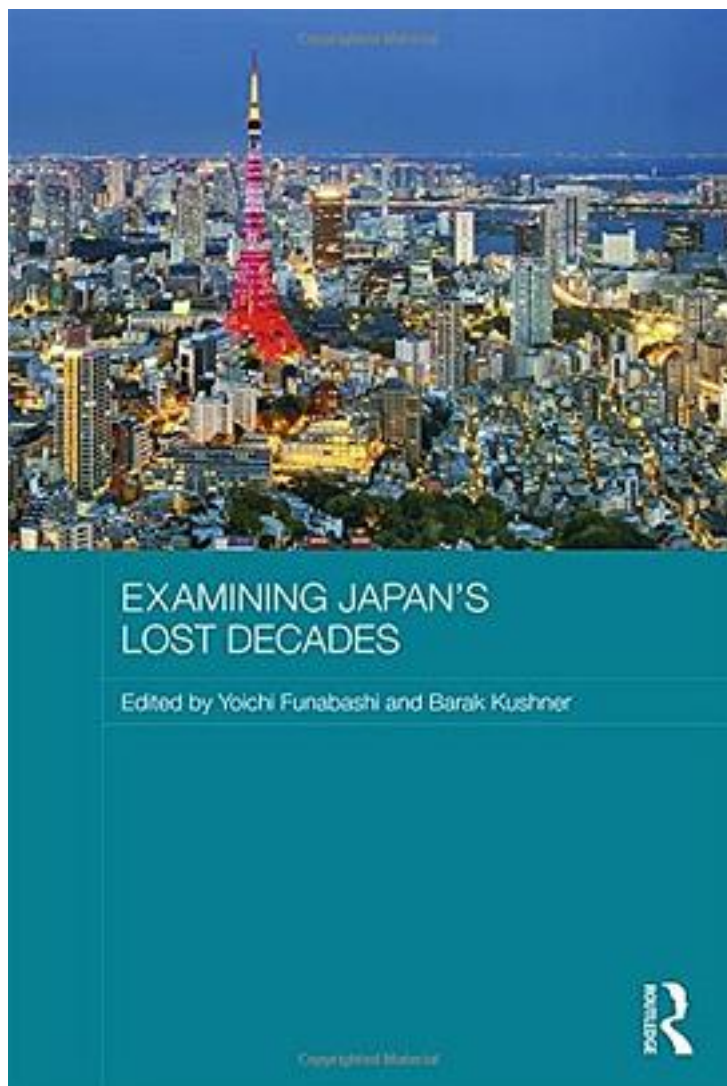


Examining Japan's Lost Decades



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This book examines five features of Japan's 'Lost Decades': the speed of the economic decline in Japan compared to Japan's earlier global prowess; a rapidly declining population; considerable political instability and failed reform attempts; shifting balances of power in the region and changing relations with Asian neighbouring nations; and the lingering legacy of World War Two. Addressing the question of why the decades were lost, this book offers 15 new perspectives ranging from economics to ideology and beyond. Investigating problems such as the risk-averse behaviour of Japan's bureaucracy and the absence of strong political leadership, the authors analyse how the delay of 'loss-cutting policies' led to the 1997 financial crisis and a state of political gridlock where policymakers could not decide on firm strategies that would benefit national interests.

To discuss the rebuilding of Japan, the authors argue that it is first essential to critically examine Japan's 'Lost Decades' and this book offers a comprehensive overview of Japan's recent 20 years of crisis. The book reveals that the 'Lost Decades' is not an issue unique to the Japanese context but has global relevance, and its study can provide important insights into challenges being faced in other mature economies. With chapters written by some of the world's leading Japan specialists and chapters focusing on a variety of disciplines, this book will be of interest to students and scholars in the areas of Japan studies, Politics, International Relations, Security Studies, Government Policy and History.

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评论

25年前，日本还是那个Japan as NO.1的余晖未褪的未来世界的领头人。25年之后，Japanization已经成为了发达资本主义国家问题儿的代名词。所谓世界可以发生这样最初难以想象的变化，除去感叹造化弄人，所谓人的预见力，也通常不过如此，大概现在想来也只剩下这样的空洞感。这部文集多少并不是严格意义上的学术论文集，貌似是会议的纪要编纂成畅销书骗钱的赶脚。不过，此书的若干章节非常的興味深い。日本劳资关系的变貌，日美同盟的漂流，日本政治改革的起伏和日本法人治理的进涉艰难。并不是每个人都会同意所谓日本真正处于“某种问题”状态当中，或者治疗的办法就是“学习美国”。不过，公允地说，日本病的确反映了所有发达资本主义国家的共同问题。绝对值得参考一下

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