

# **Populism in a Post- Truth World**

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# Post Truth?

- “Relating to or denoting circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief.” [Oxford living Dictionaries](#) 2016 “word of the year”
- ‘Alternative Facts’
- ‘Fake News’
- The role of ‘social media’

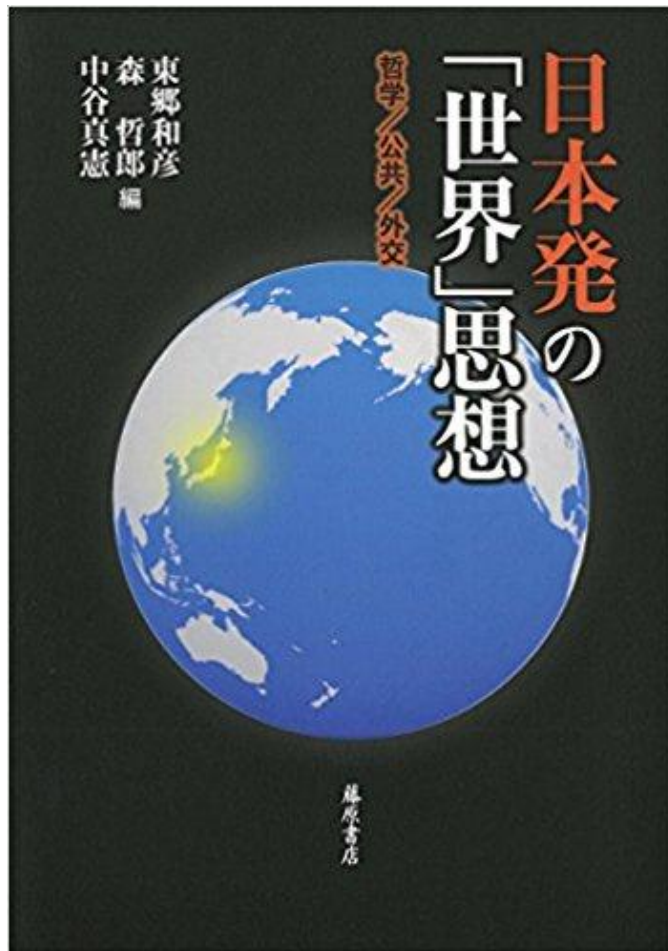
# “America/My country First”

1989~91 C.W.end	2001 9/11	2007~08	2011~13	2012	2014	2016	2017
Russia	Putin			PutinII	~		
Middle East	Al- Qaeda		Arab's Spring		ISIS		
		Financial CrisisG20					
China		China asserts		Xi Jinping			Xi II
North Korea			Kim Jong -Un				
Japan	Koizumi	Revolving Door PM	Revolving Door PM	Abe II			
Europe U.S.A.						Brexit Trump	

# Behind “My Country First”

- Populism and nationalism
- Leading status-quo power is the United States
- Leading rising power is China
- What is Japan’s thinking?

# Some efforts



- Kazuhiko Togo, Mori Tetsuro, Nakatani Masanori edited
- “Global Thoughts originating from Japan--- Philosophy/Public Policy/Diplomacy”
- Fujiwara Shoten/ January 2017

# Contemporary Kyoto School

- Revisiting Pre-War Kyoto School:
- Nishida Kitaro: philosophy: 絶対無 Absolute Nothing: Recognition of a place where oneself becomes a part of whole but cannot be seen
- Suzuki Daisetsu: religion: 靈性的自覚 Spiritual Self Reflection: To see the world and seen by the world; self reflection is the world
- Both were exercising ZEN of thirteen century Kamakura Buddhism

# 十牛圖 Ten Bulls



第一尋牛



第二見跡



第三見牛



第四得牛



第五牧牛



第六騎牛歸家



第七忘牛存人



第八人牛俱忘



第九返本還源



第十入廬垂手

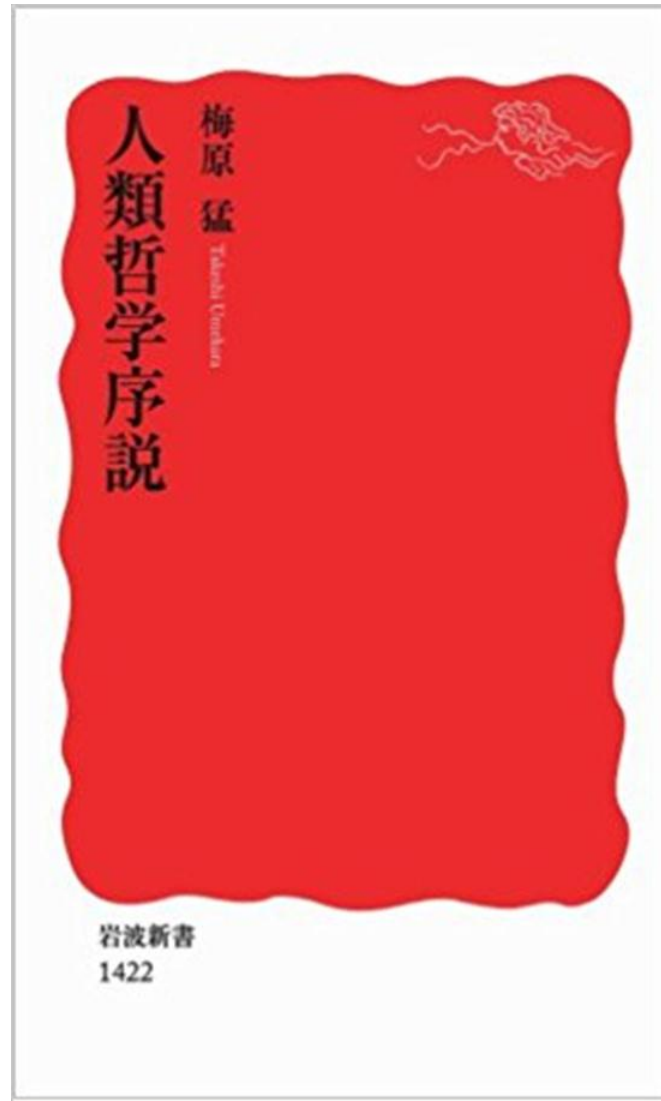
# Japan's place in the World

- Nishida: traditionally, Japan was a world vertically deep; after Meiji, met other countries, located wide horizontally → comprising the world and comprised by the world, aiming for harmony (1940)
- Suzuki: spiritual outburst from 大地 ground, covered by green grasses, deeply rooted in the ground, breezing free air without any restriction, and spreading branches to the eternal sky → complete harmony between spiritual Japan and spiritual world (1946)



# Japan's Civilizational History

- Takeshi Umehara: Discourse of Human Philosophy



# Japan's Civilizational History

- Jomon Period: Country of Wood: Origin of philosophy of Coexistence with Nature → Shinto, coexistence with deity in universe
- Yayoi to Heian Period: Agriculture, culture, political system and Buddhism from China
- 神仏習合 Coexistence of Deity and Buddha
- 本地垂迹説 Honji Suijaku Setsu
- 神本仏迹説 Shinpon Butsujyaku Setsu
- 草木国土悉皆成仏 Grass and trees, national Land, all turning into Buddha → from Tendai Honkaku Buddhism (Saicho, Hieizan) to 13<sup>th</sup> century Kamakura Buddhism

# So what?

- Accepting once everything; keeping it inside, at one point turning it into something unique, and then creating something universal.
- How can it be applied to present day international relations, rampant with “My country First” positioning, and even, claiming post-truth?

# Conclusion

- **North Korea**
- **China**
- **Russia**