

## **South Asians and South-East Asians in Japan: Demographic and Sociolinguistic Implications**

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In response to recent policies in Japan as well as other push-factors of the home countries, South Asians and South-East Asians are the most rapidly increasing foreign populations in Japan of the past decade. Using the Statistics on the Foreigners Registered in Japan (Ministry of Justice, 2018), the first part of this presentation gives a synchronic and diachronic overview on the population of South Asian and South-East Asian nationals in Japan, with specific focus on the Pakistani and the Vietnamese population. Their older members used to be referred to as ‘newcomers’, in contrast with the ‘oldcomers’ (such as the *zainichi* Koreans). The ‘newcomers’ have been living in Japan for more than two decades by now, and both communities now have a newer generation of migrants, whom we will call the ‘millennial migrants’. The two communities are therefore experiencing increasing diversity in lifestyles and language issues. The second part of this presentation provides an overview of sociolinguistic findings on the Pakistani and Vietnamese communities, as well as the difficulties encountered to continue such studies. It also addresses the possible directions in sociolinguistic studies of migrant communities in Japan in general, inviting scholars and practitioners to participate in future research.