

Contents

Contributors VII

- 1 **Introduction: Languages in East and South Asia, 1000–1919** 1
Benjamin A. Elman
- 2 **The Vernacularization of Buddhist Texts: From the Tangut Empire to Japan** 29
Peter Kornicki
- 3 **The Sounds of Our Country: Interpreters, Linguistic Knowledge, and the Politics of Language in Early Chosŏn Korea** 58
Wang Sixiang
- 4 **Rebooting the Vernacular in Seventeenth-Century Vietnam** 96
John D. Phan
- 5 **Mediating the Literary Classics: Commentary and Translation in Premodern Japan** 129
Haruo Shirane
- 6 **The Languages of Medical Knowledge in Tokugawa Japan** 147
Daniel Trambaiolo
- 7 **The Manchu Script and Information Management: Some Aspects of Qing China's Great Encounter with Alphabetic Literacy** 169
Mårten Söderblom Saarela
- 8 **Unintended Consequences of Classical Literacies for the Early Modern Chinese Civil Examinations** 198
Benjamin A. Elman
- 9 **Competing "Languages": "Sound" in the Orthographic Reforms of Early Meiji Japan** 220
Atsuko Ueda

10	Writing and Speech: Rethinking the Issue of Vernaculars in Early Modern China	254
	<i>Shang Wei</i>	
	Index	303