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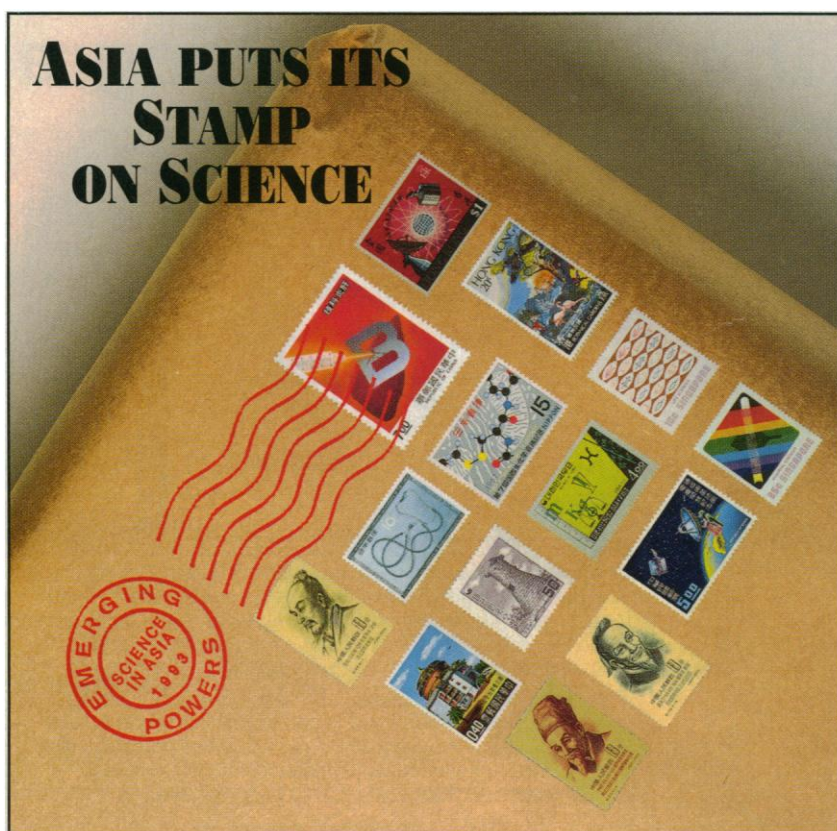
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A NOTE ON ASIAN NAMES

IN GENERAL, THE STORIES IN THE NEWS SECTION FOLLOW THE ASIAN CUSTOM OF PLACING FAMILY NAME FIRST, FOLLOWED BY A PERSON'S GIVEN NAME. EXCEPTIONS INCLUDE CASES IN WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL HAS SPENT MANY YEARS IN THE WEST, CUSTOMARILY USES A WESTERN NAME, OR USES INITIALS INSTEAD OF A GIVEN NAME.

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ON THE COVER: A COLLECTION OF ASIAN STAMPS, INCLUDING (TOP ROW, FROM LEFT): \$7 TAIWAN, ADVANCES IN HEPATITIS CONTROL; \$1 HONG KONG, SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS; 2ND ROW: 8 FEN CHINA, CHANG HENG, 1ST CENTURY ASTRONOMER; 10 YEN JAPAN, STETHOSCOPE; 15 YEN, JAPAN, MITOCHONDRIA AND PROTEIN MODEL; 20 CENTS HONG KONG, BOTANICAL GARDENS; 3RD ROW: 40 CENTS TAIWAN, NATIONAL SCIENCE HALL, TAIPEI; 50 HWAN KOREA, KYONGJU OBSERVATORY; 4 WAN KOREA, SYMBOLS OF METRIC SYSTEM; 10 CENTS SINGAPORE, LIFE SCIENCES; BOTTOM ROW: 8 FEN CHINA, TSU CHUNG-CHI, 5TH CENTURY MATHEMATICIAN; 8 FEN CHINA, SHIH-CHEN, 16TH CENTURY PHYSICIAN AND PHARMACOLOGIST; \$5 TAIWAN, SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS; AND 35 CENTS SINGAPORE, SYMBOLS OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES. SOURCE: U.S. NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM AND DING-SHINN CHEN

The idea that science makes an essential contribution to the health of a nation's economy has long been an article of faith in the industrial world. But nowhere is it being applied with more enthusiasm today than in the so-called Tigers of Asia—South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Singapore—and in China, the region's emerging superpower. The Tigers, which have recorded some of the world's highest rates of economic growth in the past decade, have begun to plow some of that new wealth into research. At the same time, China is in the midst of what may be the greatest economic expansion in history, a development that promises to bring to fruition its great scientific potential.

Last fall, *Science* published a survey of "Science in Japan" (23 October 1992) in recognition of Japan's importance to international science. This year, our focus shifts to some of its neighbors, the emerging scientific powers of Asia. Although these five countries share the idea that research and technological innovation are crucial to their economic survival, their strategies reflect differences in their culture, their history, and their present status.

The news stories in this year's special issue explore the important factors that shape science in each of the five countries. However, they do not attempt to provide a comprehensive survey of every field. Two news reports also examine the relationship between Japan, the preeminent scientific and economic presence in the region, and its Asian neighbors. A Policy Forum draws attention to the growing opportunities for scientific collaboration across the Pacific, and nine Perspectives from scientists working in East Asia offer a sampling of research in the region.

We welcome comments from readers on this special issue, and look forward to any suggestions for forthcoming issues on science in Asia.

—June Kinoshita

June Kinoshita, a science writer based in Belmont, Massachusetts, organized and edited the news section of this special report. Please send comments and suggestions to: Jeffrey Mervis, *Science*, 1333 H St. NW, Washington DC, 20005.