

# Family Networks in the Tokugawa Period

Bettina Gramlich-Oka



The presentation introduces the current state of the Japan Biographical Database ([jbdb.jp](http://jbdb.jp)). The tools of the database allow us to visualize a variety of network types which I will introduce and discuss with a main focus on the records of the Rai family of Hiroshima with records of Rai Shizu and Rai Shunsui.

Nov. 11, 2021 18:30 (Tokyo time)  
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**Bettina Gramlich-Oka** is Professor of Japanese History at the Faculty of Liberal Arts, Sophia University. Some of her publications include *Thinking Like a Man: Tadano Makuzu* (Brill, 2006) and the coedited volume *Economic Thought in Early Modern Japan* (Brill, 2010). In the past years, her research centers on the exploration of networks of the Rai family from Hiroshima during the Tokugawa period. The development of the online Japan Biographical Database (<https://jbdb.jp/>) is part of this endeavor, as well as the coedited volume with Anne Walthall, Miyazaki Fumiko, Sugano Noriko, *Women and Networks in Nineteenth Century Japan* (University of Michigan Press, 2020). Gramlich-Oka is currently the chief editor of *Monumenta Nipponica*.



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This talk is organized by Bettina Gramlich-Oka and the ICC Collaborative Research Unit "[Network Studies](#)"



Sophia Open Research Weeks 2021

5th Nov.— 23rd Nov. Sophia University

