Dear Professor Takenaka,

Thank you for the opportunity to review your proposal and learn about your very interesting research. After studying the Cambridge University Press submissions guidelines (<https://www.cambridge.org/authorhub/application/files/2715/1731/1580/How_to_submit_a_book_proposal.pdf>), I suggest developing a longer and more detailed prospectus that will more fully reflect your book contents, as they initially accept only a prospectus, and not sample chapters.

The letter you have written to the editor with whom you are in contact has been edited, but it can be converted into a more formal prospectus in accordance with the following suggestions from the guidelines of the Cambridge University Press:

**A description of its rationale, scope and unique selling points**: It would be advisable to stress the unique contributions of your research to the fields of sociology, migration studies, and Asian studies. In particular, the combination of sociological fieldwork and detailed historical analysis is one feature that you should emphasize. Related to this, you could stress the “transwar” element of your research, since this is a major trend in Japanese studies today, at least in North America. For example, regarding sources, your most frequently cited sources (such as Wakatsuki and Suzuki) are decades old, so you can justifiably claim to be the first person to examine this topic in-depth in quite some time, and this fact could be foregrounded in the proposal.

While your fieldwork represents the bulk of the book's evidence, I would suggest engaging with more recent historical literature for both the prospectus and sample chapter, such as the English-language publications on trans-Pacific migration by Adam McKeown (*Melancholy Order* and *Chinese Migrant Networks and Cultural Change*), Eiichiro Azuma (*In Search of Our Frontier* and *Between Two Empires*), and Sidney Lu (*The Making of Japanese Settler Colonialism*). Since so many Japanese emigrants were Okinawan, you might also discuss some of the recent literature on Okinawans and other subalterns in Japan’s empire (like Ziomek’s *Lost Histories*, Matsuda’s *Liminality of the Japanese Empire*, and Fujitani’s *Race for Empire*).

**A description of the intended readership/users**. In terms of intended audience, you might elaborate on what you say in the proposal (“Intended for scholars and a general audience interested in global diasporas and Japanese emigration, immigration, and identities”). You write near the end of the proposal that you wrote the book “with the view to use it for my own courses on immigration, global diasporas, race and ethnicity, and multiculturalism.” Additional information on the types of courses (graduate/undergraduate, discipline, etc.) and libraries for which this would be appropriate would be beneficial.

**A breakdown of the detailed content (chapter descriptions/abstracts, table of contents or digital specification).** While the proposal does currently include a short chapter breakdown and you have provided a brief Table of Contents (which has not been edited), since the manuscript is nearly complete, it would be helpful for the publisher if you could provide more information on the contents of the individual chapters and what each will contribute to the overall argument.

**An explanation of how it relates to other publications on the topic that have been published recently whether by Cambridge or by other publishers:** In the introductory paragraph, you talk about some recent Cambridge publications, but some of these may not be the most relevant (especially *Hate Speech in Japan*). At the same time, you might elaborate on your book’s relationship with Chung’s and Miles’ books, as the submission guidelines also ask for “an explanation of how it relates to other publications on the topic that have been published recently whether by Cambridge or by other publishers”.

**Details of the proposed length, the level and type of illustration required, text and pedagogical features, any digital functionality, and the intended completion date:** You have addressed these points in your prospectus. However, in the last paragraph, perhaps you could add a sentence about the graphs and maps in the manuscript, since the proposal guidelines ask for details of “the level and type of illustration required.”

**Relevant credentials of the author/creator(s).** While a full curriculum vitae is not required, there should be some relevant biographical information in the body of the prospectus. The guidelines say that a full CV is not required, but it looks like they would accept one. You could submit a short CV as a separate file or incorporate it into your proposal. In the former case, you could include a full list of publications, awards, and grants in the form of an academic CV; in the latter case, you could provide a narrative description of your development as a scholar and how you came to the topic of your current book project. Much of this can be taken from the biography you have provided, which has been edited.

**Additional:** Consider submitting the Bibliography for the entire book.

**Sample Chapter**: Regarding the sample chapter, whether it will be used later for Cambridge or for other publishers, I have made some edits and comments in the file itself but would also suggest the inclusion of a Works Cited/Bibliography section at the end if not also submitting the Bibliography for the entire book.

**Possible short cover letter**: Once you’ve reworked the prospectus as discussed above, you may want to write a separate, short cover letter to the editor, with whom you have already established contact simply expressing your interest in publishing your book entitled *Japan’s Diaspora Diplomacy: The Trans-Pacific Ties that Shaped Japan and* Nikkei *Communities Abroad* about Japan’s engagement with *Nikkeijin* (or *Nikkei*), in Cambridge University Press’s Asia Pacific series and stating that enclosed (or attached) can be found a prospectus with further details.