Today’s Class

- Submit your Active Learning report
- An outline of Okinawan history and culture
- The circuit of culture in the Internet age
- Okinawan music: as musical style and cultural memory

Ryukyu / Okinawa History

- What are the differences between “official history” and “history in popular culture”?
- Let’s read the excerpts from the guidebook to the Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum
- How do you think these Okinawa Prefectural views differ from mainland views?

The Circuit of Culture in the Digital Age

- We have been using the circuit of culture (representation, consumption, production, regulation, identity) to analyze works of popular culture.
- The above model was created in the 1990s. How might it have been affected / changed by the Internet?
- Let’s see how Aleksandra Jaworowicz-Zimny has developed the model:
The Circuit of Culture in the Digital Age

- New media formats enabled by the Internet: apps, vids, blogs, interactive media.
- Internet users as “prosumers”.
- Fan culture: amateur rather than professional production.
- Social media (or “anti-social media”) and the “echo chamber”.
- The Internet “Wild West” and copyright violation.

Okinawa on YouTube

- The professional media production:
  - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8foOJu_yW70
  - Shimauta fan vid, with war-related meaning added.
  - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DKB41krXnVU
  - Satokibibatake no uta. Drama fan vid.
  - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N27b2zxtwN8&t=19s
  - The family holiday video
  - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pn96ZfZmVg

But, not so simple …

- James E. Roberson’s essay “Songs of War and Peace: Music and Memory in Okinawa”
  - https://apjjf.org/-James-E.-Roberson/3394/article.html
- Music’s complicated position as challenging, subverting and also affirming Okinawa’s position in the Japanese state.