

Asian Association of Social Psychology www.asiansocialpsych.org

Newsletter Number 8, January 2011 Prepared by Jiro Takai, East Asia Representative Dept. of Educational Psychology, Nagoya University Nagoya, Japan <jtakai@cc.nagoya-u.ac.jp>

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MESSAGE FROM THE AASP PRESIDENT



The world is recovering from the Global Recession with China, India and Indonesia leading the way. Other Asian countries (Malaysia,

Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, Taiwan and Vietnam) have experienced rapid growth this year.

Asia is emerging as the growth engine of the global economy. This will fuel the development of psychology and need for psychological services since most of the countries in Asia are underdeveloped or developing economies. AASP needs to take advantage of the growth as the premier international organization in Asia and become a key player in global community and a third force in psychology (first represented by North America, and second by Europe).

During the heart of the economic turmoil. the Eighth Biennial Conference of the AASP has been successfully held on December 11-14, 2009, New Delhi, India. The conference was cohosted by the Indian Academy of Psychology and the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi under the theme of Identity, Multiculturalism and Changing Societies: Challenges for Social Psychology in and about Asia. AASP would like to express our sincere gratitude to Prof. Surendra Prasad, Prof. Rukhmini Bhaya Nair and and Prof. Purnima Singh, IIT, Delhi and Prof. Janak Pandey, University of Allahabad.

AASP would like to thank the executives who have completed their term and served admirably and helped to raise AASP to the current level: President Sik-hung Ng (currently serving as the Pastpresident), Past-president Colleen Ward. Treasurer Masaki Yuki (currently serving a Representatives -at-large) and Representatives-atlarge Duchduen Bhanthumnavin, Weining Chang, and Rosnah Ismail. We would like to welcome new AASP executives: President-elect Jianxin Zhang, Treasurer Yukiko Muramoto, Chair Membership of and Communication Subcommittee Kwartarini Yuniarti and Representatives-at-large (Yiyin Yang and Sylvia Xiaohua Chen).

With the new executives in place, we are looking forward to the Ninth Biennial Conference of the AASP to be held on July 28-31, 2011, Kunming, China, with the theme of Towards Social Harmony: A New Mission of Asian Social Psychology. AASP and Organizing Committee of Ninth Biennial Conference of AASP formally signed a Letter of Agreement on July 12, 2010, outlining the collaborative structure and preparation for the conference. The organization of the conference will be led by leading scholars representing the premier institutions and associations in China: Prof. Yue Guoan, President, Chinese Association of Social Psychology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Prof. Yang Yiyin, Director. Center for Social

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Psychology Studies, Institute of Sociology, Prof. Zhang Jianxin, Vice Institute Director, of Psychology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, and Prof. Yang Lin, Yunnan President, Normal of University. Details the conference can be obtained at:

http://www.asiansocialpsych.org.

AASP's flagship journal is under the capable leadership of James Liu. In 2011, James Liu will be stepping down as the Editor-in-Chief and Fanny Cheung will take over the position. AASP is currently working with Wiley-Blackwell to promote the journal globally, increase AASP membership and to increase its impact value. Also, Membership and Communication Subcommittee (Chair: Kwartarini Yuniarti) was created to provide better communications to members and to attract new members to AASP.

AASP has signed an agreement with Association for Research in Personality, European Association of Experimental Social Psychology, The Society for Experimental Social Psychology, and Society for Personality and Social Psychology, to publish the Psychological Social and Personality Sciences. The first issue was published January, 2010. Members in good standing paying the full membership fee will receive the journal free of charge. We hope to provide the journal to all members in the near future.

AASP is exploring collaboration with newly establish Asian Association of Indigenous and Cultural Psychology (AAICP) and Asian Congress of Health Psychology (ACHP). AAICP held it First Inaugural Conference at Faculty of Psychology, Universitas Mada, Gadiah Yogyakarta, Indonesia, July 24-27, 2010 and elected its first president, Prof. Kwang-Kuo Hwang. AHPA held its Fourth International Conference, Taipei, Taiwan, August 27-31, 2010. AASP is also exploring the possibility to publishing a new journal in the near future.

Uichol Kim, President

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT



Dear AASP members,

In the beginning of the new year of 2011, I'd like to wish all of you a happy and prosper-

ous year! According to the Chinese Lunar calendar, 2011 is the year of Rabbit. Rabbit is a symbol of fast speed. So that I do hope that all of you can make a progress in a rapid pace in this year!

I'd like to introduce myself to you by taking the chance of writing a message as president elect for the AASP newsletter. I am a Chinese, born in 1959 in Beijing, the capital city of China, and now working as a personality and social psychologist in the Institute of Psychology, Chinese Academy of Sciences. The institute is believed by many to be the largest one of the kind in mainland China in terms of both the number of researchers and graduate students, and the broad scope of researcher's academic interests.

I took part in the first AASP conference being held in the Department of Psychology, Chinese University of Hong Kong in June, 1995, when I was a PhD student in the department under the supervision of Prof. Michael H. Bond, Prof. Kwok Leung, and Prof. Fanny M. Cheung separately for my master and doctorate degree study. It is in the conference that Prof. Sang-Chin Choi from Korea was elected as its first president of AASP. I feel very sorry to learn that Prof. Choi passed away at January 10, 2011 at the age of 71 while writing this short message. His contribution to the development of AASP in the late years as one of the forerunners should be memorized by all of us AASP'ers.

Since that time, I have been especially attracted by the various activities carried out by AASP and its biennial conferences held successively in Kyoto, Taipei, Melbourne, Manila, Wellington, Sabah, and New Delhi. It is a great honor for Chinese social psychologists to be accredited by all of you AASP members in 2009 AASP conference to let us hold the 9th conference (2011 AASP) in Kunming, China this July. My colleagues and I are now trying to do our best to make the coming up conference a successful and memorable, with a close collaboration with and a valuable guidance of AASP executive members.

The whole world is now stepping into a new era, which has a prominent feature of rapidly increased economic power of Asian countries. Thus, promoting wellbeing of their citizens is now becoming a primary task of various governments. I strongly believe that psychology in general, and social psychology in particular, can make much distinct contributions to such a movement of human societies globally. Social psychology would advance only if it could provide scientific answers to solve the problems related to well-being of human being. Asian social psychology would become a famous school in Asian areas only if it could bring culture-emic ideas to people and governments of various Asian countries.

The theme of the 9th AASP conference is "Towards Social Harmony: A New Mission of Asian Social Psychology". Keeping harmony both inside and outside an individual, a group and a nation would be a key element in defining the "well-being" of humankind. I sincerely expect to see you all in this July in Kunming, a very beautiful place in the world where one can self-cultivated into an ideal state of harmony with other people and with environment.

Happy Lunar New Year to all of those who celebrate Spring Festival, and Good Luck to rest of others in the year of 2011!

Jianxin Zhang President-Elect

Professor Sang-Chin Choi (1941-2011)



We are very sad to report that one of the AASP founders, and the first President of AASP, Professor Sang-Chin Choi, has passed away on January 10, 2011. He was 70 years old. Choi was a professor at Chung-Ang University in Korea, and amongst his many great works, perhaps he is known best for co-editing *Individualism and Collectivism: Theory, Methods, and Applications* (1994, Sage). We will be formally honoring this AASP's beloved leader in a subsequent issue of our newsletter.

The Michael Harris Bond Award for

Early Research Contributions

Michael Harris Bond has worked in Asia for almost four decades. To commemorate his many significant contributions to Asian social psychology, a group of his friends and former students have set up an endowment fund with AASP for the Michael Harris Bond Award for Early Research Contributions. One award will be given every two years. Eligibility criteria for the award are as follows:

- The awardee can be of any nationality, but must be based in Asia at least for the last three years.

- He/she must have obtained his/her Ph.D. within eight years from the closing date for the current round of nominations.

- He/she has made significant contributions to Asian social psychology, broadly defined as psychological research on social processes in the Asian context, of a basic and/or applied nature.

- He/she will receive a certificate for the award, as well as the sum of US \$1,500 and a waiver of the registration fee to attend the forthcoming biannual conference of AASP, at which he/she will deliver a state-of-the-art lecture. The awardee must attend the conference to receive the cash award.

- The awardee will be invited to write a review that summarizes his/her research contributions and their implications for future research, to be published in the Asian Journal of Social Psychology after being reviewed.

For the current award, the nomination deadline is January 31, 2011. The awardee will be announced about a month after the deadline. He/she will receive the award at the AASP Conference in Kunming, China, July 28-31, 2011.

Please send your nomination to Dr. Allan B. I. Bernardo (<u>allanbibernardo@yahoo.com</u>), including: (a) the CV of the nominee,

(b) a one-page letter of support that highlights the nominee's contributions to Asian social psychology, (c) digital copies of three of the most important publications of the nominee.

Self-nominations are also welcome. A committee, consisting of a past president of AASP, a past or the current editor of AJSP, and an appointed member, will deliberate and select the awardee.

THE 9TH AASP CONFERENCE IN KUNMING, CHINA JULY 28-31, 2011

It is a great pleasure for us to welcome you to China to attend the 9th Biennial Conference of the Asian Association of Social Psychology to be held at Kunming, China, from July 28 to 31, 2011.

theme "Towards Social The Harmony: A New Mission of Asian Psychology" Social of the conference gives priority to a healthy dialogue between Asian cultural traditions and globalization, and emphasizes the dynamics of peaceful interaction among different cultures, society and social groups. After Hong Kong in 1995, Kyoto in 1997, Taipei in 1999, Melbourne in 2001, Manila in 2003, Wellington in 2005, Sabah in 2007 and Delhi in 2009, this conference will be held in China, for the first time. This move represents an excellent opportunity for us to connect with our Asian neighbors and collaborative develop of social programmes psychological research. lt provides a golden opportunity for exchanges in all areas of social psychology, and among different cultures of Asia. We are planning numerous social and tourism activities that we hope will contribute to the development of social psychological research and its application, and serve as an academic forum for social psychologists in Asia-Pacific.

Kunming popularly called as "Spring City", is the political, economic, communications and cultural center of Yunnan province, situated in a fertile lake basin on the northern shore of the Lake Dian and surrounded by mountains to the north, west, and east. The city of eternal spring enjoys a pleasant climate all the year round with flowers blooming everywhere. Here is a microcosm of China in the areas of minority affairs and nationality relations. The province has 25 ethnic groups, nearly half of the country's total, some living in self -administrative districts with unique cultural living conditions.

We, as the conference organization committee, are putting in our best efforts to make your visit comfortable and enjoyable. We are hopeful that you shall join us in making this event a grand success.

We look forward to meeting you in 2011, and hoping that you will have scientifically productive and socially fruitful experiences in China! Prof. Yue Guoan Past President, Chinese Association of Social Psychology

Prof. Yang Yiyin President, Chinese Association of Social Psychology Director, Center for Social Psychology Studies, Institute of Sociology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Prof. Zhang Jianxin President Elect, Asian Association of Social Psychology Vice Director, Institute of Psychology, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Prof. Yang Lin President, Yunnan Normal University



Important Dates for AASP Kunming Conference

30th January, 2011

Deadline for Nomination for the Michael Harris Bond Award

28th February, 2011

First Round Submission of Proposals for Symposium and Oral Presentations

Deadline for Submission for the KS Yang Travel Award

Deadline for Submission for the Park Jung-Heun and Jung Tae-Gon Awards

31th March, 2011

Authors Notified for Submission Acceptance

30th April, 2011

Deadline for Early Bird Registration



JOURNAL REPORT



Is a second Applied Asian Journal of Social and Personality Psychology needed?

The development of Asian Journal of Social Psychology has been steady over the last three years. We publish about 30 articles a year. The rejection rate is slightly above 80%. But the number of submissions has been increasing, from 137 submissions in 2007 to 177 in 2008 to 210 in 2009, so rejection rate should be on the rise given that we are not publishing more articles. Quality, which is hard to measure, should be on the increase, but the journal's impact factor, which is often taken as a measure of quality or prestige, has not been increasing.

Impact factor is the average number of times a papers is cited within 2 years of publication. In recent years this has ranged from a low of 0.558 (2007) to a high of 0.971 (2006), with a most recent rating of 0.741 (2008) for AJSP. Given that high impact in social psychology is mainly dependent on citations coming from the United States, where most of the people publishing in "international" journals reside (and where AJSP has had relatively little influence), it will be a struggle for the journal to rise much higher than an impact factor of 1 in the near future. However, achieving an impact factor (IF) of 1 is a reasonable goal. One way members can contribute to the journal's impact factor is to read the journal, especially new issues, and to regularly reference new articles relevant to their own publications.

Given the fluctuations in the journal's impact factor and where we would like to see it (at or above 1), it is unlikely that the journal will increase its page counts and therefore the number of articles it publishes in the near future. Some institutions (like those in Singapore already) may take the 1.0 impact factor ratings as a cut-off point to accepting the value of a journal, and so it will be useful to be proactive and increase AJSP's performance on this measure to secure it's standing in the future. So please consider making it a habit to cite *recent* AJSP articles as much as you can in your own new papers!

However, this creates a bit of tension between AASP members, who want to be able to publish their papers and have a journal that is sympathetic and receptive to their research, and AJSP editors who want to increase the impact factor (or quality/prestige) of the journal.

One thing we can do is to make turn-around times for AJSP as fast as possible. The average time for a decision from AJSP is 30-60 days, which is very fast by international standards. The average time to acceptance after submission is 6 months, which again is fast. As Editor, I am committed to giving papers that do not meet AJSP's standards an immediate decision within weeks, by either an immediate rejection, or an immediate revise-and-resubmit. This helps authors to increase their chances of publication by revising and resubmitting (either to AJSP or another journal) as quickly as they can.

But a second strategy that I would like to solicit some feedback about is to consider starting a second Asian journal of social and personality psychology, this time focused on applied issues. I agree with Kwok Leung, our Managing Editor, that we need to increase the impact factor of AJSP, which is our flagship journal on which the reputation of the association rests. But I can also see that with the increase in submissions, especially from developing Asian countries like China or Indonesia, that there is a need for more articles to be published.

Therefore, I would like to solicit input from members about whether they think that a second applied Asian journal of social and personality psychology would be necessary or helpful. While this journal would welcome cutting edge contributes to the theory and science of social and personality psychology, it would be more focused on accepting quickly (1) shorter research reports (following the model of Psychological Science) which ought to be easier to write, (2) practical reports of collaboration by academics with people from other segments of society, like government, industry, or NGOs, and (3) state-of-the-art of practice reviews, reviewing the literature and outlining recommendations for the best practices on practical issues from social and personality psychology. I think this is the area where there is a lot of work going on, but where there is little opportunity to share latest results that are of value to our societies. If we start a new journal, of course it would not initially be listed on the SSCI/JCI, so it would be imperative to try to get it listed as soon as possible, but this would typically take at least 3-5 years. I would not think of increasing AASP membership dues, but simply allow people to subscribe to this second journal if they chose to, and look for other sources of funding the journal initially.

I would appreciate any ideas you have, or if you have an interest in this idea and would like to be kept informed about any future developments. Please email me at james.liu@vuw.ac.nz. Have a great 2011!

Summer School for Ph.D. Students

Ph.D. students of social psychology from all over Asia are invited to participate in a summer school to advance their research skills with the guidance of expert professors, and to engage in active academic exchange with peers from different cultures. Dates are July 24-28, and the venue is Yunnan Normal University, Kunming. Fees are US\$250 for students from economically developed countries, and \$150 for students from economically developed countries, and \$150 for students from economically developing countries, which will cover accommodation, all lunches, and the welcome dinner. The deadline for applications is June 5, 2011. For more details, please check the conference flyer.

TREASURER'S REPORT 2008-2009



Dear Members of the Asian Association of Psychology. This is the Association's financial report for the term 2008-2009. Should you have any questions and/or suggestions, please let me know. Thank you very much for your continuous support for the Asian Association of Social Psychology. Masaki Yuki, Treasurer (until 2009)

Total carryover from the previous term (2007-2008) (Approx.)	25743.79	A
(1) Australian accounts (in Australian Dollars: AU\$)		
Revenue		
Carryover from the previous term	18,430.74	-
Interest	2,114.67	
Revenue Subtotal	20,545.41	A
Expenditure		
Bank fees	22.00	
*Transfer to Japanese account	334.37	
Expenditure Subtotal	356.37	A
Australian Account Balance (Revenue – Expenditure)	20,901.78	A
Interest		
Membership (US\$3,377.00)	351,782	
	1,252	
*Transfer from Australian account	32,191	т
Revenue Subtotal	1,994,632	J
Expenditure		
2008 journal royalty share with JGDA	110,638	
2008 & 2009 journal editorial assistance (NZ\$11,600)	733,322	
2008 journal web-based editorial system (US\$2,670.54)	256,745	
2009 conference seed money (US\$3,000)	300,600	
Miscellaneous (2008 AGM catering)	61,855	
Bank fees	22,130	-
Expenditure Subtotal	1,485,290	J
	509,342	J
Japanese Account Balance (Revenue – Expenditure)		
Japanese Account Balance (Revenue – Expenditure) = approx.	6,626.54	A

* Note. Thanks to their kindness, JGDA will return JPY 806,404 to AASP's account in the next term, which we errornously paid them as the share of AJSP royalty in previous years, .

2. AWARD FUNDS	
(S Yang Travel Award (in Australian Dollars)	
levenue	
Carryover from the previous term	54,462.35
Interest	7,301.88
Revenue Subtotal	61,764.23
xpenditure	
No award year	0.00
Expenditure Subtotal	0.00
Balance (Revenue – Expenditure)	61,764.23 AU\$

41st Annual Meeting of the Society of Australasian Social Psychologists (SASP)

SASP 2011 will take place in Manly, New South Wales, Australia from Thursday 14th April to Sunday 17th April 2011. The conference venue is located directly opposite Manly Beach at Novotel Sydney Manly Pacific. There will be postgraduate workshops on Thursday April 14 at Macquarie University. The conference program will run all day Friday April 15, Saturday April 16, and half of Sunday April 17. The deadline for abstract submission is February 1, 2011. Information on SASP 2011 - including the hotel, registration fees, postgraduate workshops, and a preliminary program can be found at

www.phit.com.au/sasp/



About the Chinese Association of Social Psychology: Our main host for AASP 2011 Conference

Chinese Association of Social Psychology (CASP) is a nongovernmental academic organization for Chinese social psychologists. The primary missions of the association are to give social psychologists opportunities to exchange their academic conceptions and research experiences, to promote research in social psychology, to organize academic exchanges at home and abroad, to edit and publish journals and books of social psychology, to provide social psychological counseling and services, and to disseminate knowledge of social psychology. Chinese Association of Social Psychology, initially named as the Chinese Association of Social Psychological Research, was established in April of 1982, in Beijing. The association is composed of six divisions, including the Division of Theory and Instruction, the Division of Folk Psychology, the Division of Military Psychology, the Division of Applied Social Psychology, the Division of Communication Psychology. The association now has about 2,200 personal members working in universities or colleges, institution of social sciences or humanities, as well as other relevant institutions. Journal of Social Psychology (quarterly) is the academic journal of the association. Professor Chen Yuanhui was the president of the first two terms of the association's executive council. In 1990 and 1995, the association voted its third and fourth terms of the council and Professor Shen Decan was elected as its president .In 2001, the fifth term of the association's executive council was elected and Professor Feng Bolin was its president. The sixth term of the president was Professor Yue Guoan. Now it's president is Professor Yang Yiyin, who happens to e AASP's Representative-at-Large for China.



Ninth Biennial Conference of Asian Association of Social Psychology

Towards Social Harmony: A New Mission of Asian Social Psychology

July 28-31, 2011

Yunnan Normal University

Kunming, China

Organized by the Chinese Association of Social Psychology, Institute of Sociology of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Institute of Psychology of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Yunnan Normal University, and the Asian Association of Social Psychology

Abstract Submission: First Round until February 28, 2011 (Symposia, Oral and Poster presentations) Notification of Acceptance: March 31, 2011

Website: http://www.ciccst.org.cn/aasp2011/index.html

REPORT ON 2009



The 8th Biennial conference of Asian Association of Social Psychology was held at New Delhi, India from December 11-14 2009. The theme of

the conference was Identity, multiculturalism and changing societies: Challenges for social psychology in and about Asia. The conference was held at IIT Delhi and India Habitat Centre. A total number of 570 delegates from 26 countries attended the conference facilitating the mission of AASP -promoting social psychology in Asia and strengthening the global network of psychologists. The scientific programme consisted of Keynote addresses, State -of -the -art lectures, symposiums, oral and presentations. The poster

keynote speakers were Uichol Kim, Miles Hewstone, Kenneth J. Gergen, Zhang Zianxin, James Liu and the State-of -the -art lectures were given by Klaus Boehnke, Toshio Yamaguchi, Faturochman, and Peter Smith. Needless to say the conference attracted the attention of social psychologists from across the globe. It was the first time any such big conference was held in South Asia. It was a three and a half day academic extravaganza providing social psychologists a platform to interact, attend to cutting edge social psychology research and enjoy the Indian cultural heritage.

Prior to the conference the Winter School in Social Psychology was held from December 9-11. The winter school had a galaxy of teachers Kwok Leong, Uichol Kim, James Liu, Ramadhar Singh, Girishwar Misra and Janak Pandey. The PhD students who attended the conference extremely benefitted from the scholarly interactions they had with each other as well as the faculty.

The post conference workshop on Writing for academic psychology Editor-author journals: interactions conducted by James Liu and Yoshihisa Kashima was like icing on the cake for PhD students and young faculty who benefitted by the advice and interaction for building capabilities for quality publications.

Overall the conference provided a rewarding experience for all with good food for thought as well as good Indian cuisine.

Conference Secretariat Purnima Singh

AASP MEMBERSHIP NEWS



Greetings to the members of the AASP! Perhaps the first thing I should update you is that your numbers are getting smaller and smaller! As of

December 2010, AASP has 160 official members, and this number is a significant decrease compared to the past three years (197 in 2009, 228 in 2008, and 288 in 2007).

decreasing This trend in membership has not escaped the attention of the AASP Executives, especially since we did not get the expected bump in membership numbers after the 2009 Conference in Delhi. In response to this concern, the Executives approve the creation of a new position, Chair of the Membership and Communications Subcommittee. and Kwartarini Yuniarti of Indonesia was appointed to this position early this year. Bo, as we call her, will be planning for strategies to improve our membership figures, and also to build a stronger community within the AASP various membership through communication programs.

One of the positive outcomes that we expect as regards membership will be a further increase in membership from Japan, as the AASP strengthens its partnership with the Japan Group Dynamics Association (JGDA). Through the intercession of AASP Executives Jiro Takai, Yukiko Muramoto and Masaki Yuki, the AASP has forged a new agreement regarding how to process AASP membership applications from JGDA members. This new agreement will be supported by an online application system, which will be managed by our new Membership and Communications Chair, Bo.

As we anticipate a boost in our membership numbers in Japan, we hope to get support from you our members to boost membership in other countries, as well. Our members have decreased in almost all countries, with some of the decreases being rather sharp (e.g., Indonesia had 11 members in 2009, and only 3 so far in 2010). So if you have any suggestions on how to help AASP bring back our old members and also bring in new ones, please feel free to email me at allanbibernardo@yahoo.com and Bo at kwartarini_yuniarti@yahoo.com.

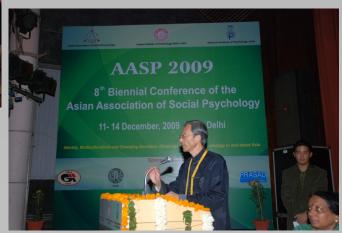
I want to end this update on two positive notes. First, I am happy to report that Wiley/Blackwell Inc., which handles our membership management, has been responsive to our requests to improve specific aspects of their system. In recent months, we have seen improved and regular updates on applications and renewals for membership, improvements on the application website, more active programs for promoting the AASP, among others. Second, I hope the AASP members are availing of the free online access to the new journal, Social and Psychological Personality Science published by SAGE. This is a new benefit for regular AASP members that was negotiated by your Executives. The table of contents of the latest issue was posted in our vahoogroups a few weeks ago, and we hope you take advantage of this new benefit.

That's it for now, and I look forward to meeting you all again in Kunming, China in July 2011.

Allan Bernardo Secretary General



Pictures from 8th AASP-Delhi, India, 2009 (courtesy of Purnima Singh)



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