

# Preface

This book is about mergers and acquisitions (M&A) in Japan and contains 15 chapters, which can be split into three major parts. First, international business topics; second, M&A; and third, human resources in M&A processes. Most of the chapters have been developed steadily over the years while teaching the topic of mergers and acquisitions. Not only did I teach this subject at Kobe University, my home university, but also at Konan University for 8 consecutive years and at Ritsumeikan University for 4 consecutive years. I was also a guest lecturer at several other Japanese and foreign universities such as Doshisha, Tuebingen, Hamburg, and Kassel universities.

This book is written for everyone interested in M&A and Japan, especially for students. The targeted audience is Japan interested business students at the master's level. English-speaking Japanese students should also find this book useful. Recently, there has been an increase in English-speaking business classes at Japanese universities. It is my hope that some M&A classes can be created in which this book serves as the basis for the curriculum.

Several people helped me to successfully prepare and finish the book. I want to express my gratitude to Prof. Shinobe Muramatsu (Emeritus Professor at Seikei University, Tokyo) who touched me with his kindness for over 13 years. He is not only passionate about M&A but also has supported me in my research over the years. I would also like to thank William Wainwright, one of my previous students at Konan University, for a very careful proofreading. I would also like to thank Lara Makowsky, my research assistant and master's student in the SESAMI program at Kobe University, who amended some of my English sentences, and Nakahara Sho, a Ph.D. candidate at the graduate school of business at Kobe University, for finding literature and correcting the spelling of some of the translated Japanese literature. I would also like to thank my friend Ian Mackenzie for correcting one chapter and Keith Jackson for giving me guidance in the early stages of the book.

This book is dedicated to my wife, Tomoko, and our daughter, Aiko chan. Without their patience, support, and encouragement this book would not have existed.

The author hopes that this book will find its intended readers.

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