

ENGLISH SUMMARY

The Nature expressed in Sacred Space (I)

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Key Words ; ICON, SOUL, SAMSARA (TRANSMIGRATION), THE OTHER WORLD, PURE LAND, MANDALA, MOON, PLANTS, AMITABHA (AMITAYUS), RAIGO (Descending of AMITABHA and Bodhisattvas to wellcome the dying faithful into the Pure Land)

The subject of this paper is to seek the NATURE expressed in the religious arts of Japan through a method of Iconogy and Science of Religion.

In mid-Jomon era (B.C.3000), some inhabitants of the Japanese archipelago described a painting permitting us to have imagination of a concept of transmigration on the outside of coffin in the form of vase. From that time, ancient people produced many types of the paintings and statues which expressed the sacred space, occasionally under Chinese and Korean influence. After the importation of Buddhism, Japanese people who were generally converted to this religion tried to synchronize Buddhism with their own religion. Consequently, they created new unique religious arts. In such works, we can find that plants and special images (for example, moon vortex paintings, holly animals etc.) are described as the symbol of NATURE.

“Hinoeuma” in Koka 3 (1846):

Regional Variations of Culture and Population

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Key Words ; FAMILY DEMOGRAPHY, FERTILITY, “HINOEUUMA”, MEIJI STATISTICS

Both Meiji 39 (1906) and Showa 41 (1966) have experienced a decline in births unprecedented in Japanese demographic history. This was due to the “Hinoeuma (year of the fire horse)” superstition, in which females born in this particular year are believed to cannibalize/kill their husbands. Births were either misreported or avoided altogether through the use of birth control. This article deals with yet another year of the fire horse, that of Koka 3 (1846). Utilizing Meiji population statistics, I will analyze whether or not the superstition had an impact on the population configuration of the Koka 3 cohort, and how regional variations in family practices and information networks influenced the peoples' reactions to the “hinoeuma”. I will also examine the possibility that the stigma of

hinoeuma births in Koka 3 was avoided by infanticide and abortion.

Athletic Meeting for FUKUZAWA Yukichi
—Modern sports and body image in the Japanese minds

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Key words ; FUKUZAWA YUKICHI, MODERN HISTORY, UNDOUKAI (ATHLETIC MEETING), ENSOKU (OUTING), HANAMI (CHERRY BLOSSOM VIEWING), MODERN SPORTS, BODY IMAGE, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, LEISURE, OUTDOOR RECREATION

In Keio-gijuku founded by FUKUZAWA Yukichi, he laid out a schoolyard named “undojo” (an athletic ground) and “yuen” (a playground), which could not be seen in former Japanese educational institutions such as “tera-ko-ya” or “sijuku” (private schools). He encouraged the students to train their bodies in the schoolyard equipped with athletic goods such as swings, seesaws and slides.

He became to think of the body of the school boys, and noticed the importance of physical training as a subject of school education through his experience in the Western countries. Keio-gijuku played an important role to introduce modern sports originated in the West into Japan. But physical training for FUKUZAWA himself meant not far from physical activities which were closely connected with the daily life.

An ideal image of physical training he recommended was not sports themselves but the mixture of physical activities and outdoor recreations such as athletic meeting (undokai) and excursion (ensoku).

The value of doing sports stays in enjoying sports and not in doing sports in order to reach a fixed high goal or to master the best skill. Sports does not belong only to the specialists but to everyone who wants to enjoy it. Such an idea is superior recently.

FUKUZAWA's attitude to the sports was similar as ours and was ahead of his own time.

Allusion and Metaphor (VI)

—The Role of “Lute Songs” (poems to be sung accompanied by The *biwa* or Chinese lute) and other poems from Po Chü-i's Collected Works in *The Tale of Genji*

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Key Words ; CHAPTERS FROM *THE TALE OF GENJI* —SAKAKI, MOMIJINO-GA, AKASHI, YOKOBUE, FUJINO-URABA, SUMA, SUZUMUSHI
FUJITSUBO, EXILE, MUSIC, *JION* (LOVE FOR A GRANDCHILD), SLEEPING ALONE; THE MOON SEEN IN EXILE; THE TRANSCENDENCE OF THE BARRIERS OF LOVE AND HATE, AND LIFE AND DEATH

The purpose of this paper is to shed light on the role which Po Chū-i's Collected Works play in *The Tale of Genji*.

1. The poem "On Hearing Someone Singing in the Evening" is used in the 'Momijino-ga' (An Autumn Excursion) chapter to invoke the image of Fujitsubo; the same train of dark imagery is carried further in the "Lute Song" which foreshadows Genji's downfall in the 'Sakaki' (The Sacred Tree) chapter.

2. The "Lute Song" in the 'Akashi' chapter draws a comparison between Genji's banishment and that of Po Chū-i himself.

3. The "Lute Song" in the 'Yokobue' (The Flute) chapter shows how music can transcend events in the real world to bind the hearts of Yugiri and Kashiwagi together.

4. In the 'Fujino-uraba' (Wisteria Leaves) chapter, the "Poem Composed on March 30th at the Jion-ji Temple" emphasizes the love of Omiya for her grandchild Yugiri.

5. In the 'Suma' chapter, the "Poem Written upon Spending the Night of the Winter Solstice at Yōbaikan" invokes the sadness of wandering far from one's home, and of sleeping alone.

6. In the 'Suma' chapter, the "Poem Written while Standing Guard at the Court Alone on the Night of August 15th, Gazing at the Moon and Yearning for My Dear Friend Genkyu" is used to make the reader aware of Genji's deep love for Fujitsubo as he gazes at the moon in exile at Suma.

7. In the 'Suzumushi' (The Bell Cricket) chapter, the same poem is used to express the depth of human relationships which transcends the barriers of love and hate, and life and death.

Radiocarbon age determination for small size samples

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Key Words ; RADIOCARBON, AGE DETERMINATION, AMS METHOD

Radiocarbon is probably the most appropriate of many dating methods currently used in many fields, such as archaeology, history, anthropology, Quaternary research, geology, etc., which are the basis of the Japanese studies. In these studies, it is important to establish a method of radiocarbon age determination for *small size samples*.

In 1970s, a new method of radiocarbon age determination using what is now referred to as accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS method) was established. The development of AMS method provided the researchers an easier to access the radiocarbon determination for small size samples.

In this paper, basic questions and the present measurement availabilities of the radiocarbon age determination for *small size sample* were reported, based on the experimental results using AMS method at Nagoya University.

A Note of “YASHOKUROTAIZU” ; a Work of Art by YOSA BUSON
—A Study of Discourse on Charm—

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Key Words ; CHARM, ‘CRYSTALLIZATION’, YOSA BUSON, ‘YASHOKUROTAIZU’, MT. HIGASHIYAMA

This study proposes one method to discourse the charm that arises in the mind of an appreciator of a work of art. This method was inspired by the idea of ‘Crystallization’ that Stendhal described vividly and in detail in his “De l’ Amour”. Stendhal stated that ‘Crystallization’ which arose in the mind of a passionate lover was an action of mind where everything that he saw made him discover new merits, one after another, about his sweetheart. I think such an action of mind arises not only in the mind of a lover but also in the mind of an appreciator of art. As an illustration of ‘Crystallization’ in art appreciation, I attempt to discourse the process in which charm arises in my mind, when I face a work of art by YOSA BUSON (1716~83), “YASHOKUROTAIZU”, which has been impressing me with it’s uniqueness ever since I met it long time ago.

Computer Utilization in A None-Natural-Science Study

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Key Words ; COMPUTER UTILIZATION IN A NONE-NATURAL-SCIENCE STUDY, SPREADSHEET LANGUAGE, SEAT DISTRIBUTION METHOD, HAMILTON METHOD, QUOTA METHOD, ALABAMA PARADOX

This paper describes a computer utilization in a none-natural-science study. A spreadsheet (programing) language is introduced and utilized where some methods of seat distribution for the House of Representatives in Japan, which have been discussed in the Diet, are simulated. The language is easy to establish programs and data from the nature of it’s design, and also easy to produce built-in graphs that are very useful to examine details. The description explains that researchers unfamiliar to computers can easily use a computer through the language.

In addition, further discussion on the distribution methods leads to a new method, which reduces vote value difference between prefectures less than those of the known methods.

The Utility of Beauties

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Key Words ; BEAUTIES, SIGN, GENDER AS “EXPRESSION”

This paper discusses beauties as social beings, based upon “A Theory of Beauties” written by Shōichi Inoue. Inoue regards beauties as signs (*signifiant*) and analyses how beauties have been treated in Japanese society in the context of its modernization.

This paper takes one step further and considers “the beauty as a sign (*signifiant*)” to be resources for human relationships and analyses politics in human relationships through this sign. By taking “the sign of a beauty” for “expression”, which is distinguished from “action” by E. Goffman, one can consider how “the sign of a beauty” given to someone by a society influences his/her relationships with others. It is clear that the structure in which a society gives this sign to both men and women is not equal and this paper also takes it into consideration.

Further, this paper distinguishes between gender as “action” and as “expression”, and by doing so discusses coquetry as a standard form of expression as a sign in human relationships and the possibility of its revival.

Book Review :

Ie Society as a Pattern of Civilization (*Bunmei tositeno Ie Shakai*) by
Murakami Yasusuke, Kumon Shumpei, Sato Seizaburo

HAMAGUCHI, Eshun

(International Research Center for Japanese Studies, Kyoto, Japan)

Book Review :

“Rethinking *Nihonron*” by AMINO Yoshihiko

YAMAORI, Tetsuo

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