

Japanese Culture Group

Project Leader

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“Gaichi” Japanese Language Literature Database Project

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Japanese Culture Research Group
Kimura Kazunobu Lab

Research Purpose

- This project began in 2007, with its research based on modern Japanese literature. The subject of the research is literary works of the regions colonized or occupied by Japan, called “gaichi” before World War II. The project aims to collect and study the literary materials, construct databases, and create digital archives.
- Moreover, the project seeks to construct a portal site for partnership-building and for surveying the current status of studies on modern Japanese literature in Asia.

Research Background

- Conventional literature studies have focused mainly on “Japanese literature” written in Japan by Japanese writers. “Japanese language literature,” on the other hand, consists of “literary works written in Japanese,” which encompasses a wider range of works than what comes under the category of the “Japanese literature.” Many literary works were created in “gaichi” before World War II by Japanese immigrants and local literary figures. These works have come under a spotlight as research subjects only in recent years.
- This project aims to contribute to the development of international collaborative research through maintaining and sharing basic materials for the ongoing “gaichi” Japanese language literature studies.
- Since 2007, our main research theme has been Japanese language literature of the colonized “Chosen (Korea)” from 1910 to 1945. We have been constructing a database that includes an index of articles related to cultural issues that were published in the “*Keijō Nippō*,” a leading Japanese-language newspaper at the time, as well as lists of contents of poetry magazines.

Overview of Main Activities

- 2007
 - Japan-Korea International Symposium “Potentials of Digital Humanities: From the Perspectives of Studies on Modern Japanese Literature and Culture”
 - “*Keijō Nippō*” article retrieval database (ongoing)
- 2008
 - Survey trip to Korea (Visit the National History Compilation Committee. Lectures and interactive activities at the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies.)
 - Symposium “Time and Space’ in Japanese Literature Aboard: Studies on Comparative Culture and Digital Humanities”
 - Database of Japanese-language literature magazines published in “Chosen” during the colonial era (ongoing)
 - Catalogue of articles on Korea-Japan modern literature studies (ongoing)
 - “Gaichi” literature study group

Activities



Japan-Korea International Symposium
(Feb. 17, 2008)



Database of Japanese-language magazines published in “Chosen” during the colonial era



Lecture and discussion at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (Aug. 8, 2008)



Keijō Nippō article retrieval database

Project Members

- 【Project Leader】 Kazunobu Kimura
【Postdoctoral Fellow】 Kiyofumi Kusui
【Research Assistants】 Kim Min Ji (Ph.D. candidate) and Lee Jung Eun (Ph.D. candidate)
※Records of our activities are published at the following site
<http://www.arc.ritsumei.ac.jp/lib/GCOE/JCSG/kimura/>

