

第5回「国際日本学シンポジウム」によせて

お茶の水女子大学学長 本 田 和 子

国際日本学のシンポジウムが、5回と回を重ねられたことを順調な発展を遂げた証しと見て、心からお喜びを申し上げます。

今回は、従来に勝る斬新なテーマが設定され、日本文学や日本史の連携を超えた日本研究の広がりが示唆されて刺激的な集まりであったとか、とりわけ、本学とかかわりの深い「中村正直」を主題化した記念講演は、多くの参会者に深い印象を与えたと聞いております。中村は、明治の若者に多大な影響を与えたとされるスマイルズの『西国立志編』、あるいはミルの『自由之理』の名訳者として、また、『明六雑誌』等への寄稿を通じての啓蒙思想家・開明的教育家として知られています。さらに何よりも、明治8～13年、同23～24年にわたって、本学の校長を務めた人でもありました。

記念講演のなかで、中村に関する丁寧な資料解析がなされて、彼の思想的遍歴とそこに徴づけられた時代的特性が明らかにされたとか……。明治という激動の時代に、内外とも強力な文化軌轢の交錯するなか、外来の新思想を全身に浴びた一人の若者がどのように成長しどのような自己形成を成し遂げて、後に本学を統括し、女子教育のリーダーとして活躍したのか……。講演者の生きた言葉を通じて、「中村正直という先人の生身の生きざま」が語られ、それによって、「国際日本学の生きた実例」が鮮やかに示されたことは、この道を究めようとする者たちにとってどんなにか興味深く思われたことでしょう。多くの参会者が、強い感銘とともにその講演の感想を語っているのもむべなるかなと思われます。

シンポジウムの一隅に参加し得なかったことを悔やみつつも、この集会が大きな成果を上げ、参加者たちが多くの賜物を得たであろうと確信します。運営に当たられた関係者の皆様には感謝しつつその労をねぎらい、今後のさらなる充実と発展を期待して短いご挨拶と致しましょう。本当にご苦勞様でした。

Greeting

The Fifth Symposium on Global Perspectives in Japanese Studies

HONDA, Masuko

President of Ochanomizu University

This was the fifth symposium on global perspectives in Japanese Studies, and I take it as proof of the good progress that has been made and I would like to offer my sincerest congratulations.

I was told that during this symposium more novel themes than usual were presented and that it was an exciting gathering that demonstrated the wide range of Japanese Studies and showed that Japanese Studies goes beyond Japanese literature and Japanese history. And in particular I heard that the commemorative lecture, which had as its subject "Masanao Nakamura", who is someone that is deeply related to this university, had a profound impression on many of the participants. Mr. Nakamura has been recognized as the great translator of "Self Help" by Smiles and of "On Liberty" by Mill, as well as a great enlightenment philosopher and an illuminating educator, through his contribution to "Meiroku Magazine". And above all, he was the president of this university from 1875 to 1880, and 1890 to 1891.

In the commemorative lecture, I understand that a comprehensive analysis of Mr. Nakamura's work was provided, along with a description of his philosophical journey, the related epochal characteristics, etc. It also included a description of the years of ferment known as the Meiji Era, which witnessed strong cultural collision both domestically and internationally, and focused on how this youth who was exposed to new philosophies grow up and create himself, and how did he go on to govern our college and play an active role as a leader in women's education. Through the engaging words of the speaker, the "life of our forerunner Masanao Nakamura" was narrated and came alive and through that, "a living example of Japanese Studies from a Global Perspective" was vividly presented. It must have been very interesting for those of us who are pursuing studies in this area. And it is not very surprising that many of the participants were greatly impressed by the lecture and were motivated to offer their thoughts.

I regret that I could not participate in the symposium. However, I strongly believe that this gathering produced great results and that the participants received something of great value. I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation for the services carried out by the people who were involved in the preparation. Also I wish for even greater accomplishments and developments in the future.