

【Humanities and Social Sciences】

Title of Project	Primate foundation of cognitive development
Principal Investigator Name	Tetsuro Matsuzawa, Kyoto University, Primate Research Institute, Professor
Abstract of Research Project	What is the unique feature of human mind and its development? The present study aims to clarify the evolutionary basis of human mind by examining the mind of chimpanzees, the evolutionary neighbors. The focus is the period of puberty, about 8-12 years old. The main subjects are the chimpanzees in Kyoto University and the ones in their natural habitat in Africa. From the viewpoint of comparative cognitive science, we study the information processing, concept, memory, attention, emotion, etc. This will clarify the nature of chimpanzee mind and its constraints. Therefore, it may illuminate the primate foundation of cognitive development.
Number of Researchers: 4	
Term of Project: 2008-2012	

Title of Project	A Study of the Culture of Court Theatre during the Qing Dynasty
Principal Investigator Name	Akira Isobe, Tohoku University, Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Professor
Abstract of Research Project	Theatre in China has not just been a form of cultural entertainment, but has also had close bearings on the psychological makeup of the Chinese, the formation of their attitudes, and the spread of Sinocentric thought. Its origins lie in the court theatre of the Qing dynasty, and theatre was considered to go beyond the confines of performing art and form part of national culture. In this study we will take up the culture of court theatre, which formed part of the Qing's national policy and, focusing on its social reception and development, will clarify the role played by Qing court theatre within the system of rule of the Great Qing Empire (<i>gurun</i>), and we will deduce its cultural characteristics and further advance the substantive understanding of China.
Number of Researchers: 7	
Term of Project: 2008-2012	