

High-Minute-Digital-Image Processing of Genre Pictures of the Medieval and Modern Period and Research on Historical Records of Paintings

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【Outline of survey】

This project is an experiment in which we try to conduct research on large-scale paintings such as picture scrolls and folding screen paintings which have existed in large quantities for generations in this country, by using completely new research standards and research environment. First of all, we will take pictures of all the large-scale historical records of paintings which we have been given approval to take pictures of and/or conduct research, and then turn them into high-minute-digital images. Secondly, we will make further improvements on the "platform made for research on historical records of images" which was made to conduct research on historical records of paintings by using high-minute -digital images, and "pictionary" which was made for the high-minute-digital-images database. These were both developed while conducting "comprehensive research on the second fixed form of *rakuchu-rakugai-zu-byoubu*", which is the premise of this research. Thirdly, after historical records of paintings are put into the "platform made for research on historical records of images" via high minute digital images, we will divide ourselves into several research groups and conduct analysis, reading and description, which are necessary to create a high-minute-digital-image database. And fourthly, while the research results will be announced to the academic world through symposiums and publications, it will also be offered to the public through exhibitions at history museums, art museums and history folklore data institutions, in order to make this research more worthwhile for everyone in this country.

【Expected results】

First of all, through the accomplishment of this research, we hope that research and reading of large-scale historical records of paintings such as picture scrolls and folding screen paintings through high-minute-digital-image process will be regarded as just an ordinary way of research. Additionally, we hope that it will further lead to a new environment and conditions in research on historical records of paintings not only in Japanese history, but also in other studies such as architectural history, art history and religious history. Simultaneously, it will deepen the understanding of the necessity of preservation of historical records of paintings. Secondly, it will raise the research standard of the study of historical records of paintings, which has been merely a field in the study of historical records, to a higher level. Thirdly, the research results will not only be offered to the academic world, but will also put to good use through exhibitions at museums, art museums and history folklore data institutions. If this all comes to fruition, we think that there is a possibility that we will be able to change the visual experience of the citizens.

【References by the principal researcher】

KURODA Hideo, "Kaigashiryō de rekishi wo yomu" (Understanding history through historical records of paintings), Chikuma Shobo, 2004

KURODA Hideo, "(Zouho) Sugata to shigusa no chuseishi" ((Enlarged edition) Appearance and gestures in the Medieval history), Heibonsha, 2002

【Term of project】 FY 2005 - 2009

【Budget allocation】 76,800,000 yen

【Homepage address】

none