

Completion Report

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Subject of Research Project : The Afro-Asian Writers' Conference and the Cold War

This study analyzes various aspects related to the Cold War by focusing on the activities of Japanese writers in the 1960s and 1970s during the 35-year history of the Afro-Asian Writers' Conference, which began in 1956. Among these aspects, the conflicts that arose in the 1960s and led to the division of the AA Writers' Conference in Japan left a significant impact on the AA Writers' Conference Movement.

I present a timeline of the AA Writers' Conference and related events in Japanese literature from 1956 to the 1980s. As the conflict between China and the Soviet Union intensified, a struggle for leadership ensued and eventually led to the division of the AA Writers' Conference. This situation meant that the AA Writers' Conference movement was caught in another "Cold War" during the actual Cold War.

In this study I focus on the New Delhi and Alma-Ata Conference, which was held in the 1970s, highlighting the awkward position of Japanese writers and the paradigm shift from politics to culture. Terms such as "the liberation of the people" and "the struggle against imperialism" became unacceptable in the 1970s, which was represented by high economic growth.

Overall, the AA Writers' Conference Movement, which spanned more than 30 years from the late 1950s to the late 1980s, gradually lost its influence in the face of another "Cold War" during the Cold War. This article closely examines the impact of the Cold War on the AA Writers Conference and the resulting changes in Japanese organizations in 1960-70, and thoroughly examines its legacy and challenges.