

Completion Report

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Subject of Research Project:

A study on the modern representation of “working women” in Japanese literature

This paper examines the origins and aspects of women's representative occupations in the 1910s, “Actress” and “Female Writer,” through two works by Toshiko of the same era. The occupation belong to a particular class among the "career woman" at the time of minorities. Unlike men, gender-discriminatory gender norms are seen in the job name of 'woman'. Until now, theater companies and paragraphs have been the stage of men. Being active as a woman in theater and literary groups can be said to reflect some of the changed aspects of modern Japan and new women.

In 『Akirame』 women who gave up women's college halfway and tried to make 'female writers' and 'actresses' as jobs appeared. In 「OnnaSakusha」, a married woman who has a job as a writer appears. These women received modern education. And, unlike the obedient and weak woman image, she looks for and pioneers a job. Writer Toshiko and women say that they want to "live me" while dreaming of "self-reliance" as a job. It is an expression of the will want to live as women. And it is a sentence that heralds a new era in which professional women will be active.