

Overview

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Japanese Archaeological Association took great leaps forward in fiscal 2013. The largest progress was publication of an electronic journal in English, Japanese Journal of Archaeology. Japanese archaeology had achieved many results in the past, but books, theses, and excavation reports have been published in Japanese, so that they were unable to reach the English-speaking world. Information provided by the Association was also limited to partial information in English through the internet. The publication of an online English journal has an epoch-making significance because it will allow for dispatch of results of archaeological study in Japan overseas. At the same time, this was just an example to indicate the high ability of the Association, since it was a response to a system change in the Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research, from ‘Publication of Scientific Research Results’ to ‘Reinforcement of International Information’ and grants were given only to electronic journals in English, and many academic societies were unable to make appropriate adjustments. Sending archaeological information to the world through an electronic journal will convey the state of archaeological study in Japan, and it will stimulate international exchanges.

The second great leap was completion of the organizational restructuring of the Association. The Japanese Archaeological Association became a general incorporated association in June 2009, but its articles of incorporation were based on when the Association was an intermediate corporation. There were many discrepancies and revision was necessary. Therefore the board of trustees has been preparing for revision, and the new articles were organized at the 80th General Meeting, in fiscal 2014, at the end of the term of the present board of trustees. To comply with the enactment of the association articles, regulations of the Japanese Archaeological Association were drastically revised. Although organization of secretarial rules, and Association regulations and bylaws were postponed to the next board of trustees, this fiscal year saw a completion of the Association as an organization conforming to the law.

Although it did not take place in fiscal 2013, it is important that the problem of donated books at the Association was finally solved by donating the books to Nara University Library, thanks to the sincere efforts of ‘Special Committee for the Association Books’

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and examination by the board of trustees. It was meaningful that ideal future states of the Association were repeatedly discussed through the problem solving.

The Association is conducting various activities under seven standing committees. Their activities should be introduced briefly. Editorial Committee for Association Journal published *Nihon Kokogaku: Journal of Japanese Archaeological Association*, No. 35 and 36, which reflect archaeological research activities. It is regrettable that there are only a few contributions compared to the large number of association members, and active contributors are desired. The newly formed English Journal Editorial Committee has begun publication of the English electronic journal. Committee for Examination of Research Environments promoted organization of research environments to enrich research activities, such as research environments at work, certification problems regarding research of buried cultural properties, influences of TPP (Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Agreement), and problems of elimination and consolidation of museums. Committee for the Protection of Buried Cultural Properties contributed to the preservation of Takakura Gunga in Chigasaki City, Kanagawa Prefecture, as well as research/protection and utilization of buried cultural properties. Committee for Discussion of Social Studies/History Textbooks continued their effort to include a description of the Paleolithic in social studies textbook at elementary schools, as revision of government curriculum guidelines is coming up. Furthermore, the Association is conducting various activities, such as measures for the Great East Japan Earthquake, efforts towards the royal tomb problem, as well as providing research results to the public through open lectures. Although their research environment was not necessarily favorable, the Association members have conducted their research sincerely in fiscal 2013 and their research results were published through books, theses, and excavation reports. Their results were discussed in this annual report.