

The Study of *Izeki Takako Diary*: Is It a Diary Literature?

The 3rd International Symposium
on Liberal Arts and General Education

Kyoto University
The Department of Literature
Daigo Furukawa

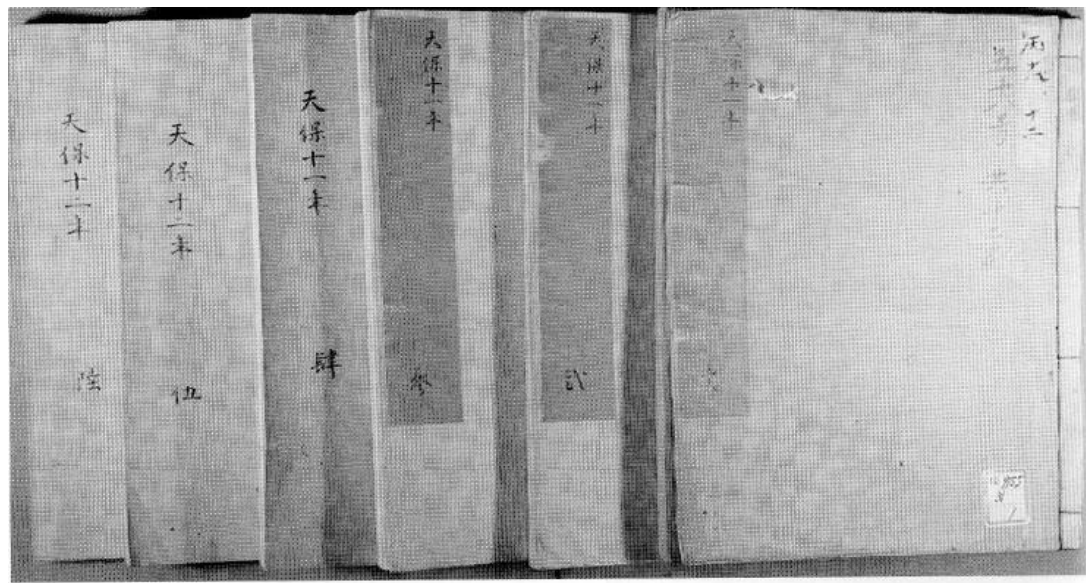
Izeki Takako:

- was a samurai's wife in the Edo era
- kept a diary for 5 years



*The Izeki Takako
Diary*

Photo by Akio Fukasawa



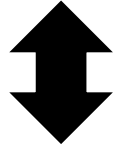
『井関隆子日記』12冊全体・1 (昭和女子大学図書館・桜山文庫所蔵)



『井関隆子日記』12冊全体・2

- *The Izeki Takako Diary*:

has been studied mainly as **historical documents**



- Fukasawa's theory (2004)

The Izeki Takako Diary = a 'diary **literature**'

△Fukasawa's judgment by ambiguous creteria

➡ Is his judgment right?

The Main Theme of This Study

Is the Izeki Takako Diary a diary literature?

- The division between literature and non-literature
 - Useful to clarify the subject of history & literature

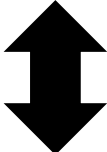
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1. Requirements to be classified as a 'diary literature'
2. Whether *the Izeki Takako Diary* satisfies those requirements
3. Conclusion: whether *the Izeki Takako Diary* is a diary literature

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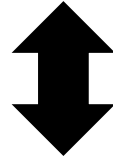
Find the 1st Requirement

- A diary literature:
 - greatly expresses the author's subjective feelings
- 
- A diary (Not a literature):
 - is simply a record

Nihon kotembungaku daijiten [The dictionary of Japanese classical literature] (1998)

Find the 1st Requirement

- A diary literature:
 - greatly expresses the author's
subjective feelings (1st requirement)



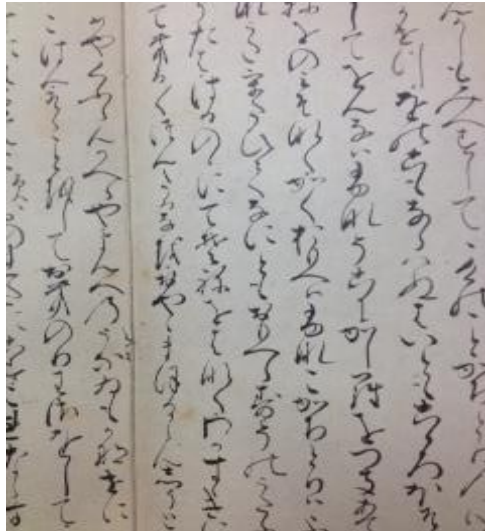
- A diary (Not a literature):
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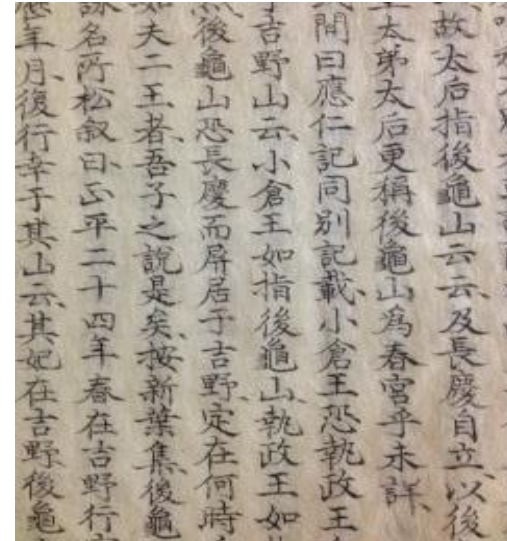
Find the 2nd Requirement

Famous diary literatures ↔ Public documents

- mainly in *kana* characters
- in Chinese writing



not in Chinese writing
(2nd requirement)



Find the 3rd Requirement

- the authors of Heian diary literatures:

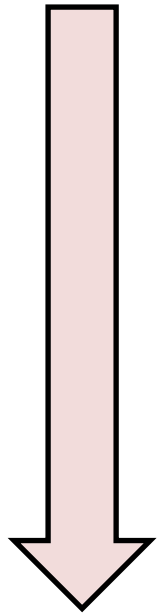
wrote the works after they became old



apply

the text in the Edo era

(decrease in the works in the form of recollection)



expand and modify

- selection of the contents to write (3rd requirement)

Requirements to be a diary literature

No.	Requirement
1	The author's subjective feelings
2	Not in Chinese writing
3	Selected contents

* The work needs to satisfy
ALL these requirements.

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Consideration of the 1st requirement (subjective feelings)

- Takako's declaration in the first 2 sentences
---"write unimportant and personal things"



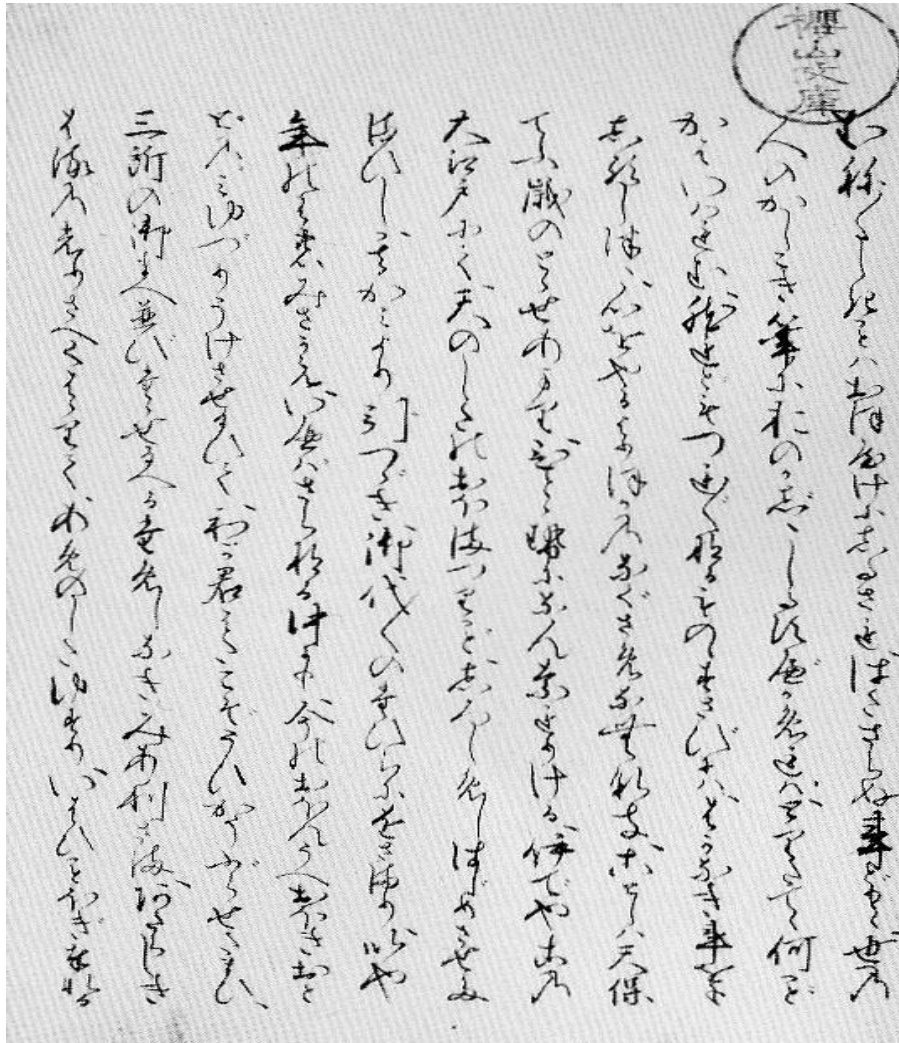
Along this line...

- logical criticism of Confucians
- Japanese poems
 - expressions of her beliefs and feelings
 - 1st requirement --- ○

Requirements	Satisfied or Not satisfied
1 st Requirement (The author's subjective feelings)	
2 nd Requirement (Not in Chinese writing)	
3 rd Requirement (Selected contents)	

Consideration of the 2nd requirement (NOT in Chinese writing)

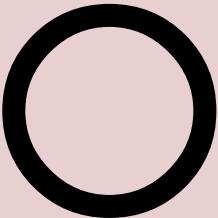
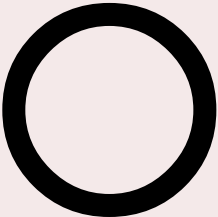
● The text of *the Izeki Takako Diary*



Japanese writing
→ 2nd requirement

--- ○

Photo by Akio Fukasawa

Requirements	Satisfied or Not satisfied
1 st Requirement (The author's subjective feelings)	
2 nd Requirement (Not in Chinese writing)	
3 rd Requirement (Selected contents)	

Consideration of the 3rd requirement (Selected contents)

- Takako's life

shocking

(about 20 years old) 1st marriage → Divorce

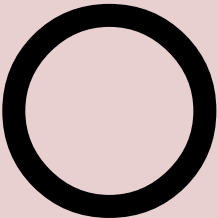
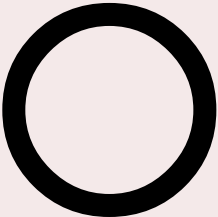
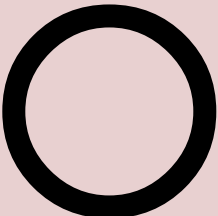
(about 30 years old) 2nd marriage → Success

- In *the Izeiki Takako Diary*...

NO descriptions about her 1st marriage and the divorce (avoiding deliberately)

→ selecting the contents to write

→ 3rd requirement --- ○

Requirements	Satisfied or Not satisfied
1 st Requirement (The author's subjective feelings)	
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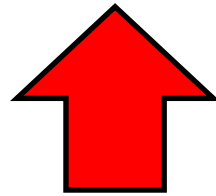
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The Izeki Takako Diary

--- A Diary Literature



Satisfying all the requirements

[Hope]

- Active research on Edo diary literatures
- The division between a diary and a diary literature

Thank you for listening.
Do you have any question?

Suggestive Example regarding the 2nd Requirement

The Tosa Diary (by Ki no Tsurayuki)

- Custom at that time

Men wrote diaries **in Chinese writing**

- The case of Ki no Tsurayuki

He wrote the Tosa Diary **in *kana* characters**

(by pretending that the author was a woman)



The Tosa Diary = Literature

What Is 'Literature'?

Non-Literature (Diary)		Literature (Diary literature)
×	Subjective feelings	○
×	Selection of the contents	○

Cf. Sōseki Natsume (1907)

Literature = 'F(Things) + f(Emotions)'