

**Annual Report**  
National Museum of Japanese History

**3**  
2006

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# I. Research Activities

## Overview

### 1. The Uniqueness of Research System as an Inter-university Research Institute and Strengthening its System

Since becoming a member of the National Institutes for the Humanities (NIHU) in 2004, the National Museum of Japanese History (NMJH) has been one of the museums among NIHU members that functions as inter-university research institutes. This year, NMJH conducted studies and produced reports to strengthen its unique research systems and make the most of its specialties. Research Committee formulated “Core Policies for Collaborative Research”, and Future Planning Group produced “Future Planning Group Report”, which included many recommendations for our unique research style called “Museum-based Research Integration” achieved by organically coordinating research, materials, and exhibitions, and also for improving facilitation and strengthening of inter-university research, which constitutes the basis for NMJH as an inter-university research institute and a museum.

In addition to publishing research results, it is important responsibility to improve facilitation, publication, and transparency of inter-university research by sharing materials and research processes. For this reason, leadership and deliberation has been provided for research also by the Executive Council, which includes external specialists as council members. In 2006, Collaborative Research Committee was also established as an individual committee of the Executive Council, and channels were created to obtain more expert leadership and assessment for collaborative research at NMJH by committee members in different fields and to reflect the research trends and opinions of the academic world.

The collaborative research plans for fiscal year 2006 were assessed by the Collaborative Research Committee. The Committee significantly pointed out that the collaborative research topics were too specific and the direction and framework of research were unclear. There is an urgent need to provide equivalent topics in addition to our major research themes, considering that continuity has been one of the characteristics of NMJH’s research style, based on long-term themes such as ‘cities’ and ‘fundamental faith’. The Museum explores the possibility to develop themes for long-term research from general themes of current basic research, such as ‘the 20th century’, ‘Knowledge and technology’, and ‘Interaction and change’.

Important issues were also raised by the External Evaluation Committee, which focused on evaluating collaborative research. The Committee pointed out that more explanation should be given of relationship between collaborative research and exhibitions and collections of resource materials, as well as processes

and results of research that spans multiple years. In responding to these points, we have presented research contents in tables on pages 5 to 12.

## **2. NMJH Collaborative Research and Externally Funded Research**

The NMJH conducted 26 collaborative research and other projects in 2006. The following research shows the unique characteristics of research carried out at the Museum.

Basic research project “General Study of the 20th Century” examines war by focusing on society, symbols, and Asia, and reveals unique 20th century characteristics of modern Japan. Results from Discipline A research “Wars of the 20th Century - Part I ” developed into a special exhibition “The Sakura Regiments and the Age of War”, a war exhibition that provided new insights and received tremendous response.

International research meeting “Personal Experiences of War, Memory and Narrative” was held as part of Discipline B research “Personal Experiences of War: 1931-1945: Survey of Japanese Written and Oral Records”. This meeting succeeded in sharing issues and research methods with a broad range of researchers and with the public through local public meetings held throughout Japan. This basic research was an implementation of Museum-based Research Integration, and was seen as a fundamental research for the construction of our new contemporary history gallery.

The scientific research project “General Study on the Utilization of Dating Techniques for Research on Historical Materials” aims to apply chronological dating methods based on the natural sciences to historical research. This is a good example of a project showing how NMJH managed to achieve cooperation between the fields of the natural sciences and historical research by further developing the research framework of inter-disciplinary collaboration between the fields of history, archaeology, folk studies and related fields that the Museum has promoted since its establishment. In addition to the achievements in chronological research of prehistory using carbon 14 dating, this research has broadened the scale of research as well as confirmed the effectiveness of this form of dating. It also expanded eras and historical materials that can be researched, such as medieval and early modern architectural structures, documents, and paper materials. This project is expected to develop by wide applications to historical research.

Twenty-seven externally funded research projects were conducted, through open competition Grants-In-Aid for Scientific Research , and one project was funded through Grant-in-Aid for Creative Scientific Research. Both grants are funded by the Japanese government.

Grant-in-Aid for Creative Scientific Research-funded project “The Origin of Farming in the Yayoi Period and East Asia: Establishment of High-Precision Chronology by Carbon 14 Age Analysis” examines the origin of

Yayoi farming in East Asia. It tries to determine the actual chronology of the origin of wet-rice farming in Japan using high-precision carbon 14 dating. This new chronological perspective is giving a major impact on related fields. This links other projects such as the NMJH scientific research project “General Study on the Utilization of Dating Techniques for Historical Materials”, and is seen as core research on chronological dating.

### **3. Targeting Specific Topics through Director-General’s Special Budget**

Under the leadership of the Director-General, calls were made for publications covering topics and results of research being specifically focused at NMJH. This special budget aims to further promote research and publication of its outcomes.

One of these projects aimed to promote international exchange and launched a specific collaborative research project based on an academic exchange agreement made in April with the National Museum of Korea. Both museums presented collaborative research topics based on materials in their Museum collections, and decided to start a collaborative research on analysis of bronze ware using lead isotopes.

Another is the start of Rekihaku Video Forums, a project related to the publication of research results through videos of folk studies produced by researchers. This fiscal year, the Museum ran a forum titled “Contemporary Funeral Rituals”, which was well received by local public and researchers.

These projects are conducted with Director-General’s special budget at the beginning stage, and later on, they will run using standard budget.

This concludes the overview of the noteworthy issues of research in fiscal year 2006. Further details are given under each section .

## **I-1. Collaborative Research**

As an inter-university research institute, the NMJH conducts collaborative research projects with scholars nationwide. Research topics are determined by relevant trends in 'history' in a broad sense of the term.

Collaborative research is divided into basic, scientific, and specific research based on the nature of the topic.

Basic research aims to conduct inter-disciplinary studies in major research topics. Scientific research creates a methodological basis for new historical research and for making materials in the Museum collection available through modern computer systems. Specific research refers to specific topics in the disciplines of history, archaeology, folk studies and related sciences, as well as groundbreaking topics which may expand in the future.

During this fiscal year, 26 collaborative research were carried out. This consists of eight basic research topics, ten scientific research topics, and eight specific research topics. Seven of these were initiated this year.

A call was made for research proposals under the collaborative research plan based on "Core Policies for Collaborative Research" which was formulated this fiscal year, but no external applications were received this year.

### **[A List of Collaborative Research Projects]**

#### **1. Basic Research**

1. Transhistorical Studies of Ideas of Life and Death–Japanese Deities and Shrines (2004-2006)  
SHINTANI Takanori, et al.
  - A. Historical Study of Japanese Shrines and Shinto Beliefs–Part I  
MIURA Masayuki (Hiroshima University)
  - B. Life, Aging, and Death and Ritual in Historical Perspective–Part I  
SHINTANI Takanori
2. General Study of the 20th Century (2004-2006)  
YASUDA Tsuneo, et al.
  - A. Wars of the 20th Century–Part I  
YASUDA Tsuneo
  - B. Personal Experiences of War, 1931-1945–A Survey of Japanese Written and Oral Records  
SEKIZAWA Mayumi

3. Historical Research on Livelihoods–Authority and Systems of Knowledge (2005-2007)  
IHARA Kesao, et al.
  - A. Production, Authority, and Ideology in Ancient Japan  
HIROSE Kazuo
  - B. Occupation, Technology, and Magical Faiths in Medieval and Early Modern Japan  
IHARA Kesao
4. Historical Research on Exchange and Cultural Change (2005-2007)  
KURUSHIMA Hiroshi, et al.
  - A. Ancient East-northern Asia and Shanguo-zhi, Wei-shu  
AZUMA Ushio (Tokushima University)
  - B. Comparative Research on International Exchange and Cultural Acceptance of Wa from the 6th-century Burial System  
SUGIYAMA Shinsaku
  - C. Comparative Study of Proselytizing Cultures  
HAYASHI Masahiko (Meiji University)
  - D. Comparative Historical Research on Nation States  
CHO Kyeungdal (Chiba University)
  - E. Comparative Study of History of Emigration  
IMAIZUMI Yumiko (Hosei University)

## **2. Scientific Research**

1. Scientific Study of Materials and General Chronological Research
  - A. Basic Study on the Imperial Court Manuscripts and Printed Books of the Takamatsu House of the Imperial Family (2003-2006)  
YOSHIOKA Masayuki
  - B. Research Study of Materials, Manufacturing Techniques, and Production Sites of Historical Artifacts (2004-2006)  
UDAGAWA Takehisa
  - C. General Study on the Utilization of Dating Techniques for Research on Historical Materials (2006-2008)  
IMAMURA Mineo
2. General Study of Materials and Advanced Historical Information of Artifacts
  - A. Research on Cadastral Maps of the Meiji Era (2004-2006)  
AOYAMA Hiro'o
  - B. Study of Ethnographic Films as Research Materials (2004-2006)  
UCHIDA Junko
  - C. The Corpus Research about the Settlement in Jomon and Yayoi Period (2005-2007)

FUJIO Shin'ichiro

D. Studies on Japanese Musical Instruments in the Collection by Kishu-Tokugawa Family (2006-2008)

TAKAKUWA Izumi (National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo)

E. Study on the Photo Collection Related to Munro of the National Museum of Japanese History  
(2006-2008)

UCHIDA Junko

3. General Research in Museum Studies

A. Study for Communication Design in Museum (2006-2008)

SATO Yuuka

B. Multi-Use of Museum Information (2006-2007)

MIYATA Kimiyoshi

4. Preliminary Studies

Comparative Historical Study of East Asian Architecture: Japan, Korea, China, and Surrounding Regions  
(2006-2008)

TAMAI Tetsuo

**3. Specific Research**

1. The Assembling of the Mizuki Collection and Its Historical Significance (2001-2006)

TAKAGI Hiroshi (Kyoto University)

2. Study of Arms and Armor in Middle-Period Tumuli--An Initial Research Based on Artifacts from the Marozuka Tomb (2004-2007)

SUGII Takeshi (Kumamoto University)

3. Diversified Use of Natural Environments in East Asia: From Swidden Farmers to Paddy Agriculturalists  
(2004-2006)

NISHITANI Masaru

4. Basic Research on the Development and Formation of Folk Studies in Japan (2004-2006)

KOIKE Jun'ichi

5. Study of the Kamikuroiwa Site in Ehime Prefecture (2004-2006)

HARUNARI Hideji

6. Synthetic Research on the Significance of Paddy Field Environment in Japanese History (2005-2007)

YASUMURO Satoru

7. Study on the Development Preservation, and Cultural Resourcization of Human and Natural Landscape  
(2005-2007)

AOKI Takahiro

8. Statements and Practices Regarding Body and Character (2006-2008)

YAMADA Shinya

#### 4. NIHU Joint Research

##### 1. General Research on Interaction between Japan and Eurasia

###### A. Relationship between Eurasia and Japan: Mutual Interaction and Representation (2005-2009)

KURUSHIMA Hiroshi

- ① Ancient East-northern Asia and Shanguo-zhi, Wei-shu

AZUMA Ushio (Tokushima University)

- ② Comparative Research on International Exchange and Cultural Acceptance of Wa from the 6th-century Burial System

SUGIYAMA Shinsaku

- ③ Comparative Study of Proselytizing Cultures

HAYASHI Masahiko (Meiji University)

- ④ Comparative Historical Research on Nation States

CHO Kyeungdal (Chiba University)

- ⑤ Comparative Study of History of Emigration

IMAIZUMI Yumiko (Hosei University)

## **I-2. Externally Funded Research**

One of the Museum's duties is to stimulate research through the introduction of external funding. This has become even more important since the transformation of NMJH into an inter-university research institute in 2004 when NMJH started to run as an independent corporative body and separated from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

In this fiscal year, 52 applications were made for open competition Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research, which is ten more than last year. Last year, 32 were successful among them, but the total amount of external funding was JPY 2.81 million less.

One of these projects, Grant-in-Aid for Creative Scientific Research-funded project "The Origin of Farming in the Yayoi Period and East Asia: Establishment of High-Precision Chronology by Carbon 14 Age Analysis" (2004-2008; General Organizer: NISHIMOTO Toyohiro), launched during the fiscal year 2004, addresses a new origin of wet-rice farming in Japan from the broad perspective of East Asia by determining its actual chronology. This topic, which deserves to be further studied, is being expanded through the acquisition of external funding.

Besides the Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research funds, NMJH received one donation (JPY 850,000) from a private scholarship and one payment (JPY 1.6 million) for a privately funded research.

### **[A List of Projects under Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research]**

#### **New Research**

- Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (A)  
The Interaction and Transfer of Technology in Medieval East Asia  
ONO Masatoshi
- Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)  
A Study on an Advanced Viewing System for Research and Exhibition using Super High Definition Images of Historical Materials  
ADACHI Fumio
- Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)  
A Comprehensive Study on Tradition and Innovation of Gunnery Technology in the Early and the End of the Edo Period  
UDAGAWA Takehisa
- (Overseas) Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)  
Study of the Ainu-Images on the Western Ethnographic Materials

UCHIDA Junko

- Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)

The Insufficiency of Migrant Sake Brewers and the Succession of Brewing Techniques

AOKI Takahiro

- Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)

Folk Studies on Evolvement of Photographs of the Deceased People and Changes of the Views of Life and Death during the Modernization Process

YAMADA Shinya

- Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)

Historical Research on the Preventions of Disaster and Maintenance Activities of World Cultural Heritage: Itsukushima Jinja

YAMADA Takeharu

- Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)

Paleodiet as Inferred from the Characteristics of Carbonized Materials Adhering to Pottery

MIYATA Yoshiki

- Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)

Research into Relation between Gagaku (Traditional Court Dance Music) and Ceremony in Ancient Japan, in Addition, Development of the Relation

HIROSE Chiaki

- Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)

The Comparative Study of Exhumation Harness in the Western Regions of China and Asian East Out-of-the-way Place

CHUJO FUJII Hideki

- Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (Start Up)

Research on Correlations between People's Life and Politics in Occupied Japan-- Focusing on the Black Market Deal of Daily Commodities

HARAYAMA Kosuke

- Grant-in-Aid for Exploratory Research

Imaging of History Images based on Imaging Technology

MIYATA Kimiyoshi

- Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows

The Introduction and Development Process of "Document Priority System" in Ancient Japan

WATANABE Shigeru

## Continuing Research

- Grant-in-Aid for Creative Scientific Research  
The Origin of the Farming in the Yayoi Period and East Asia: Establishment of High-Precision Chronology by Carbon 14 Age Analysis  
NISHIMOTO Toyohiro
- Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)  
Internationality of Japanese Craft in the 16th and 17th Centuries: From the Perspective of Inter-port Artistic Exchange between East and West  
HIDAKA Kaori
- Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)  
Re-examination of Hirata Kokugaku: A Study of the Documents of Atsutane, Kanetane, Nobutane, and Moritane as Historical Materials  
HIGUCHI Takehiko
- Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)  
Formation of “Japanese Culture” from the Perspective of Collectors’ Activities in the Modern Yamato Region  
KURUSHIMA Hiroshi
- Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)  
General Research Study on the Genealogy and Practices of Incantation  
KOIKE Jun’ichi
- (Overseas) Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)  
Praxis of Ethnoscience and the Sustainability for Environmental Resources in China  
SHINOHARA Toru
- Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)  
Folkloric Research on the Significance of Paddy Field Environment in Japanese History  
YASUMURO Satoru
- Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)  
Basic Research on Takamatsunomiya-ke Denrai Kinribon  
YOSHIOKA Masayuki
- Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)  
The Study of Interactions in the North Frontier of Han Empire  
UENO Yoshifumi
- Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)  
Study on Jomon Chronology by AMS Radiocarbon Dating at the First Half of Jomon Period of East Japan  
KOBAYASHI Ken’ichi

- Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)  
Provenance Study of Celadon by Analysis of Zircon Components in the Bodies

KOSETO HORYU Emi
- Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)  
Archaeological Study of Religious Spaces: Sutra Mounds, Tombs, Temples and Shrines

MURAKI Jiro
- Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)  
The Formation and Function of the Memories about War Dead (Gun-Sin) in the Region

ICHINOSE Toshiya
- Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)  
Anthropological Study on Use of Environmental Resources and Adaptation of Economical Aspects; the Case of Minority Groups in Yunnan Province, China

YOSHIMURA Satoko
- Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)  
Studies on Warrior Society: Pattern of Consumption and Patterns of Succession

IWABUCHI Reiji
- Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)  
Museum Anthropological Analysis on Changing Representation of the Holocaust Museums in Europe and the United States under Globalization

TERADA Masahiro
- Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows  
The Study of Copyright and Library History in the Early Modern on the Imperial Palace Which is the Main Object about the Imperial Household Book

SAKAI Shigeyuki
- Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows  
Research Concerning the Functions and Social Processes of Scenic: Representations in Japanese Painting

KONDO MIZUNO Ryoko
- Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows  
Street Vendor in the Eastern Part of Japan – Structure and Function of the Informal Sector

ATSU Kanae

**Other Externally Funded Research**

- Privately Funded Research  
Research on Development of Portable Raman Imaging System with Micro FT-IR Spectrometer for Cultural Properties

KOSETO HORYU Emi

### I-3. Material Survey and Equipments

#### Categorization of Resource Materials

The NMJH is systematically conducting a project to categorize resource materials. In order to make our collection widely available for research use, we are studying and categorizing basic data such as materials and images and making it available in various formats such as catalog lists and pictorial catalogs.

In this fiscal year, NMJH conducted studies on various types of materials, such as the Museum's Japanese roof tile collection, gunnery-related resources, the Naora Collection (archaeological materials), Yayoi bronze ware, a collection of materials on popular entertainment, and a collection of portraits of the deceased.

NMJH also published pictorial resource catalogs, "Japanese Roof Tile Collection" and "The Weapons Collection", as well as resource catalog lists, "Anzai Minoru's Gunnery-related Resources" and "Tokoro Sokichi's Seiho Library Collection (on Guns)".

- 1) Material Surveys of Museum collections 2006  
*Gunnery-related Resources in the Museum's Collection*  
(General Organizer: UDAGAWA Takehisa)
- 2) Material Surveys of Museum collections 2006  
*Japanese Warrior Weapons and Armor in the Museum's Collection*  
(General Organizer: UDAGAWA Takehisa)
- 3) Material Surveys of Museum collections 2006  
*Yayoi Bronze Ware in the Museum's Collection*  
(General Organizer: HARUNARI Hideji)
- 4) Material Surveys of Museum collections 2006  
*Portraits of the Deceased in the Museum's Collection*  
(General Organizer: YAMADA Shinya)
- 5) Material Surveys of Museum collections 2006  
*Futokoro-ni-tamaru Morokuzu (A Bag of Joke Material)*  
(General Organizer: MATSUO Kōichi)
- 6) Material Surveys of Museum collections 2006  
*Catalogue of the Naora Collections*  
(General Organizer: HARUNARI Hideji)

## **Research Equipments**

The National Museum of Japanese History seeks to develop new historical studies through the use of new research methods and collaboration across the three disciplines of history, archaeology, and folk studies, as well as other related sciences.

Therefore, NMJH strives to install a wide range of equipments necessary for cutting-edge research. This fiscal year we installed various instruments used in scientific analytical studies of historical materials, information-related equipments, and audio-visual devices.

Most of these equipments are also made available to inter-university researchers.

#### **I-4. Research System**

It has been three years since NMJH became a member of the National Institutes for the Humanities, an Inter-University Research Institute Corporation, and unified its previous four research departments – History, Archeology, Folklore and Folklife, and Museum Science into a single Research Department. This fiscal year, studies were undertaken to further develop this research system.

NMJH formulated the “Core Policies for Collaborative Research”. This suggests that, NMJH needs to improve facilitation of inter-university research, organically coordinate research, materials, and exhibitions, and to improve its efficiency. Furthermore, as a result of the establishment of Collaborative Research Committee, collaborative research was carried out under more appropriate conditions, under a new inspection system for collaborative research and calls were made for research proposals.

Research department staff worked on their individual research, which will provide impetus for the promotion of future collaborative research. An important issue for this single research department system in the future will be the balance of collaborative work and maintaining the identity of each specialized field.

The Museum also attempted to facilitate research by appointing visiting scholars and by hiring adjunct researchers and research assistants, which include researchers from other research institutions.

## II. Publication of Research and Inter-University Research

### Overview

#### 1. Collection and Publication of Research Resource Materials, Research Exhibition Projects, and New Construction of Permanent Exhibitions as an Inter-university Research Institute

- (1) Developing our system towards “Museum-based Research Integration” – Part 1: Linking exhibitions and research/accumulation of resources

In 2004, NMJH and four other research institutes formed the National Institutes for the Humanities. The role of NIHU, which NMJH follows, is to promote basic research on different cultures and the relationship between people, society, and nature and to develop diverse forms of general research regarding cultures, and contribute to the advancement of academic studies. However, this did not necessarily mean that there was a consensus within the Museum regarding the direction it should take in order to leverage the unique characteristics it possessed as a museum.

Under these circumstances, it is very significant that the “Core Principles and Core Policies at the National Museum of Japanese History” was completed at the end of this fiscal year. It specifies the aims of NMJH and identifies the Museum’s distinctive characteristics, stipulating that it have a range of functions, namely to collect information, organize, preserve, study, and provide historical materials. Moreover, it defines the Museum’s mission as the implementation of “Museum-based Research Integration” through the organic coordination of these functions.

The following provides an overview of the Museum’s activities in this fiscal year, from the standpoint of “Museum-based Research Integration” that will be implemented from now. In the past, NMJH has worked in cycles of developing one element to another, those are: “materials collection to exhibition”, “materials collection to research”, and “research to exhibition”. However, it has not necessarily developed the cycles of “exhibition to collection of new materials and information” and “exhibition to discovery of new research issues”.

In that respect, the special exhibition “Sakura Regiments and the Age of war” (July - September) was a major achievement. This project reflected the results of collaborative research project “The Sakura Regiment and the Local Populace” (FY 2002-2004), as well as being based on research on the Sakura Regiment accumulated by members of Friends of Rekihaku and Sakura Citizens’ College, demonstrating a case study which worked with local communities. This special exhibition was NMJH’s first attempt to directly deal war in modern and contemporary times. By placing the focus on Sakura City and Chiba Prefecture, where the

Museum is located, it attracted considerable attention of local citizens. We found many visitors, including those who had been in the military, were engrossed in conversations in the exhibition rooms. It seemed that some visitors saw the exhibition as a depiction of their own personal history in the context of major historical events.

During preparation of this exhibition, and indeed even after the opening of the exhibition, new materials were discovered. People offered donation of objects and information. As a result, a great number of materials were collected, such as related documents, books, pictures, and other articles. These materials and information are expected to be widely used and also included in the new plans for the permanent gallery, Gallery Six. This is a good example of an exhibition resulted in collecting new historical materials and information.

This exhibition also played a significant role for young researchers, as it was used for tours and discussions for the Graduate University for Advanced Studies' student project "Comparing Museums and War Exhibitions".

The special exhibition "The Introduction of Guns in Japanese History – From Tanegashima to the Boshin War" (October - November) was created based on Gunnery-related resources collected over years and the results of analyzing them. During the exhibition preparation, researchers verified trajectories and the force of projectiles by experiments, analyzed materials, and studied technology, demonstrating the potential for utilizing materials in the collection as resources for new research.

The special exhibition "Deities and Festivals of Japan" (March - May) was also a project based on the results of collaborative research.

"Exhibition of New Acquisitions 2006" (January - February 2007) not only displayed the new collections but also presented items categorized under different topics in two special sections.

One section, "Research Results of the Ideuenohara Ruins of Fukushima Prefecture", served as an updated report on the research results of this Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research project. The other section, "How to View Kimono – An Analysis of Images of Dyed and Woven Materials", focused on the 'feel' of dyed and woven materials, pioneering a new type of research that integrated actual materials with multimedia programs.

"Japanese Architecture" (January - February 2007) exhibition explored a new style in showing architecture models and related materials under one topic. For example, this exhibition displayed architecture models and materials related to Japanese-style rooms such as studies (Shoin) and drawing room decorations and celadon porcelain.

" Exploring the Beginning of the Jomon Period – Research Results from Kamikuroiwa Site in Ehime Prefecture" (January - February 2007) exhibition was opened at Rekihaku Promenade. This exhibition reported

recent outcomes from a collaborative research project “Study of the Kamikuroiwa Site in Ehime Prefecture”. The exhibition presented all related materials together in one place allowing researchers to draw comparisons. This exhibition style further developed the collaborative research itself, as researchers were able to confirm the state of excavated items like clay vessels, stone ware, and natural remains at the exhibition. This is another significant example of research being enriched by an exhibition.

Rekihaku Promenade was opened in fiscal year 2004, aimed to present recent research outcomes through exhibitions. It also aimed to be used as an exhibition space opened to the citizens of Sakura City and Chiba Prefecture. However, after the opening of Gallery Six (contemporary history), Rekihaku Promenade will become a space for special exhibitions. Nonetheless, NMJH considers to pass on this function in a different form.

Although the renovation of the permanent exhibitions (including the construction of a new contemporary history gallery) will start next fiscal year from the early modern history gallery, in December, NMJH was the first history museum in Japan to conduct a two-week formative evaluation on a temporary exhibition which opened in Rekihaku Promenade.

One of the major themes of the new early modern history gallery is “Early Modern Japan in an International Society”. This two-week temporary exhibition displayed objects related to the theme “Nagasaki’s Role in Japan’s Relations with the Netherlands and China”. The exhibition consisted of actual materials prepared for the new gallery. The Museum implemented various ways to open interactive communication between visitors and the exhibition. Visitors evaluated the exhibition through a questionnaire, regarding the use of captions and explanations, computer operability, and the design and font sizes of caption panels.

By cooperating with many researchers and inviting researchers from overseas on the committee, the exhibition project to renovate the early modern history gallery is striving to convey the current findings of early modern history research in an accessible way.

Although NMJH permanent galleries have not dealt with topics more recent than the 1920s, it should be noted that new contemporary history gallery is being planned. The aforementioned special exhibition on war is also part of this plan, and major progress has been made in exhibition designs, including information on changes in lifestyle resulting from war, post-war reconstruction and rapid economic growth. Exhibition projects have also begun activities for the remodeling of the folk studies gallery that is scheduled to follow.

(2) Developing our system towards Museum-based Research Integration – Part 2: Linking research/exhibitions and the accumulation, preservation, and publication of research resources

The following provides an overview of the accumulation, preservation, and publication of research resources.

Since last fiscal year, the Museum's Resource Materials Committee has been actively dealing with issues that have been on the agenda for many years. These include deciding collection policy of resource materials, categorization/stratification of materials, creating materials management manual, processing of digital materials, developing an in-depth access system, starting with on-demand access, control in the environment in order to preserve materials and formulating a materials preservation and restoration plan.

Of these, major developments were made in facilitation of inter-university research, such as, in-depth and on-demand access to resource materials, studies of resource materials, and tours of Museum's storerooms. There has also been an increase in the number of visits by university professors, researchers, graduate and undergraduate students, in addition to collaborative researchers, as well as an increase of visits by students of museum studies and cultural assets. In order to appeal these facilities to universities, NMJH created the "NMJH Guidebook for Universities" and sent it to history departments of major universities. The number of materials available for on-demand access was also increased.

This fiscal year, the "Core Policies in Collecting Material", which had been a pending item from previous years, were decided together with the future collection policy being indicated. From now on, it will be necessary to further facilitate inter-university research, from the collection of resource materials to the dissemination of information, based on this core policy. This core policy reflects the opinions of the Resource Materials Collection Committee, which consisted of academic members.

As part of its materials preservation and restoration plan, NMJH works on checking the condition of each materials, and it begins to work with the support of the Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Gangoji Temple. In order to improve facilitation of inter-university research by offering wide-ranging access to our materials, checking the conditions of each of the Museum's materials is essential. Therefore, the attempt made this year was very significant.

This fiscal year, the Museum expanded its existing collections, such as Medieval Export Ceramic Ware Collection, in addition to acquiring the Construction Designs of the Imperial Palace and Temples and Shrines. Replica project of Shosoin Documents has continued, following the previous work..

A forum titled "Rekihaku Video Forum 1: Contemporary Funeral Rituals" (February, Tokyo) showed some of the folk studies videos that the Museum has amassed over the years. These videos are not only new research resources for the museum, but video production process itself can lead to a discovery of new research topics. It is time to think creatively about the accumulation and utilization of research resources as part of Museum-

based Research Integration, which sees video and various other forms of materials as research resources.

## **2. Shift from Historical Materials Center to Museum Resources Center**

Based on the “Core Principles and Core Policies at the National Museum of Japanese History”, which was formulated by the Future Planning Group, it has been decided that the Historical Materials Center will be changed over to the Museum Resources Center starting fiscal year 2007. An Information Committee will be organized as part of the Historical Materials Center which means that it will join the Exhibition Committee and Resource Materials Committee.

Information Committee has worked closely with Resource Materials Section and Resource Materials Committee, particularly in developing the databases. In order to make the materials accessible to the public through exhibitions, this new center will function as a center which is now in charge of the entire management of museum resources. This new structure will become basis for implementing Museum-based Research Integration.

However, the success of this reorganization and of the promotion of inter-university research will be determined by the work efficiency of both the faculties from the Research Department and administration staff. It is necessary to consider the ways to train professional administrative staff and encourage autonomous work flow. Policies must also be considered for the efficient use of new museum resources developed through NMJH research and projects as some can charge fees.

Under current budget reduction, including the budget for renovating permanent exhibitions and constructing new exhibitions, it is vital to set up concrete mid- and long-term plans and create a flexible management system to secure funds for special exhibitions and to deal with NIHU-related exhibitions. Furthermore, in order to enrich permanent exhibitions, daily gallery tours must be made more visitor-friendly by cooperating with floor staff and volunteers. We also need to build an organizational system which allows improvement of exhibitions based on visitor surveys and evaluations from research community.

An overall policy regarding Museum’s materials are required for the NMJH. This includes not only checking the condition of the Museum’s materials, but also checking the environment for preserving materials. It is also important to consider the reallocation of staff, including reexamining and securing places for on-demand access to materials and facilities for preserving resource materials data, and the rationalization of in-depth access and the loan of materials. In order to improve facilitation of inter-university research of materials in the Museum collection, materials must be made available in digital forms when they are photographed, stored and preserved, and entered into databases.

Database development needs regulation to efficiently work under the budget. For example, there was a case where donated materials being neglected for several decades without being cataloged. One of the causes for this problem was the divided committees which lost full control. Centers must have complete control of developing catalogs and databases, for both donated and loaned materials.

The job of implementing the “Core Principles and Core Policies at the National Museum of Japanese History” will first begin with the formulation of a concrete implementation plan.

## **II-1. Exhibitions**

In the midst of renovation (including new construction of exhibitions) that started in fiscal year 2004, the Museum has reconfirmed the importance of permanent exhibitions. Since, in Japan, a large gap in historical awareness is becoming visible between generations, and neighboring countries. We are experiencing various forms of strained relations stemming from different historical perspectives. The Museum needs to create an exhibition which will enhance various historical views and flexible historical awareness with contemporary and international perspectives. In fiscal year 2006, the early modern history gallery was closed. In addition to beginning construction for the opening in March 2008, the Museum conducted a trial exhibition and made a formative evaluation. The Renewal Planning Committee, which is considering the remodeling of the folk studies gallery, is in its second year. The Museum is now at the stage of designing a new gallery focusing on contemporary history.

Special exhibitions were held on “Deities and Festivals of Japan “, “Sakura Regiments and the Age of war”, “The Introduction of Guns in Japanese History”, “Exhibit of New Acquisitions “, and “Japanese Architecture”, and the results of research pertinent to the current issues were published. “Japanese Morning Glories” exhibition was also held at the Botanical Garden of Everyday Life. Overall, the Museum succeeded in staging exhibitions based on the abundant collections, and these were well received by visitors. We saw approximately 10% increase in number of visitors than the previous year, which is a significant data for considering future NMJH exhibitions.

Rekihaku Promenade, a small gallery for introducing research opened in 2004, was closed due to the preparations being made for the contemporary history gallery.

### **Special Exhibition**

#### **The Introduction of Guns in Japanese History – From Tanegashima to the Boshin War**

This exhibition displays in a systematic, accessible way, the historical role played by guns from the introduction of guns to Japan in 1543 to the time of the Boshin War in 1868. The exhibition is divided into three parts. The first part gives concrete examples of the actual circumstances surrounding the introduction of guns, their spread throughout Japan, and their eventual organizational use by Daimyos to form gun corps during the Sengoku period. It also shows how gun technology steadily advanced during war time, producing large guns such as artillery and cannons during the period of Japanese unification.

The second part explains the structure and function of guns, and then describes production technology and forging organizations with a focus on Sakai and Kunitomo, which bordered each other. It also scientifically

verifies the speed, force, and destructive power of projectiles based on materials and techniques discovered through natural science research and the firing of live shells.

The third part of the exhibition deals with the end of the Tokugawa shogunate and the Meiji Restoration. At the end of the Tokugawa shogunate, Japan imported Western tactics and guns for its coastal defense, but during the time of the Meiji Restoration the purpose changed to attaining victory in fights over political control of Japan. It was difficult to adopt the military technology of the West, which had experienced the industrial revolution, using tradition Japanese technology, but the ruling class devoted tremendous efforts to it. This part of the exhibition shows the chain of events surrounding the importing of military technology at the end of the Tokugawa shogunate and the Meiji Restoration.

The exhibition aims to show how Japan received the foreign culture of guns and assimilated it from the middle of the sixteenth century to the middle of the nineteenth century, using an abundant supply of actual artifacts and historical documents to show the process by which gun culture took root.

### **Special Programs**

“The Sakura Regiments and the Age of War” (July 4 - September 3 , 2006)

“2006 Exhibition of New Acquisitions” (January 10 - February 12 , 2007)

“Japanese Architecture” (January 10 - February 12 , 2007)

### **Special Programs at the Botanical Garden of Everyday Life**

“Japanese Morning Glories” (August 8 - September 3 , 2006)

### **Other Exhibitions**

“Exhibit of Rakuchū Rakugaizu Byōbu (Panoramic Screen Painting of Kyoto and Environs) Rekihaku A Version” (October 31 - November 12 , 2006)

## II-2. International Exchanges

In this fiscal year, NMJH was more active in pursuing international exchanges than in previous years, that is, increasing the number of academic exchange agreements with foreign research institutes, international symposiums and international research meetings, and research exchanges with institutes with which the Museum has agreements.

NMJH made an academic exchange agreement with the National Museum of Korea. Based on this agreement, both museums began to plan launching of collaborative research projects conducted by researchers at both institutes using materials in their collections. It was agreed that analysis of lead isotopes in bronze ware would be conducted jointly in fiscal year 2007. In addition to this, the museums also confirmed that they would pursue new research topics, and together expand the scale of collaborative research within the network of academic research institutes in both countries.

Continuing from previous years, an international research meeting “Korean Folklore Studies, Japanese Folklore Studies – Part III” was held jointly with the National Folk Museum of Korea, with which an academic exchange agreement had previously been made, and a joint report on the fiscal year 2005’s meeting was published.

An international research meeting “Comparison of the Notions about the Kofun Era between Japan and Korea” was also held in cooperation with the Pusan National University Museum, with which an academic exchange agreement has also been made.

An exchange was established with the National Research Institute of Cultural Properties in Korea, with which an academic exchange agreement has also been made, with one NMJH researcher being invited for a short-term research at this institute.

Two international symposiums and seven international research meetings were held. One unique aspect of this fiscal year was various different forms of exchanges made with the National Institutes for the Humanities and the Graduate University for Advanced Studies, for which NMJH is the base institution, and other universities, in addition to the aforementioned research meetings that were based on links with institutions with academic exchange agreements. NMJH aims to maintain this practice in the future.

Eight foreign researchers were invited to conduct research at NMJH. These researchers are from the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes and the Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales in France, the University of California, Irvine in the U.S., the Institute of Archaeology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in China, University of Joensuu in Finland, the National Research Institute of Cultural Properties, Ulsan

Research Institute of Cultural Properties, and the Dongguk Japanology Institute in Korea. These researchers participated in NMJH collaborative research, special exhibitions, international symposiums, research meetings, and other projects, as well as holding lectures on the results of their research at the Museum.

In addition, tours of NMJH exhibitions and studies of materials in its collection were frequently conducted, with researchers visiting from National Museum of Bhutan, the British Council, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, the Academy of Korean Studies, the National Institute of Korean History, and other institutes. The Museum was also invited by the newly opened German Historical Museum to an international symposium on historical exhibitions in March 2007, at which two NMJH professors in charge of contemporary history exhibition participated. The progress and accumulation of these kinds of regular international exchanges are expected to encourage the development of NMJH's various research projects.

### **Rekihaku International Symposium in 2006**

- **“Livelihood and Economy in Local Society – Past, Present and Future Region of Ethnic Groups in China”**

The logic and practice of ethnoscience that originally made intrinsic use of the environment has been undertaken in East Asia. For example, before premodern times in Japan, multipurpose use was made of paddy fields, which had come to encompass various livelihoods besides rice cultivation, such as fish farming. In southern China, livelihoods using terraced paddy fields, slash-and-burn agriculture, and hunting and gathering are interlinked in a complex way. However, the shift to market economy farming unified traditional farming that had originally been inherent to these regions, into the logic and practices that conform to market economy farming.

The objective of this symposium is to clarify the possibility of regional minorities being able to both conserve the environment and maintain their occupations based on the logic and practice of traditional ethnoscience in each respective region.

- **“Bronze Culture and Society in Ancient Asia – Origin, Date, Descent, Circulation and Ritual”**

Bronze ware such as Dotaku (bronze, bell-shaped vessels) and bronze pikes have been used as important archaeological materials in researching Yayoi farming rituals, the social division of labor, and the transition from the Yayoi to the Kofun (Tumulus) periods.

A tremendous amount of achievements have been made in bronze ware research in Europe and China, with Christian Thomsen coming up with the idea of categorizing ages – Stone Age, Bronze Age, and Iron Age –

based on the materials of tools and weapons in 1818. In China, research into bronze ware inscriptions began during the Later Han Dynasty, and research that continues to the modern day started in the mid-18th century. Research in Japan on Yayoi bronze ware began in the middle of the Meiji Period, at the end of the 19th century. Policies and methods based on a broad viewpoint are also required when researching bronze ware in Japan. However, the reality is that researchers abruptly embark on studies of specific topics without such policies or methods. Therefore, this venue aimed to study and discuss the Bronze Age and culture in East Asia by broadening the scope to encompass North Asia, South Asia, and Europe. This symposium is also seen as an opportunity for Japanese archaeological researchers to learn about the current state of bronze ware research in Europe and the rest of Asia. The symposium deals with the issues of origins, date, descent, circulation, and ritual. This symposium aimed to gain a better understanding of ancient Asian bronze culture and society. It also constitutes a continuation and development of the Rekihaku International Symposium held in 2000 entitled “The Formation of Agricultural Societies and Civilization in East Asia”.

- **“Creating a Framework for a Comparative History of Japanese and Korean Architecture – Palaces, Religious Structures, Dwellings”**

This is the first stage of the NMJH collaborative research project, “Comparative History of Architecture in East Asia” (organizer: TAMAI Tetsuo), which is now taking place. It aims to conduct comparative studies of Japanese and Korean architecture, as well as their cultural backgrounds. Although research has been conducted on Japan’s and Korea’s respective relationships to China, very little research has been done comparing Japan and Korea, with the exception of historical studies on contemporary architecture. Even so, although there is a shared vision to hold a symposium on comparative research on Japanese and Korean traditional dwellings, there have been virtually no attempts to discuss comparative studies regarding comparisons of important buildings such as palaces and temples, much less architecture overall.

This symposium, therefore, aims to discuss the prospects for collaborative research by assembling researchers in related fields, with an emphasis on Japanese and Korean researchers of architectural history, and having them submit status and research reports on research in their respective countries, as well as issues regarding comparative research. Aiming to advance research by overcoming the current dearth of architectural history researchers interested in Japan-Korean comparison studies and discussing comparisons of Japanese and Korean architecture from the perspective of architectural history should, in the long-term, play a major role in Japanese-Korean cultural exchange, as well as in international exchange throughout East Asia.

- **“Eurasia and Japan– The Appearance and Recognition of the Boundary”**

Since ancient times, the migration of people has caused many different forms of exchange, transforming societies throughout the world and forming history. History and anthropology have shed light on how

migrations actually occurred from the perspective of those respective fields, and have produced prodigious results by looking into the changes of migrations. Different analyses have produced a variety of views based on a study of the same people and migrations and the phenomena resulting from them. However, these differences being induced by the backdrop of time and the context of culture, interdisciplinary comparative studies have not been easy. In fiscal year 2006, the joint research project “Relationship between Eurasia and Japan: Mutual Interaction and Representation” studied the behavior of the migrations that supported the formation and changes of Eurasia with the aim of deepening the theory of mutual interaction and representation from different perspectives reached through comparative studies.

NMJH created sessions “The Driving Forces behind Migration” and “Migration and Identity” from two perspectives – that migration is the result of various factors and the cause of various factors. Both sessions move the discussion towards the topic of the formation and awareness of borders, attempting comparisons spanning different regions, ages and viewing borders and territories from a functionalist perspective during discussions.

### **Session I: Driving Forces behind Migration**

Viewing the phenomenon of migration as a result or terminus, this session studies the formation process of migration phenomenon by focusing on the driving forces that cause migration. It focuses on the forms and driving forces of migration, and sorts out the spatial relationships between geographical environment of migratory populations in cases of people who came to Japan in ancient times, people who engaged in maritime trade in medieval and early modern times, contemporary mass emigrations, and other migrations. The session focuses on the driving forces behind migration in an attempt to shed light on how migrations actually occurred.

### **Session II: Migration and Identity**

Viewing migration as the cause/origin of phenomena, this session studies the formation process of the phenomena caused by migration. When a population becomes active in another area, similarities and differences with regard to the pre-existing population of the area in question become apparent. Vectors are determined based on attributes of the population, the form of migration, and the attributes of the migration destination. One index of these trends is the enhancement of identity. Many phenomena can be observed that reveal the origin of a population through its material culture and traditional behavior. The goal of this session is to conduct comparative studies, speculating on the respective backgrounds, factors, and processes of manifestation. This session aims to deepen the discussion of the transformation of nations and ethnic groups, nations and religions, and generations and identity based on the identity of migratory populations.

## **International Research Meetings**

### **Rekihaku International Research Meetings in fiscal year 2006**

- 1) Representing Gender in Museums (October 13 • 15, 2006)

- 2) Korean Folklore Studies/ Japanese Folklore Studies III -1 (October 23-25, 2006)
- 3) Korean Folklore Studies/ Japanese Folklore Studies III -2 (December 1-3, 2006)
- 4) Land-inquest in Medieval Japan and England (November 17, 2006)
- 5) Comparison of the Notions about the Kofun Era between Japan and Korea (November 25-26, 2006)
- 6) Representations of Samurai and Knights in Objects (December 9-10, 2006)
- 7) War, Memory and Narrative (February 15-16, 2007)

### **II-3. Publications**

#### ***Bulletin of the National Museum of Japanese History***

No. 133 (December 2006)

No. 134 *Collaborative Research: City and the Royal Authority on the Turning Point of “Ritsuryou” Nation* [Research Papers] (March 2007)

No. 135 *Collaborative Research: City and the Royal Authority on the Turning Point of “Ritsuryou” Nation* [Source Materials] (March 2007)

No. 136 (March 2007)

No. 137 *Collaborative Research: General Research on the Application of High-precision Dating Techniques to Historical Materials* (March 2007)

No. 138 (March 2007)

#### **Exhibition Catalogues**

*The Sakura Regiments and the Age of War* (July 2006)

*The Introduction of Guns in Japanese History—From Tanegashima to the Boshin War* (October 2006)

*Western Capital, Eastern Capital—Illustrated Cities of the Middle Ages and Early Modern Period* (March 2007)

#### **Catalogues of Resource Materials**

*Hirata Atsutane Papers and Related Artifact* (March 2007)

*Anzai Minoru’s Gunnery-related Materials and Tokoro Sokichi’s Seiho Library Collection* (March 2007)

*The Weapons Collection* (March 2007)

#### **International Symposiums**

*Vienna Symposium Report: Empire and Ethnic Identity—On East Asia and Austria*

#### **Rekihaku Forums**

*How the Yayoi Period Will Change—In Pursuit of Carbon 14 Dating and New Perspectives on Ancient Times*

*Poetry and the Aristocratic World—The Power of Poetry*

#### **SOKENDAI Booklets**

*Deciphering Rituals* (October 2006)

*Investigating New Possibilities for Historical Materials* (March 2007)

#### **Others**

*Korean Folklore Studies, Japanese Folklore Studies II, International Research Meetings* (September 2006)

*Let’s Go to Rekihaku! 2004-2005* (March 2007)

*REKIHAKU : The Future of History* (March 2007)

## II-4. Symposiums and Research Publication

NMJH conducts a wide range of activities targeting researchers as well as the general public with the aim of broadly publicizing the activities and results of research being carried out at the Museum on a regular basis.

In fiscal year 2006, NMJH held one research meeting, twelve Rekihaku Lectures, six Rekihaku Forums, one event placed at Rekihaku Promenade, and published six issues of the Museum's bimonthly history magazine, Rekihaku. Separate from these programs, the Museum held research meetings and debriefing sessions related to its scientific research funding Grant-in-Aid for Creative Scientific Research, and deepened joint research in areas throughout the country.

Also, as part of the Rekihaku Video Forums, which began this fiscal year, the Museum presented "Contemporary Funeral Rituals", a new folk studies research video produced in the current year.

### Rekihaku Lectures

- No. 268 (Sat., Apr 8): Misdemeanor Offenses and Changes in Social Governance in Modern Times
- No. 269 (Sat., May 13): The Fact and Fiction of Meisho-e
- No. 270 (Sat., Jun 10): The Yuryaku and Keitai Emperors
- No. 271 (Sat., Jul 8): The Sakura Regiment and the First Sino-Japanese War and Russo-Japanese War
- No. 272 (Sat., Aug 12): The Final Battle between Japan and the U.S. As Seen Through Propaganda Leaflets
- No. 273 (Sat., Sep 9): Post-War Japanese Society and Consumer Movements
- No. 274 (Sat., Oct 14): The Introduction of Guns in Japanese History – From Tanegashima to the Boshin War
- No. 275 (Sat., Nov 11): Reform of the Military System and Development of Guns at the End of the Tokugawa shogunate
- No. 276 (Sat., Dec 9): The Representation of Foreign Lands As Seen in Exported Lacquer Ware
- No. 277 (Sat., Jan 13): The World of the Inland Sea in Medieval Times
- No. 278 (Sat., Feb 10): The Mind and Prayers of Medieval Peoples
- No. 279 (Sat., Mar 10): Modern Times As Seen Through Documentary Films

### Rekihaku Forums

- No. 54: Japanese Deities and Festivals – What are Shinto Shrines?
- No. 55: The Introduction of Guns in Japanese History – From Tanegashima to the Boshin War
- No. 56: The Study of the Subsistence on the History
- No. 57: With a View to Remodeling Permanent Exhibitions (Early Modern History) 1 –  
Early Modern Japan in an International Society
- No. 58: The Beginnings of the Jomon Period – Study of the Kamikuroiwa Site in Ehime Prefecture
- No. 59: Urushi in Japanese History

Rekihaku Video Forum 1: Contemporary Funeral Rituals

***Rekihaku, the Museum's Bimonthly Magazine***

No. 136: Special Feature – The World of Inland Seas

No. 137: Special Feature – Loving Someone of the Same Gender – Living in the Present

No. 138: Special Feature – Funeral Rites and Food

No. 139: Special Feature – Around the Time of the First Earthenware

No. 140: Special Feature – A History of Study of Computer History

No. 141: Special Feature – Rice Paddy Culture in East Asia

## II-5. Databases

NMJH is developing three types of databases for the purpose of publicizing its collection of materials and various scholarly information.

There are databases of materials in the Museum collection, databases of research paper bibliographies and summarized results of collaborative research, and historical full-text databases predominantly containing various types of historical records. The Museum currently provides a total of 38 databases.

In fiscal year 2006, NMJH launched three new databases – a database of medieval road signs of warnings and notices, a database of “A Bag of Joke Material” (Futokoro-ni- -tamaru Morokuzu) held in the Museum collection, and a database of traditional Japanese folk songs. It also updated databases of the Museum’s collection which has already been opened to the public.

These databases are available (in Japanese only) at  
<http://www.rekihaku.ac.jp/research/database.html>

### **III. Resource Materials and Books**

#### **Resource Materials**

This section explains issues regarding the collection, preservation, and management of resource materials and creation of reproductions

Noteworthy among the achievements of this fiscal year was the creation of the “Core Policies in Collecting Materials”. It stipulates the object and method of mid-term and long-term resource materials collection, also regarding collaborative research and remodeling of permanent exhibitions. NMJH also established the Resource Materials Collection Committee, which includes external committee members, in order to guarantee the legitimacy of the Museum’s resource materials collection.

The Museum acquired Construction Designs of the Imperial Palace and Temples and Shrines, and increasing existing collections such as the Medieval Export Ceramic Ware Collection, Ghost Stories Collection, and Nishiki-e Collection. It also received the donation of the Naora Collection, collected items of Professor Nobuo Naora, who was active in the fields of archaeology and paleontology.

Approximately 5,200 items from the Inou Family Collection were added to the materials available for on-demand access.

NMJH began a survey of the conditions of its collection as part of preservation and restoration plan. The survey aims to determine exactly how well each item in the Museum collection is preserved, link that with restoration plans, and utilize materials. In fiscal year 2006, it completed a check of approximately 3,000 items, mainly documents in the Mizuki Collection. Next fiscal year, NMJH plans to continue this survey as an ongoing project.

#### **Books**

The Museum strives to select and collect special books on Japanese history and culture in order to support inter-disciplinary studies in history, archaeology, folk studies and related fields. It is also working to simplify the procedures required for universities and other organizations to use our facility.

Efforts were made to make more efficient use of storage space within the Museum, but further measures will be required to deal with the problem of limited space.

The Museum also continued to improve services in the visitors' library. The number of visitors to the library was 27,036, about the same as last fiscal year, but there were 213 references, a major increase over last fiscal year.

## **IV. Graduate Education**

The Graduate University for Advanced Studies' Department of Japanese Studies, for which the National Museum of Japanese History is the base institution, specializes exclusively in post-doctoral studies. Instruction is given from a variety of perspectives by several instructors, with many researchers in four related research fields engaged as teaching staff.

Starting from this fiscal year, many courses were held under a revised curriculum. In particular, intensive courses held in summer were well received as they fulfilled diverse interests of students and the community. Study units for basic education were given through seminars of presentation of interim research findings for the preparation of doctoral thesis.

Another progress was the launch of initiative programs conducted with governmental funding, such as the "Comparing Museums and War Exhibitions" project, a student initiated project with students from other majors.

In April 2007, we currently have 32 students, seven of whom are also simultaneously working on regional boards of education or at museums. One feature of this program is that it provides the opportunity for students engaged in full-time employment to further advance their skills and knowledge while working.

## **V. Social Cooperation (Public Relations and Outreach)**

Public relations and outreach activities conducted by NMJH are designed to publicize the institution's research and museum activities, and to help visitors enhance their understanding of Japanese culture and history.

Since its opening in 1983, NMJH has conducted various outreach projects to accomplish these goals. Since fiscal year 2004, educational and outreach activities have been conducted jointly by the newly established Public Relations Committee and the Public Relations Service Office. In fiscal year 2006, in addition to taking over ongoing projects, they actively publicized research through press releases and other activities.

Rekihaku Promenade, which was opened in fiscal year 2004, has served as a forum for publicizing the latest results and information from the Museum's research activities. It also fulfills the important function of helping the people of Sakura City and other local communities understand the activities of NMJH.

## **VI. Faculty Research Activities**

### **HIRAKAWA Minami**

Ancient Local Societies: A Study of Excavated Written Materials

**Research Department** (The order of the kana syllabary)

### **AOKI Takahiro**

*Sake* Brewing Industry

Moral Precepts

### **AOYAMA Hiro'o**

Historical Geography of Landscape in Medieval Japan

History of Cartography and Geographical Knowledge

### **ADACHI Fumio**

Information Systems for Historical Research and Exhibition

### **ABE Gihei**

Study of Political Site in Ancient Period and Display

Interchanges between Local Cultures in Japan

### **ICHINOSE Toshiya**

Why was "War" Considered just in Modern Japanese Society

### **IHARA Kesao**

Life History in the Medieval Village

Lending Relationships History

Togoku Manor History

Medieval Noble History

Medieval Temple History

### **IMAMURA Mineo**

High-Precision Radiocarbon Dating and Its Application to Historical and Archaeological Studies

Development of Scientific Methods for Historical and Archaeological Applications

**IWABUCHI Reiji**

History of Pre Modern City

**UENO Kazuo**

Ancestor Worship and Family Structure in Japan

**UENO Yoshifumi**

Archaeological Study of Ancient East Asia

**UDAGAWA Takehisa**

Basic Research on Early Gunnery Secret Documents

History of Gun Development: Focusing on Production Technology

Gunnery Development and Its Process during Edo Period

Japanese Gunnery Technique during Late Edo Period to Meiji Restoration: Its Limitations and Changes

**UCHIDA Junko**

Research in the Effects of Sound on Human Behavior

Research on the Multiplicity of Visual Images

**OKUBO Jun'ichi**

Study of Ukiyo-e

Study of Landscapes in Later Edo Period

**ONO Masatoshi**

Archaeological Study of Medieval Japan

**KURUSHIMA Hiroshi**

The Historical Character of Regional Communities in the Late Edo Period

Ceremonies, Observances and Festivals in Early Modern Japanese Society

Theories of Representation and Exhibition at Museums of History

Museum Educational Programs and their Assessment

**KOIKE Jun'ichi**

Folk Belief

**KOJIMA Michihiro**

Towns, Villages, and Castles in Medieval Japan

Museum Education

**KOSETO-HORYU Emi**

Chemical Analysis of Cultural Properties

Studies in the Relationship between Environments and Deterioration of Cultural Objects

**KOBAYASHI Ken'ichi**

JOMON Period

Radiocarbon Dating

Pottery

**SAITO Tsutomu**

Chemical Studies of Materials, Manufacturing-Technique and Provenance on Cultural Properties

**SAKAMOTO Minoru**

Dating and Provenance Research on Historical and Archaeological Materials by Isotope Study

**SATO Yuuka**

Research on Designing, Documenting, and Evaluating Learning Environments

Research on Designing, Documenting and Evaluating Communication in Museum

**SAWADA Kazuto**

Relationship between Material, Technique and Idea of Clothes

Vestments of Buddhist Priest Mainly in the Muromachi Period

**SHINOHARA Toru**

Ethno-Scientific Studies of Folk-Life

**SHINTANI Takanori**

Comprehensive Studies in Folklore

**SUGIYAMA Shinsaku**

Kofun Period, Haniwa, and Ancient Gilding Techniques

**SUZUKI Takuji**

Study of Museum Information Systems to Support Research Activities, Exhibition, and Public Relations  
Special Interested in Information Processing of Color and Image

**SEKIZAWA Mayumi**

Comprehensive Studies in Folklore, Especially the Research on Cult Groups and Rituals, and a Folkloric Study of the Old, View of Life and View of Death, Discussion on the Transformation and Transmission of Folklore

**TAKAHASHI Kazuki**

Studies of the Shoen System  
Studies of the Medieval Documents

**TAMAI Tetsuo**

A Worldwide Historical Comparative Study of Cities and Dwellings Centered upon East Asia  
The Transformation Process of Urban Space in the Japanese Archipelago from the Mediaeval to the Early-Modern Period  
A Re-Assessment of Japanese Architectural History Based on Archaeological Excavation and Historic Pictorial Material

**TSUNEMITSU Toru**

A Study of Oral Tradition

**NAGASHIMA Masaharu**

Historical Materials from the Standpoint of Technological History and Cultural History by Nondestructive Research Methods  
Materials Involved in Lacquer and Red Pigments in Terms of Technological History and Cultural History

**NISHITANI Masaru**

History of East Asia

**NISHIMOTO Toyohiro**

Environmental Archaeology in the Jomon and Yayoi Periods

**NITO Atsushi**

Establishment Process of Japanese Ancient Capital Cities  
Theoretical Study of Ancient Sovereignty  
Ancient Local Societies

**HARAYAMA Kosuke**

Research on Formations and Changes of the Japanese Consumer Society in the Postwar Period

Research on Black Markets in 1940's: Especially Focusing on Conflicts between People's Daily Life and Economical Controls under the Occupation Policy of GHQ/SCAP

Research on Influences of Health Policies on Rural Areas in the Rapid Economic Growth Period

**HARUNARI Hideki** (Hideji)

Social Structure, Festival, Rite and Custom of Palaeolithic to Kofun Period

**HIGUCHI Takehiko**

Former Bakufu Retainers

**HIDAKA Kaori**

History of Japanese Lacquerwork

**HIROSE Kazuo**

A Study of Political Structure in the Kofun Period

**FUJIO Shin'ichiro**

Transition to Agriculture in Prehistory

The History of Iron Production

**MATSUO Koichi**

Research on Rituals at Temples and Shrines in the Southern Capital, and the Magic and Rituals of Craftsmen

**MIYATA Kimiyoshi**

Studies on Digital Imaging Methods for Museum Objects and its Applications

**MURAKI Jiro**

Archaeological Studies in the Middle Ages

**YASUDA Tsuneo**

History of Thought and Culture in Post-War Japan

War and Popular Culture

**YASUMURO Satoru**

Folklore Research on the Relation between People and Nature

**YAMADA Shinya**

Funeral Ritual and Cultural Concept of Death

Modern Society and Folk Culture

Death and Life Studies

**YAMAMOTO Mitsumasa**

Study of Japan Traffic and Travel in from 18th to 19th Centuries

The History of Life of a Farmer in the Late Tokugawa-Meiji Period

**YOSHIOKA Masayuki**

Ancient Philology

**YOSHIMURA Satoko**

Anthropological Study of Socio-Ecological Aspects

**Visiting Scholars**

**ARAKAWA Shoji**

Military Studies on the Modern History

**KONDO Yoshikazu**

Historical Study on the Japanese Craft Heritage with Special Reference to Arms and Armor

The Historical Development of the Bushi (the Samurai) and the Historical Analysis on Fighters and Battles through Arms and Armor Studies

**SATO Makoto**

Study of Documentary Filmmaking and Criticism

**SUGII Takeshi**

Study of Life-Style Pre-Histories and Ancient Times

Study of the Polity and Social Structure of Kofun Period

**TAKAKUWA Izumi**

Japanese History of Music

**TSUJI Sei'ichiro**

Ecosystem History

History of Environment and Culture

**HOYA Toru**

Military and Diplomatic History at the End of the Tokugawa Period

Study on the Visual Sources

**MIURA Masayuki**

History and Formation of Castles in Japan from the Late 16th Century

Origin and Development of Shrine Buildings

Methods of Estimation on the Age of Traditional Architecture

Research, Repair, and Restoration of Traditional Architecture

**MITSUTANI Takumi**

Dendrochronological Research on Historical Science in Japan

**Adjunct Researchers**

**ISHIKAWA Takehiko**

Archaeological Study of East Asia, from the 1st Millennium B.C. to the 5th Century A.D.

**CHUJO FUJII Hideki**

A Study of Horses Culture in the Kofun Period

**NAKAJIMA Takeharu**

A Study of Military Integration of the Muromachi Bakufu

A Study of Kokujin-Ikki (Order of Local Barons)

A Study of the Daigo Temple Territory in the Kanto District in the Middle Ages

**BABA Shin'ichiro**

Research of Lithics and Articles of Stone on Yayoi Age

Circulation Theory of Manual Industry Production of Yayoi Age

Regional Society Theory of Age of Yayoi

**YAMADA Takeharu**

Architecture of Shinto Shrines and Temples

Study on the History of Housing in Japan