

Living with Cremated Remains : The Materiality of Remains in Domestic Enshrinement and *Temotokuyō*

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Until recently in Japan, cremated remains were not necessarily a common object of enshrinement at home, as they were supposed to be placed in a grave or columbarium. However, since the 2000s, the phenomenon of keeping remains at home has attracted attention with the emergence of '*temotokuyō*' (literally, 'at-hand veneration'), in which the remains are processed or stored in special containers and kept close to people. However, research to date has mainly focused on the living from the perspective of changes in memorial practices as well as the decline of the view of the spirit and other worlds behind the remains, with little discussion of the remains themselves. In this paper, therefore, I will examine the relationship between the remains themselves and the living by focusing on the materiality of cremated remains. First, this paper analyzes the cases of people who have kept the remains at home for a long period without interment, regardless of whether or not they are using goods for *temotokuyō*. In this process, it is suggested that this kind of behavior is not simply a result of financial difficulties, but also an attempt to decide for themselves when to say goodbye to the deceased (the remains). It was also shown that the remains are not passive 'objects', but that there are cases of remains creating daily life with the living and building survivors' identity together. Based on these considerations, I analyze some factors from the perspective of the materiality of remains explaining why it is easier for the living to keep them in a close place. Based on interviews with vendors who deal with goods or services for *temotokuyō*, I discuss *temotokuyō*, products and services as an attempt to control the material aspects of human remains, making it easier to keep them in everyday spaces and in public places where they are seen by others.

Key words: Cremated remains, *Temotokuyō*, Materiality, Interment of cremated remains, Relationships between the living and the dead