Tradition and Records of Historical and Cultural Research Centers in Aizu: Analysis of the “Shinhen Aizu Fudoki (新編会津風土記)”

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This paper uses the “Shinpen Aizu Fudoki” as its material to examine how the history and culture of the Aizu region at the beginning of the 19th century was inherited and its content.

Here, it is clear that the religious historical consciousness that has been accumulated in the region since ancient times is inherited from shrines and temples, halls, and ancient sites, especially temples, and is edited and re-recognized when recorded. The history and culture of the region of Aizu has been remembered and updated in a way that is connected to these religious bases.

Specifically, by reconsidering the legend as the acceptance of the origins of Mt. Nikko, its regional development, and the establishment and traces of religious believers who migrated abroad, we have confirmed the possibility of constructing a broader religious history in the specific region of Aizu. Furthermore, by widely confirming and examining the legends of Kukai (空海) and the records of the revival of Shingon sect (真言宗) temples, we were able to get closer to the inner workings of religious activities and the relationship with the ruling powers of the region. Through the above consideration and analysis, we were able to confirm the possibility and effectiveness of constructing regional religious history using articles on historical and cultural research centers in early modern official geographical journals as a starting point.

Key words: Legend, historical consciousness, Kukai (空海), Shingon sect (真言宗), Onmyodo (陰陽道)