Possibility of "As a Whole"

——AKAMATSU Keisuke and the Present State of the Folklore Study——

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Sincere evaluations on Akamatsu Keisuke and his works as a folklorist have scarcely been made from the viewpoint of the folklore. However, if "those written" by Akamatsu Keisuke are only read as "those written" themselves, the majority of the essential possibility will be overlooked. As far as the present state of the folklore of this country is to be examined, what is required more than anything is not to evaluate him in such circumstance that the materials not fit in the framework of the folklore commonly shared so far are restricted only to "those written", nor to given attention only to a comprehensible signboard, "Marxism", as Fukuta Eizo did. What are discussed here are the inconvenience of interpretation of Akamatsu Keisuke and his works from the viewpoint of folklore and the essential possibility that overlaps with the present state of the folklore of this country that should be established beyond such inconvenience.

Akamatsu had such a suspicious character that he might have been an entertainer in the street or a fraud if anything had gone wrong, and because of such character, he could take up something as a whole. We should read such circumstances from his works. Sex, discrimination and classes themselves are not the questions to be discussed newly. Why others could not put them in question, while Akamatsu could? For an intellectuality to choose to confront the folklore of this country, an attitude to ask such question is required. What we should learn are such attitude to take up something as a whole and an straightforward excitement toward the extraordinary power of penetration the intellectuality having acquired such attitude can sometimes possess against the world. Now that it seems the nightmarish days of intellectual idleness have at last come to an end, the attitudes toward Akamatsu Keisuke and his works that are confined, from the start, under the torn signboard of "Marxism" contribute nothing to the present of the folklore when we are obliged to take
into account.