Trend of "Folk History" Theory
—Concerning the Methodology of Folklore Studies—

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This paper intends to set the concept of "folk history" and elucidate the nature, against the boundary domains between the study of history and folklore. Recently, movements of "social history" in the study of history is active and, in the interrelations between the study of history and folklore, there are problems that cannot be solved only with the theories and data offered by the folklore. One of them is a problem to re-construct the history described by the folklore. Clearly, it is different in nuance from the world described by the study of history. The study of history, in its attitude of referring to the folk data, tends to introduce them easily simply because they have resemblance to the bibliographical data. Importance of how data are positioned in the world of folklore and the quality of the folk data have been somewhat neglected. On the other hand, in the folklore, little study has been made to the data theory such as the historical nature of the lores, and there is a tendency to stick to the data forms such as bibliography and writings what someone heard. Considering the above, a possibility that "folk history" is established has been made clear by concretely discussing the fake documents, lore data, the direction that the village folks joins the elements of the nation level, the direction that the elements of the nation level joins the village folks, etc.