Festivity in the Metropolitan Osaka

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To study the festivity in the metropolitan Osaka in regard with popular beliefs, it is one of the best ways to focus on the festivity held by major monasteries in Osaka.

The article thus examines two cases of festivity held by the Sumiyoshi Taisha Shrine and the Shitennoji Temple as they are described in two ancient books: "Jinja Bukkaku Gankake Chohoki Shohen—Manual for Fulfilling Wishes by Praying to Shintoist or Buddhist Deities, the first version" and "Shinbutsu Reigenki Zue Nihen Mokuroku—Catalog of Illustrations of Shintoist and Buddhist Deities with Their Benefits, the second version" authored by Utakuni Hamamatsu. The latter material consists only of a list of shrines or temples with their benefits, and does not describe all the listed examples in full detail. For those missing some necessary elements of description, some "conjecture" must be made.

It is hoped that an aspect of popular beliefs in the metropolitan Osaka will be illuminated through tracing the changes of people’s beliefs in the deities enshrined in the two major monasteries.