

The Expression of "Sollen" in Modern Japanese

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This study examines the historical evolution of the expression of "Sollen" through comparison of the following three dialects: Edo and Tokyo dialects, considered to be the foundation of the present day standard Japanese, Kamigata and Owari dialects. Furthermore, the present form usages shown in Grammar Atlas of Japanese Dialects (GAJ) are classified by region to establish the history previously undetermined by literature. The expression of "Sollen" is a compound of the former section, *shinakereba* and the latter section, *naranai*. The following transitions were found.

1. In evolution of Edo to Tokyo dialect, the negative form shifted from *nu* to *nai*. The former section changed from *neba* to *nakereba* and *nakutewa*. The use of *ikenai* increased as *naranu* and *naranai* remained in use for the latter section. Choice between *nu* and *nai* depended on personal attributes as well as social distance and degree of tension in the context.
2. Negative form in Kamigata dialect is *nu*. The former section, *neba* and *nya* were replaced by *n* and *nahe*. Use of *naranu* was wide spread while *ikan* was still scarce in Meiji and Taisho eras.
3. *n* and *na* in the former section and *ikan* in the latter section were seen by the late Edo era in the Owari region, preceding the development of Kamigata dialect.
4. Older forms were seen in government-approved Japanese textbooks, which significantly contributed to the spread of standard Japanese. This can be considered to reflect the nature of textbooks, in which expressions of the norm are selectively employed.
5. GAJ shows the national trend of the transition from *na* to *n* in the former section. The distribution of the latter section displayed the pattern in accordance with Theory of Peripheral Distribution of Dialectal Forms, Kinki region at its centre.