

Abstract of Doctoral Thesis

Oshikawa Shunro in Japanese publication culture at the turn of the
20th century: The creation and acceptance of adventure novels

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Focusing on the creation and acceptance of Oshikawa Shunro's works in the culture of Japanese publishing at the turn of the 20th century, this dissertation examines the relationship between entertainment publications and modernized readers.

The first part shows the variation and processes of Oshikawa Shunro's creative activity in the Japanese culture of publication. Chapter 1 discusses *Kaiteigunkan* (*The Battle Ship under the Sea*), Oshikawa's first published book, which was marketed as an adventure novel as well as a domestic novel. Chapter 2 analyzes the recognition given to Oshikawa as a writer of adventure stories for magazine publications. Chapter 3 examines the editing of a domestic magazine done by Oshikawa.

Through an analysis of two of Oshikawa's novels, the second part of the dissertation shows how Oshikawa wrote critically on international issues of imperialism and colonization using a great deal of information on the states of affairs overseas. Chapter 5 examines Oshikawa's discourses on the Boer War and the Filipino Revolution in *Bukyo no Nihon* (*Chivalrous Japan*). Chapter 6 discusses the process of the adaptation of Alexandre Dumas's *The Count of Monte Cristo* to Oshikawa's *Ginzano* (*The King of the Silver Mine*).

The third part foregrounds how Oshikawa converted the agony of contemporary youth into adventure novels through an analysis of two novels depicting students, *Tōchu-No-Kai* (*The Tower of Mystery*) in Chapter 7 and *Risshin-Hizakurige* (*Travel for Success*) in Chapter 8.

This dissertation elucidates the readership of modernized youth surrounding the culture of Japanese publishing, which, at the turn of the century, formed a framework for Oshikawa Shunro's works, just as his adventure novels allowed readers to imagine being dubious of international colonization and themselves as a modernized body.