

## Doctoral Thesis Abstract

### A Study of Ishikawa Takuboku: Youth, The State, Naturalism

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This paper is a study of the literature of Takuboku Ishikawa. The center of consideration is the essay "Jidai heisoku no genjō" (The Present State of the Age's Blockage), written by Takuboku in 1910 and which discusses the relationship between "youth" and "the state" while developing a criticism of naturalist literature.

Part One discusses the relationship between Takuboku and Japanese naturalist literature. A discussion of the "practice and art" controversy concerning naturalism and the literary views of Naturalists and Takuboku on this subject are compared. Primarily this section reveals Takuboku's indebtedness to criticism deriving from the pragmatist philosophy of Ōdō Tanaka in his criticism of naturalist literature.

In Part Two, while providing a commentary of "Jidai heisoku no genjō," the author examines the contemporary context in which criticism was written. The following four points are examined: the influence of traveling to America and Hokkaido on the thought of Takuboku; the fact that Takuboku had young persons who received higher education in mind; the concept of "need," which is a keyword of the review that relies on Peter Kropotkin's *The Conquest of Bread*; and the relationship between criticism and the Japanese emperor system.

In Part Three, Takuboku's position in literature and thought is elucidated through comparison with critics such as Akiko Yosano, Sohō Tokutomi, Tanzan Ishibashi, Natsume Sōseki, the disciples of Sōseki, and their relationships of influence.

Part Four reviews the received image of Takuboku up until the present. In addition, the word "tomorrow" is examined as a keyword in the discussion of Takuboku's concept of time.

Part Five examines the poetry of Takuboku. In the tanka anthology *Ichiku no suna* (A Handful of Sand), the role of the representation of the "other" in its composition is examined in tanka concerning Korea and Hirobumi Itō. In addition, this part makes a commentary on *Yobuko to kuchibue* (Whistles and Whistling) and positions this anthology as one answer to the problems raised for Takuboku by "practice and art."