

◆ 活動の普及

地域の歴史資料を守り伝えるためには、それらが地域に とってかけがえのない文化的資源であることを知ってもら う活動が必要です。

宮城資料ネットでは、関心を広めるためのシンポジウム や、技術を普及するための各種ワークショップを開催し、 経験と方法を伝えることに努めています。

◆ 歴史文化の共有

在りし日の地域社会を振り返り、地域の現状と将来を展望するための文化的資源として歴史資料を位置づけるために、歴史叙述事業を実施しています。その一つが『よみがえるふるさとの歴史』の刊行です。歴史叙述事業は、歴史文化

を通して地域の過去と現在、未来をつなぐ社会事業として 展開していきます。

◆ 歴史資料を未来へ

日本では、近年大きな災害が続いています。また、過疎化 や高齢化といった大きな社会の変化が進んでいます。その 中で、地域の歴史資料を個人の力で受け継いでいくことは 難しくなっています。

宮城資料ネットは、歴史と文化に関わる人々と日常的に 交流し、非常時に備えた情報交流の場として機能していき たいと考えています。1000年後まで歴史資料が継承され ることを願い、活動を進めていきます。

よみがえるふるさとの歴史

企画:宮城資料ネット 発行:蕃山房 助成:上廣倫理財団

歴史叙述事業としての最初の取り組みである『よみがえるふるさとの歴史』シリーズは、東日本大震災の後、失われたふるさとの歴史をよみがえらせて、被災地の方々の心の復興に少しでも役に立つことができればと考えて企画しました。

よみがえるふるさとの歴史1 宮城県亘理町荒浜 荒浜湊のにぎわい

東回り海運と阿武隈川舟運の結節点 井上拓巳



荒浜は阿武隈川の河口付近に位置し、東回り海運と阿武隈川舟運の結節点として機能し、江戸時代から明治時代初期にかけて、「物」と「人」の交流が盛んに行われる場所でした。城米輸送をキーワードに、その賑わいの様子や、沖縄や中国への漂流体験など、水運のドラマを活写します。

よみがえるふるさとの歴史2 岩手県・宮城県・福島県 **慶長奥州地震津波と復興**

長奥州地震津波と復興 四百年前にも大地震と大津波があった 蝦名裕一



東日本大震災は、貞観地震津波以来1000年ぶりの大震災と言われますが、政宗の時代に起こった400年前の慶長奥州地震津波が、それに匹敵する大震災である可能性が出てきました。古文書に書き記されたその実態に迫り、復興や防災につながる人間の意志と英知を尋ねます。

よみがえるふるさとの歴史3 仙台市若林区

イグネのある村へ 仙台平野における近世

仙台平野における近世村落の成立 菅野正道



東日本大震災で大きな被害を受けた仙台の東に広がる沖積平野に、イグネ (屋敷林) が点在する六郷と七郷と呼ばれる二つの地域があります。 六郷と七郷が隣り合いながらも、それぞれに異なる地域性を形成することとなる中世から近世初期に注目し、今に至る歴史的基盤を紹介します。

よみがえるふるさとの歴史4 秋保温泉・川渡温泉・青根温泉 湯けむり復興計画

江戸時代の飢饉を乗り越える

高橋陽一

江戸時代の最大の災害は地震・津波ではなく、飢饉です。仙台藩では、 天明飢饉の死者は20万人に上ったといわれます。町や村の人口が激減 する危機的状況に見舞われながらも、人々は自らの手で地域の再生をは かります。その一つが温泉を利用した復興でした。

歴史資料を未来へ 備える 守る 伝える

宮城歴史資料保全ネットワーク(宮城資料ネット)は、地域の成り立ちを知る手がかりとなる古文書や書画などの歴史資料を、関係者と協力して、災害やその他の消滅の危機から守ることで、地域の歴史文化を次世代に継承することをめざしています。

宮城 歴史資料保全 ネットワーク

MIYAGI SHIRYO NET





2003年7月26日、宮城県北部で起きた連続地震をきっかけに、大学の研究者、行政の担当者、市民が共同して、被災した歴史資料を救い出す取り組みを開始しました。この活動が、宮城歴史資料保全ネットワークとして組織され、地域に残された歴史資料を守り伝える取り組みを続けています。

日本の地域社会には、古文書や書画、民具など、無数の歴史資料が残されています。そのほとんどは、公的な施設ではなく、地域の旧家やコミュニティで保管されています。江戸時代の町や村の役所は地域の旧家に置かれ、たくさんの文書が作られました。また、人々は自らの経営や文化活動に文字を使いました。20億点とも推測される文書が、今のかたちで伝わっているのは、他の国には見られない日本の歴史文化の特徴です。

歴史資料は、たとえ個人が所蔵するものであっても、地域の成り立ちやそこに住む人々の生活を明らかにする文化的資源です。しかし、必ずしもそのことが共有されているわけではありません。過疎化や高齢化などの社会の変化、さらに大きな災害が続いている現代の日本で、歴史資料は消滅の危機に直面しています。

2011年の東日本大震災では、地域の歴史資料も深刻な被害を受けました。災害から資料を守ること、さらに地域再生のあり方や日本の歴史文化継承など、多くの課題が生まれました。宮城資料ネットではこれらのことも踏まえ、関係者と協力してさまざまな活動を展開しています。

<◆>災害に備える

<◆> 歴史資料の所在調査

個人のお宅に伝えられた歴史資料は、多くの場合、その存在や価値が知られないまま に保存されています。災害が起こった際に、すばやくそれらを守るためには、どのよ うな物がどこにあるのかを、あらかじめ知っておく必要があります。

宮城資料ネットでは、自治体史などをもとに、各地域にのこされた歴史資料をリストにまとめていく作業を実施しています。リストをもとに各地域を訪問し、保管されている歴史資料の内容や状態を確認します。その成果を整理し、一つの地域ごとに歴史資料所在情報がまとめられます。

また、活動を通じて所蔵者、行政担当者、研究者、郷土史家などの資料関係者の間でネットワークが築かれます。これが災害が起こった時のセーフティーネットとなります。

人・情報の備え ネットワークの形成



<◆>一軒型資料保全活動

個人のお宅での調査では、古文書や美術品など、さまざまな歴史資料が確認されます。 特定のもののみを対象とするのではなく、のこされた資料に文化的価値をみいだし、 可能な限り保存することを目指しています。これを「一軒型資料保全活動」といい ます。

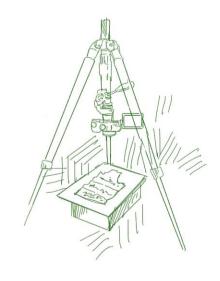
保全を終えた歴史資料は、原則として所蔵者の手元で保管されますが、必要に応じて公的な施設への保管も仲介しています。

<≫ デジタル記録化

整理した歴史資料の全点をデジタルカメラにより撮影する活動を行っています。この 作業は宮城資料ネットが独自にマニュアルを作成し、それに基づいて行われるので、 古文書が読めない人も参加しています。

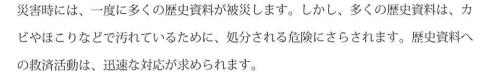
撮影された画像は、所蔵者に還元するとともに、宮城資料ネットや公的機関で複製が保管されます。所蔵者の許可が得られたものについては、地域の歴史を学ぶための情報源として活用されます。データを分散して保管することで、資料が万一散逸・消滅した場合においても、最低限の情報を保持することができます。

資料の備え 資料の整理と記録



◆◆ 災害から守る

被災した 歴史資料の救出



災害に対応するには、災害発生以前からの自治体や市民とのつながりが重要となります。宮城資料ネットでは、東日本大震災前に行っていた様々な活動で、自治体や地域住民とのネットワークを築いていました。そのことが、東日本大震災後の速やかな救済活動へとつながっています。

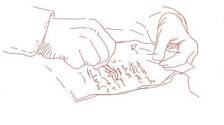


資料の保全と継承

東日本大震災では、古文書など、大量の歴史資料が津波で被災しました。特に紙で作られた文書は、水濡れにともなうカビの発生により急速に劣化や消滅の危機にさらされます。

宮城資料ネットは、資料の急速な劣化を抑え、被害の拡大を防ぐ措置を施しています。多くのボランティアと共同して作業を実施することで、被災した歴史資料は、 消滅の危機を脱することができます。

だれもが参加可能な作業工程を設定し、市民ボランティアとの共同作業をすすめています。同時に、災害によって地域の歴史資料が消滅の危機に瀕していることを多くの人々と共有していくことを目指しています。



さらに、救済された歴史資料を次の世代へ継承していくために、所蔵者と自治体、 大学などとの協議が求められています。

A Legacy for Posterity

In order to ensure the safe transmission of the cultural and historical heritage of the region, it is also important to win over and share the commitment and understanding of the local community at large. It is therefore important to inform the general community about the importance and relevance of such privately-held historical collections as a testament of the history of daily life within the region as a whole and not just as the history of one single family, and to involve the community as a whole in the process of passing this historical heritage on to posterity.

Our ongoing projects is centered on reading and analyzing the information contained in the collections of documents that we have salvaged and preserved, to write short, readable accounts of the daily lives of people within the locality. Through these vignette histories, we demonstrate that the documents can be used as cultural assets that serve to show us the past, present and possible future state of the relevant locality. We hope to expand on our local history writing projects as a means of connecting together the past, present and future visions of communities and regions affected by disasters.

Miyagi Shiryō Net aims to serve as a space for interconnecting and sharing information on historical materials and documents, between the general public, universities and other related specialists. We hope that through our work we will be able to pass on for another 1,000 years the cultural and historical heritage with which we have been entrusted by our forbearers.

Historical Regeneration

Miyagi Shiryō Net has started a 'Historical Regeneration Publishing Project.' This project will involve using the historical documents and materials that we have salvaged from areas suffering earthquake and tsunami damage to write a series of short booklets recounting some aspect of the history of these areas. We hope that these booklets retelling some aspect of the lost history of regions within the disaster areas will provide a modicum of psycho-social support for people from the disaster areas as they set about rebuilding their lives and communities.

Planning Organization: NPO Miyagi Rekishi Shiryō Hozen Network

Publisher: Banzanbō 1-4-8 Ochiai, Aoba-ku, Sendai 989-3129 JAPAN

+81-22-778-8679 (Fax) http://banzanbou.com/ (only Japanese language available)

Sponsor: The Uehiro Foundation on Ethics and Education



Volume 1 The Eastern Coastal Trade and Shipping on the Abukuma River

The first booklet in this series, written by Inoue Takumi, is a history of the port of Arahama, which suffered a direct hit from the tsunami of 3.11. Arahama now is just a small sleepy fishing port, but from the Edo Period to the early Meiji Period (1600 to c. 1880), it was a major port at the mouth of the Abukuma River, which served as a bustling link between the hinterland of southern Sendai Domain and the northern part of modern Fukushima Prefecture to the maritime trade routes serving the major markets of Edo and beyond. This booklet recreates this period, focusing on Tokugawa Bakufu shipments of rice from the Tokugawa domains in modern Fukushima, and stories of shipwrecked locals who drifted as far away as Okinawa and China.



Volume 2 The Keichō Tsunami and Recovery: The Great Earthquake and Tsunami of 400 Years Ago

The second booklet in this series is about the Keichō tsunami of 1611. A concerted downplaying of this tsunami was necessary to justify the location of nuclear plants on low-elevations sites in Fukushima. This booklet by Ebina Yū'ichi examines the historical and archaeological evidence for this tsunami, and argues that the hackneyed claim that the tsunami of 2011 was 'a once in a 1,000 year event' is a gross mis-reading of the historical record, and shows how people set about rebuilding their communities and preparing for future tsunami disasters. ("Keichō" is the name for the year period 1596-1614. The Keichō tsunami occurred in the 16th year of the Keichō Era, which it takes its name.)



Volume 3 Wooded Villages: The Formation of Early Modern Villages on the Sendai Plain

The third booklet in this series, written by Kanno Masamichi, deals with the history of the former villages of Rokugō and Shichigō. These two former villages are situated on the alluvial plain lying between urban Sendai and the Pacific coast, and both suffered badly in the tsunami after the Great East Japan Earthquake of 2011. The two villages neighbor each other, but each has its own individual character, which dates back to the way the two villages were formed in the 16th to 17th centuries. This booklet reviews the story of these two villages form their formation to the present.



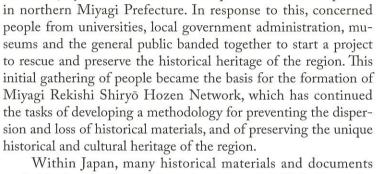
Volume 4 Bringing Back the Steamy Mists: Recovery from Famines in the Edo Period

This new volume is by Takahashi Yō'ichi. In the Edo Period, the greatest cause of mass deaths was neither earthquakes nor tsunami, but famine. In the Ten'mei Famine (1782 to 1788) in Sendai Domain, some 200,000 people are estimated to have died. People faced with the sudden depopulation of their towns and villages had to set about rebuilding their communities by themselves. One way they did this, where possible, was to use local hot springs as a way to revitalise their community.

Passing Historical Materials MIYAGI on to Coming Generations

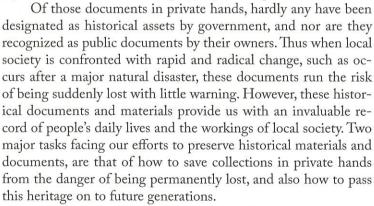


Throughout Japan, many of the historical documents and materials which symbolize the historical culture of each region, are in private hands. Miyagi Rekishi Shiryō Hozen Network (Miyagi Network for Preserving Historical Materials; "Miyagi Shiryō Net" for short) works to preserve the historical materials of Miyagi Prefecture from destruction due to disasters and pass our history and culture on to future generations.



On 26th July, 2003, a series of earthquakes hit 5 municipalities

are held privately. One of the major reasons for this is due to the way governmental rule was conducted in early modern Japan. In the Edo Period (c17 to c19), the day to day business of local administration was conducted from the home of the headman for each village or town, which formed the smallest unit of administration. As a result, the surviving records for local administration for this period have been passed down as the personal property of the families of the former headmen. It is difficult to accurately determine the extent of these depositories, but it is estimated that probably at least 2 billion historical documents survive in Japan, of which about 90% is probably still in private hands.





In the wake of the destruction after The Great East Japan Earthquake of 2011, we found ourselves confronted by several new problems in our efforts to preserve the historical documents and materials of our region. In particular, the stark reality of the extent of damage to private collections of historical documents and materials which were beyond the official protection provided by being designated as cultural properties or public documents, cast a long shadow as people began to rebuild local society and to explore for ways to pass on the historical culture of their communities. At Miyagi Shiryō Net, we have engaged in a multiplicity of approaches to find ways to overcome these problems.



Preparing to Meet Disaster

Conducting Field Investigations

In many cases where collections of documents and other materials are held in private hands, often neighbors do not even know of their existence. As a result, it is not uncommon for irreplaceable collections of documents etc. to be either dispersed or destroyed after natural disasters or other sudden changes without anyone even noticing. At Miyagi Shiryō Net we are in the process of creating a database of historical materials in private hands.

We conduct our investigations in cooperation with specialists in the preservation of historical materials employed by the local government of the region, and amateur local historians so that the information we collect and collate is shared by all interested parties.

Through this process of extensive local cooperation, Miyagi Shiryō Net is not only more readily able to obtain information about historical materials held privately throughout the area, but this process also results in the information obtained being shared with the relevant local government, which is then in a better position to take necessary measures to protect and reduce damage to local historical materials and collections of documents in the case of any major natural disaster.

Gathering Information and Linking with People **Building Networks**



Pinpoint' Preservation Activities

When we investigate a private house and outbuildings, we often discover a variety of historical materials, such as documents and objects of art. In our work, we try as far as possible to refrain from picking out just a selection or certain type of material, and to rather look for the cultural worth of all the remaining materials and to preserve as much as we can. We call this kind of preservation activity 'pinpoint preservation,' as it is conducted within a single site.

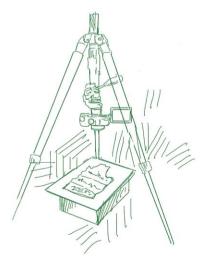
Where possible, the historical materials we record are left in the hands of their original owners, but where necessary, we also provide an introduction to public institutions which can hold and preserve the materials.

Digitally Recording Data

We also digitally photograph all the historical materials that we sort and preserve. We have produced our own original Miyagi Shiryō Net manual outlining the procedure involved, so even a person who does not have the specialist skills required to read historical documents can perform this task unattended.

We not only return the photographic data to the original owner, but also keep copies at Miyagi Shiryō Net and other public institutions. If the owner of the original collection consents, then we also make the data available as a source material for learning about the local history of the relevant locality. By spreading out the number of institutions holding copies of the data, we ensure that even if the originals are lost or destroyed, then the basic information contained in them will be preserved in the copies.

Sorting and Recording Materials





Preserving Materials from disasters

Salvaging

At Miyagi Shiryō Net, we conduct salvage operations for historical materials put at risk by the damage caused by natural disasters.

In the case of water damage due to tsunami, storm surges or flooding, the damage done to historical materials, especially written documents increases as time passes, and many collections of documents are disposed of en masse as their owners judge them to be damaged beyond repair.

At Miyagi Shiryō Net, in order to be able to carry out ongoing salvage and protection operations for historical materials, we give great importance to building up networks with local residents and the Boards of Education and Culture of the local governments concerned. Building open lines of communication and sharing information with local government, local historians and the owners of private collections is a crucial link in enabling us to respond swiftly to the need to conduct salvage operations after a natural disaster.



Restoration

After immersion in water, documents run the risk of serious deterioration or total loss due to mold, and must be treated so that their condition is stabilized.

At Miyagi Shiryō Net, we are studying ways to return salvaged documents to a stable condition. In order to successfully conduct salvage operations in private houses with an extensive collection of documents, we need to work in cooperation with large body of amateur volunteers. Because the scale of many of the operations we have to conduct precludes our being able to depend solely on specialist help, we are working to develop a cleaning and stabilization process for treating water-immersed documents which does not require specialist knowledge nor training, and in which anyone can participate. Our aim is to be able to draw up a standard set of guidelines which enable volunteers from the general public to engage in this work, as well as trained historians and specialists in restoration and preservation. By involving the general public in our work, we aim to make a wider audience aware of the existence of historical documents held in private hands, and that these irreplaceable documents are in danger of being lost to posterity forever.

In order to meaningfully use the documents that we have managed to save and so to pass them on to posterity, close cooperation between the owners of the documents, the branch of each relevant local government responsible for cultural and historical matters, and universities and other groups of specialists will be necessary.

