

Nauka Publishing Company and Ōtake Hirokichi during the Postwar Period : An Example of Adaptation of Soviet Culture in Occupied Japan to the 1950s

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This paper examines the activities conducted by Nauka Publishing Company, which took the initiative to import and publish journals in Russian, and Ōtake Hirokichi, who owned the company. The previous research divided company history into three parts: first, a foundational period (1932 to 1936); second, a restart period under occupation (1945 to 1951); and third, another attempt to function as a publisher, which mainly focused on importing books from Russia, ending with the eventual closure of Nauka due to financial difficulties (1952-2006). This paper emphasizes the influence of the second and third part of Nauka's publishing history. I will clarify how Nauka and Ōtake attempted to actualize democratization in Japanese society and publishing. In conclusion, we discover that Ōtake was not merely a publisher but also a promoter of Soviet culture during the postwar period in Japan.