

Theater Activities and Censorship in Occupied Japan

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During the Occupation Period, not only professional plays performed in theaters, but also non-professional plays performed by young people in the community or at work were subject to censorship. However, there were many cases where people were indifferent to censorship. Of course, there were people that went through the application process, but even then, scripts were sometimes revised or rejected. The relationship between such theatrical activities and censorship has not been made clear so far. This paper will first clarify who communicated what and how about censorship to those involved in theater activities in the region. Next, we will examine what was considered problematic when the scripts were rejected by censors.