

## A preliminary study on seismic mitigation measures for art objects owned by museums in Japan

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Japan is one of many nations subject to frequent earthquakes and seismic mitigation measures are an important element in the care and preservation of art objects. Past earthquakes, however, caused considerable damage to art objects. A questionnaire survey of seismic mitigation measures for art objects in Japanese museums was carried out in this study to acquire basic information for proposing a systematic set of seismic mitigation measures. The measures adopted practically were ascertained, and the damage to art objects from the 1995 Hyogoken-Nanbu earthquake was found to affect the measures employed in museums materially. Horizontal sliding of a rigid body during past earthquakes were also computed so as to know the conditions for adopting a measure of deliberate sliding of art objects.