Exotic natural landscape in Japan and Russia

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Exotic natural landscape in Russia and Japan, bilateral project between Russian and Japan Yoji AOKI, Elena PETROVA, Yury Mironov, Hajime MATSUSHIMA, Masahiro NAKATANI

## 1. Beginning of joint research

In the evaluation of the natural landscape, Tamura and Honda (1941) suggested the effect of Russian literature in the appreciation of Musashino, the deciduous forests in Tokyo, written by Doppo Kunikida.

In 2006, Aoki visited Moscow to propose a comparative study of the landscape evaluation between Russian and Japanese. Petrova agreed to try a research of Aoki (1983) in Russia. Japanese group collected 500 photos in terms of mountain, forest, lake, waterfall, coast and field. Russian collected similar 431 photos of Russia. And they selected the typical photos of 35 Russian landscapes and 35 Japanese (Aoki and Petrova 2010) to make color photos (17.5x12.5cm) for the investigation. A questionnaire was set to evaluate the preference and exoticism (Petrova et al 2015).

### 2. Investigation

Moscow, Irkutsk, Kamchatka, Hokkaido, Chiba, Minamikyushu, Kyoto Prefectural University, Kuramae haiku club and Nishikamata Onazuka community association were investigated. In this survey, we collected not only from college students but also the general elderly. A longer time interview was required for the elderly. 124 people in Russia and 210 Japanese data were obtained.

#### 3. Results

The preference was evaluated in numerical scale 1-5 and averaged. The feelings of exotic were totaled in each photo.

Russian preferred the photos in Caucasus, Altai mountain, the stream of Kola Peninsula and Kamchatka. Japanese waterfall of Nanatsugama was preferred in up to 10. From this result, Russians preferred the mountain and water. Japanese preferred Caucasus, Altai, the North Polar Region and Mt. Fuji. Japanese preferred the mountains. A similar preference of Japanese and Russian was found in the mountain landscape.

Russians felt exotic to Siberia, Kamchatka, Caucasus, North Japan Alps and coast of Ibaraki. Japanese felt exotic to Caucasus, Altai, Kamchatka, Kola Peninsula, the polar region and North Japan Alps. As Japanese are living in rich greenery, they felt exotic to non vegetated landscapes. In Russia, people were asked as daily and non-daily for exotic. So they felt exotic in their own country because of its vast area. Japanese felt exotic to the foreign landscape of Russia.

#### 4. Relation between preference and exotic

Exotic is associated with preference in Russia, the correlation coefficient 0.81 (t=11.4) with a statistic significance level of 0.001. So exotic contributed to preference of Russians. The 0.35 correlation coefficient (t=3.08) was found in Japan, the lower significance level with no relation. This difference should be studied in future.

# 5. Effect of age to exotic

The exotics of the elderly (over 60 years) were compared to young students in Japan. A large difference was seen in Coastal landscape of Kamchatka with rough rocks and washed ashore with kelp. The elderly felt it Russia and the students did not by their images of Hokkaido.

To the photo of Oze wetland, the elderly did not felt exotic but students felt. Because the

students found the skunk cabbage (*Lysichiton camtchatcense* Schott) from Russia by their knowledge of vegetation.

These suggested the effect of knowledge by the individual experience and professions. The categories of landscape experience (Appleton 1986) will become a major issue in future.

## 6. Discussion of Results

Russians preferred the coast of Japan (Petrova et al 2015), because they live away from the coast. Japanese did not show their preference in Kamchatka by the similarity of Hokkaido.

Japanese preferred Putorana, Altai and Caucasus. So Japanese will visit these areas, if the social circumstance will be prepared.

Keywords: appreciation of natural landscape, Exotic, comparison of Russian and Japanese

der	N Photo	State	Location	vegetation	Russia	oder	N Photo	State	Location	vegetation	Japan
	1 56	Russia	Siberia, Altai	high mounta	109	1	59	Russia	Caucasus	high mounta	202
	2 23	Russia	Siberia, Puto	tundra	101	2	23	Russia	Siberia, Puto	tundra	195
	3 48	Russia	Kamchatka,	high mounta	98	3	33	Russia	Siberia, Altai	steppe	193
	4 33	Russia	Siberia, Altai	steppe	96	4	16	Russia	Siberia, Altai	steppe	185
	5 6	Russia	Kamchatka,	high mounta	88	5	56	Russia	Siberia, Altai	high mounta	180
	6 15	Russia	Siberia, Nori		88	6	7	Russia	Kamchatka,	taiga	174
	7 55	Japan	Kurobe Dam		88	7	55	Japan	Kurobe Dam	subalpine	165
	8 58	Japan	Nanatsugan	deciduous	87	8	20	Russia	Kamchatka,	taiga	163
	9 59	Russia	Caucasus	high mounta	87	9	45	Russia	Hibiny	tundra	155
	10 19	Japan	Fukuroda fal		85	10	46	Russia	Siberia, Puto	tundra	155
	11 67	Japan	Onneto, Aka	subalpine	84	11	47	Russia	Siberia, Chit	steppe	153
	12 45	Russia	Hibiny	tundra	83	12	64	Japan	Kusasenri, A	deciduous	149
	13 65	Japan	Ashinoko an	deciduous	83	13	67	Japan	Onneto, Akar	subalpine	144
	14 13	Japan	Mt. Fuji, Yam	deciduous	82	14	54	Russia	Siberia, Bury	steppe	143
	15 46	Russia	Siberia, Puto	tundra	81	15	1	Russia	Leningrad re	taiga	136
	16 20	Russia	Kamchatka,	taiga	76	16	6	Russia	Kamchatka,	high mounta	135
	17 66	Russia	Siberia, Altai	high mounta	75	17	18	Japan	Kamikochi, N	subalpine	135
	18 16	Russia	Siberia, Altai		74	18	62	Russia	Pskov region	taiga	134
	19 60	Japan	Maryudonota		74	19	48	Russia	Kamchatka,	high mounta	132
	20 63	Japan	Kegon fall, N	deciduous	73	20	66	Russia	Siberia, Altai	high mounta	127
		PER HISE	high mounta	high mountain, subalpine					high mountain, subalpine		
			deciduous, mixed						deciduous, mixed		
			taiga						taiga		
			steppe						steppe		
			ever green						ever green		
			tundra						tundra		