

**Structure and Ideal of Historical Science :
From Otsuka Hisao To Uehara Senroku**

Yoshiro Kamitake

Abstract

During the last century a lot of research works on European History from comparative angles were produced in Japan. Among many Japanese historians who concentrated on such works, *Otsuka Hisao* and *Uehara Senroku* made the brilliant constellation of methodological studies and historical fact-findings.

The ideal of historical science traced by Otsuka and Uehara should be appreciated and criticized from the present-day view points in order to eliminate harmful effects of historicism and historism, especially in Japanese academic circles. Moreover, it is necessary for us to embark on the radical reconstruction of historical study program which must surmount the difficulties they encountered with and at last could not overcome.

Ultimately such a problematic situation can be dissolved into a constructive frame of reference which will combine historical science with other structural sciences. This must be accomplished by way of a methodological transition from historism (including historicism) to structuralism.