



HEPBURN ROMANIZATION REVISITED: TWO JAPANESE ROMANIZATION STYLES AND DISCOVERY

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BEFORE I BEGIN...

- This is not a presentation based on a completed research report. The research is in progress
- This is a progress report to share my findings, ideas, and plans as of now
- Feedbacks are more than welcomed!

CONNEXION RECORDS WITH JAPANESE SCRIPTS AND ROMANIZATION

245	0	0	武士とは何だろうか : #b 「源氏と平氏」再考 / #c 責任編集高橋昌明, 山本幸司.
245	0	0	Bushi to wa nandarō ka : #b "Genji to Heishi" saikō / #c sekinin henshū Takahas
264	1		東京 : #b 朝日新聞社, #c 1994.
264	1		Tōkyō : #b Asahi Shinbunsha, #c 1994.
300			72 pages : #b illustrations (some color), maps ; #c 30 cm.
336			text #b txt #2 rdacontent
336			still image #b sti #2 rdacontent
337			unmediated #b n #2 rdamedia
338			volume #b nc #2 rdacarrier
490	1		歴史を読みなおす ; #v 8
490	1		Rekishi o yominaosu ; #v 8

010			n 78048027
040			DLC #b eng #e rda #c DLC #d OCoLC #d DLC
100	1		Nagasawa, Yoshiaki
400	1		永澤吉晃
667			Machine-derived non-Latin script reference project.
667			Non-Latin script reference not evaluated.

ROMANIZATION TABLE

- ALA-LC Japanese Romanization Table revised (2022)

<https://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsol/roman.html>

<https://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsol/romanization/japanese.pdf>

HOW TO ROMANIZE JAPANESE 101

- Title #1: 武士とは何だろうか：「源氏と平氏」再考
- Title #2: スポーツとLGBTQ+ : シスジェンダー男性優位文化の周縁
 - 1. Convert Chinese characters into kana
 - 2. Romanize with consideration of word division

あ/ア A

い/イ I

う/ウ U

え/エ E

お/オ O

k

か/カ ka

き/キ ki

く/ク ku

け/ケ ke

こ/コ ko

s

さ/サ

し/シ

す/ス

せ/セ

そ/ソ

MY VERY BASIC TABLE FOR YOUR REFERENCE

TITLE #1: 武士とは何だろうか：「源氏と平氏」再考

■ 1. Convert Chinese characters into kana

■ 武士とは何だろうか：「源氏と平氏」再考

>> ぶしとはなんだろうか：「げんじとへいし」さいこう

■ 2. Romanize with consideration of word division

■ Bushi to wa nandaro ka : “Genji to Heishi” saiko

- し: “shi,” not “si”

- 何 (nani) + だろう (darō): なんだろう (nandarō)

- Both of う are long vowels, not “u”

- 源氏, 平氏: proper nouns

- は: “wa,” not “ha” because it is a particle

TITLE #2: スポーツとLGBTQ+ : シスジェンダー男性優位文化の周縁

- 1. Convert Chinese characters into kana
 - スポーツとLGBTQ+ : シスジェンダー男性優位文化の周縁

>> スポーツとLGBTQ+ : シスジェンダーだんせいゆういぶんかのしゅうえん
- 2. Romanize with consideration of word division
 - Supotsu to LGBTQ+ : shisujendā dansei yūi bunka no shūen
 - Both of う are long vowels, not “u”

JAPANESE ROMANIZATION HISTORY

ISO 3602

- Nippon-shiki/ISO 3602 Strict (1885)
- Kunrei-shiki/ISO 3602 (1937)
 - Based on ISO 3602 Strict
 - Japanese-government standardization
 - Follows Japanese syllabary strictly with some adjustments for changes in pronunciation

Hepburn

- Traditional Hepburn established by James Curtis Hepburn (1886)
- Modified Hepburn (1954)
 - The most common romanization system in use today in English-speaking countries
 - Follows phonology with Romance vowels, using a macron and an apostrophe

JAPANESE ROMANIZATION USAGE

Japan

- Mixture of Modified Hepburn and Kurei/ISO 3602

U.S.

- ALA-LC Romanization Table based on Modified Hepburn with some ISO 3602
 - Reference: Kenkyusha's New Japanese-English Dictionary

LITERATURE

- Drawing attention in the fields of both Japanese-language scholarship and librarianship for years
 - As early as in the 1930s (Carr, 1939; Mattice, 1938) and beyond (Aliprand, 1992; Aliprand, et. al., 1993; Lee, 1988; Wei & Noguchi, 1989; Wong, 1992)
 - Dissertations and master's theses (Onnagawa, 2009; Shaker, 2002; Tsukamoto, 1962)
 - Mostly outdated; discussing card catalogs, pre-AACR2, AACR2, romanization-only records
- Kudo, Y. (2010). A study of romanization practice for Japanese language titles in OCLC WorldCat records. *Cataloging and Classification Quarterly*, 48(4) and Kudo. Y. (2011). Modified Hepburn romanization system in Japanese language cataloging: where to look, what to follow. *CCQ*, 49(2)
 - Covers broad topics + a variety of issues related to Japanese romanization

RESEARCH PLAN

- Focus on one or a few terms with contradiction between Modified Hepburn and ALA-LC Romanization and discovery issues
- Discovery of the terms
 - 新聞/ しんぶん (newspaper): “Shinbun” (ALA-LC) or “Shimbun” (Hepburn)?
 - ALA-LC: ん is always “n”
 - Hepburn: “m” when ん comes before “b,” “p” or “m”
 - Quite prevalent in Japan these days

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- Romanized text in catalog records is intended to mirror as closely as possible the original Japanese script and its reading, but the romanization process is not exact...the RT is a romanization scheme that strives to foster consistency and uniformity in the romanized text used in catalog records. The RT is not a pronunciation guide... (p. 1)

INITIAL PLAN

- Japanese romanization history and overview
- Literature review
- Data analysis
 - One or a few terms with multiple romanization possibilities
 - Examine bib records with/without MARC 246 fields and/or 740 fields with alternate romanization
 - Examine authority records with/without 4XX fields containing alternate romanization present
 - Both local (IUL) and global (OCLC) data
 - Examine discoverability

FUTURE PLAN

- Examine a larger data set (other terms with similar issues)
 - E.g., different romanization possibilities, terms with or without hyphenation, apostrophes or diacritics, word-division differences
- Collaborate with other non-Roman language cataloging experts and/or discovery specialists
 - E.g., languages with multiple romanization systems, language-particular romanization problems

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THANK YOU!

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