

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 学位被授与者氏名 | 陳 丹 (ちん たん) |
| 論文題目 | Understanding Cultural Differences between Japan and China through Christianity (日中キリスト教の比較から見る文化の違い) |
| 論文審査結果の要旨 | <p>Ms. Chen Dan suggests that if Christianity were a bomb, history would be the blasting fuse, and culture the explosive. Moreover, various elements of culture determine the explosive yield or its power. However, she warns that culture is a neutral word as there are no good or bad cultures. She compares it to the character or personality of an individual in that what one may judge as exceptional, another may see as need for improvement. If the Japanese and Chinese are seen as different people, then in general, Japanese are mature, introverted and good at listening to others, while the Chinese are self-assertive, extroverted and good at speaking their minds. She suggests that in contrast to speaking clearly or frankly, Japanese tend to be ambiguous while giving indirect hints to figure out the hidden messages or meanings. They draw a line between themselves and others so their words or actions are not provocative. This explains why Japanese Christians are sometimes said to lack passion in their faith. The reason for this is not because they do not want to share their faith but because they see faith as a freedom of choice. Thus, they give others space to think and make their own judgments while Chinese tend to speak clearly and even aggressively. She suggests this stems from the fact that Chinese were subject to multiple invasions from the outside so the tendency of the individual to feel the need of self-preservation is a strong factor. She concludes that each of these cultures changed Christianity within their borders and, they will ultimately be influenced by the growth of their Christian populations. She remarks that even though there are some conflicts and misunderstandings between these two countries interactions through this faith may even help the relationships of two countries grow closer. In general her dissertation is well organized and her purpose of seeing cultural differences though Christianity is clear. She also deserves high marks for completing her thesis in English, which was no easy task. By referencing materials written in Chinese and Japanese, she has made them available to an English audience. She presents a very logical comparative approach though Christianity centering on the elements of harmony, individualism, vagueness, absoluteness and high and low context culture. Thus, she has made strong cultural arguments that demonstrate self-expression is challenging for the introverted tendencies of Japanese Christians and that extroverted Chinese Christians tend to ignore other perspectives to satisfy their own beliefs. While these elements are clear in seeing differences in culture through Christianity it is still difficult to answer ultimate questions such as reasons for the smaller numbers of Christians in Japan.</p> <p>平成 26 年 2 月 19 日に、北九州市立大学北方キャンパス本館 B-301 教室において、審査委員全員出席のもとで最終試験を実施して学力を確認し、論文の説明を受け、質疑応答ののちに、全員一致で当該論文が修士(文化・言語)として十分な内容であると判定した。</p> |