

Tetsugaku Vol.7 Editorial Notes

Tetsugaku Vol. 7 was produced by three researchers, all of whom specialize in its theme, “Philosophical Practice”: BABA Tomokazu, who served as editor in charge of the theme of this volume, and Tsuchiya Yohsuke and Nishiyama Kei, guest editors. Tsuchiya and Nishiyama supported Baba in a very professional manner. These two editors are scholars of philosophy who have accumulated knowledge and experience as key players in practical initiatives which are known as philosophical cafés and philosophical dialogues. These activities started about ten years ago in Japan and, from the perspective of the modern Japanese philosophical tradition which is totally academic and from the lectern, they seem like a completely innovative attempt at philosophical dialogue and discussion.

A glance at the table of contents, makes it obvious that Philosophical Practice is not a philosophical movement which is limited to Japan. The rich variety of papers included in this special issue will open the eyes of readers to the power of philosophy and will leave you overwhelmed.

It seems as if the embryonic movement “to philosophize” has progressed along with citizens living in society over the past ten years, and grown into something visible as a full-fledged “philosophy”. Baba stated in the “Preface” that there was a connection between the themes of Vol. 5 “Care”, Vol.6 “Catastrophe” and the theme of Vol. 7. In my view, three main factors made this connection conceivable: the global environment, the gradual but undeniable change in the civic consciousness of Japanese society, and the philosophizing expert reflection of scholars on modern philosophy and the methods of philosophical education based on it.

It can be said that this special issue captures the current state of philosophy as it changes along with the actual society. In this sense, its achievement is significant. It may serve as one of the guidelines for the future activities of the Philosophical Association of Japan.

This journal, which is open and free access, can be read by readers who are not members of association. We would appreciate it if you could send your opinions and comments about the papers in this special issue to the secretariat of the association.

Kyoto, August 2023, Chief editor, Uehara Mayuko