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研究課題名（和文）Improving Awareness and Understanding of Ainu via Online Resources

研究課題名（英文）Improving Awareness and Understanding of Ainu via Online Resources

研究代表者

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交付決定額（研究期間全体）：（直接経費） 3,300,000円

研究成果の概要（和文）：研究期間を通して、アイヌ語・アイヌ文化教育活性化のためのオンライン教材提供のメリットについて調査した。特にアイヌ語学習者にとっては、場所や時間を選ばず授業や教材にアクセスできるオンライン教材が有益であることがわかった。また、教育機関とアイヌの博物館との共同プロジェクトの可能性やメリットについても検討した。なお本研究期間中に、研究に基づいて6本の学術論文と、7つの学術発表が行われた。

研究成果の学術的意義や社会的意義

本研究の直接的な社会的意義は、アイヌ語やアイヌ文化の存続と復興を願う関係者が、自身の探求や成果に関して実践し、研究し、議論する機会やプラットフォームをより多く得ることができることである。プロジェクト参加による共感度の変化に関して収集したデータを分析することで、このような研究プロジェクトがアイヌに関する認識と理解の向上に役立つかどうか究明する。また博物館は、財政的な負担なく包括的な英訳を受け、高等教育機関の学生に博物館について周知し、また学生は博物館について学ぶこととなった。さらに海外からの博物館訪問者は、当該博物館の情報を英語で知ることができるようになることも社会的意義と言えよう。

研究成果の概要（英文）：Over the research period, the merits of providing online resources to aid Ainu language and culture education were investigated. Online resources could be accessed from any location and varying times so were found to be beneficial for those learning the Ainu language. The online Te Ataarangi Ainu class, continuing into its third year is considered an enormous benefit for participants committed to the revitalization of the Ainu language. The Shigeru Kayano Nibutani Ainu Museum Translation Project saw tertiary students use online tools and information to translate Japanese explanations of artifacts into English. Data collected regarding possible changes in empathy levels due to participation in the project will determine whether such research projects can help in improving awareness and understanding of Ainu. During the research period, 6 academic papers and 7 academic presentations were performed based on the research.

研究分野：Indigenous Support

キーワード：Ainu indigenous language culture support online appreciation awareness

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様式 C-19、F-19-1、Z-19 (共通)

1. 研究開始当初の背景

At the outset of this research project, project members focused on investigating methods for language and culture revival for Ainu in Japan. A secondary goal was to also research ways in which empathy and cultural appreciation about Ainu could be increased within Japanese society as a whole. In comparison to other countries, Japan has been late in its efforts in preserving its indigenous culture and heritage and many people in Japan still know very little about the Ainu people, their culture, language and history (Cox, 2016).

Recently however, teachers in educational institutions have started to embrace the learning and understanding of Ainu culture and history whereas previously it was often thought of as a 'taboo' topic. From elementary to tertiary level, various texts and test topics have started to include Ainu related passages with things 'Ainu' becoming relatively more prominent. However, a serious lack of quality resources for teachers, and students alike, to assist in the learning process is preventing widespread transmission of Ainu knowledge to the general public. There are little open online resources that teachers can integrate into their curriculum effectively.

At the outset, this project aimed to focus on the development and dissemination of online materials on Ainu knowledge, culture, and history in consultation with Ainu and scholars on Ainu culture and history. Following dissemination, the efficacy of the system would be tested and improved on.

2. 研究の目的

The objective of this project was find ways in which to assist in the survival and revival of Ainu language and culture. Another objective was to help raise awareness of Ainu indigenous knowledge and cultural appreciation so that better societal relationships in Japan could be attained. Through an increased understanding of Ainu by the mainstream population, Ainu communities will be strengthened and the wider Japanese and international communities will also gain a greater appreciation of their cultural wealth.

3. 研究の方法

To do the above, our project team originally planned to create online materials based on the knowledge gained from Ainu themselves, to ensure that information and materials were legitimate and verified by stakeholders. Materials were to be created using the Moodle Learning Management System (LMS)

- the most used online education system in the world and housed on a cloud server for prompt access by researchers and participants.

Materials were to include but not be limited to:

1. Ainu culture (traditional ecological knowledge, ceremonies, traditional lifestyle, modern lifestyle, Ainu contributions to Japanese society,)
2. Ainu language (beginning to intermediate level lessons, regional differences, loan words from/to Japanese)
3. Ainu history (key Ainu people in the past and present, pre-Japanese contact, post-Japanese contact)

After material creation a PDCA cycle was to be followed with pilot tests and surveys carried out to test participants' awareness and understanding of Ainu history, culture and language and then data analyzed to check the validity of the collection methods and outcomes. Using these results, necessary changes were to be made to improve the validity and then the process repeated to further elucidate how awareness and understanding of Ainu history, culture and language is affected by participation in the project.

Due to the Covid pandemic, the above method had to be changed dramatically as access to Ainu themselves and personal connections became difficult. The Moodle server however, was set up and researchers investigated its use for housing instructions, multimedia and revision materials for a recently formed online Ainu language class. In regards to raising awareness of Ainu indigenous knowledge and cultural appreciation, in 2022 when travel became possible again, a bus tour and subsequent language translation project was undertaken. University students collaborated with an Ainu museum curator and tertiary teachers to visit an Ainu museum and translate Japanese explanations of artifacts into English.

4. 研究成果

Although the Covid pandemic caused a massive disruption in the original course of the project, in 2022 an easing of restrictions regarding travel, opening of facilities and meeting people were eased and number of research trips to meet Ainu were able to be undertaken. These included trips for resourcing, information gathering, making connections with stakeholders and project members, and also meeting stakeholders directly.

One merit of the pandemic, was that a new branch of the project could be realized. The online Te Ataarangi Ainu class commenced out of the need for stakeholders, invested in keeping the Ainu language alive and fostering its survival, to be able take a class in an online learning environment. With travel and face-to-face classes becoming impossible, Zoom became the platform for the real-time synchronous classes, and content put on Moodle, made possible by this project, became the main asynchronous self access tool for learning. Although mainly a language learning class, much of the content is relevant also to Ainu culture. Therefore, with the language, comes the culture. A presentation at JALT PanSIG 2022 and peer reviewed paper was written for PanSIG Journal 2022 outlining the process and results of this area of the project. Going into its third year, the class has grown in participant number and the Moodle LMS is still being used with more content being added weekly. This class will continue past the kaken period and is considered an enormous benefit for these participants who are committed to the revitalization of the Ainu language. An online workshop, involving some participants of the class, was funded by this project saw one researcher of this project and an expert in Ainu language and culture discussing issues regarding identity, Ainu culture and language.

The Shigeru Kayano Nibutani Ainu Museum Translation Project asked 10 students to use online tools and information to help translate Japanese explanations of museum artifacts into English. Research data via a pre-project and post-project survey was collected to investigate possible changes in empathy levels due to participation in the project. Although yet to be analyzed, this data will determine whether such research projects can help in improving awareness and understanding of Ainu. Similar research endeavours for other museums and Ainu related institutions have been investigated.

What the above states is that although kaken #20K01208 deviated somewhat from its original research method due to the pandemic, it still achieved results and benefits for those it sought to aid. That is, stakeholders invested in the survival and revival of Ainu language and culture. In regards to increasing awareness and cultural appreciation for Ainu by the wider Japanese society, requires further investigation. However, with this kaken project as a start point and base, doors have been opened for more investigation in this field. In total, six papers were written, five presentations were given and one online workshop was conducted.

5. 主な発表論文等

〔雑誌論文〕 計1件（うち査読付論文 0件 / うち国際共著 0件 / うちオープンアクセス 0件）

1. 著者名 岡崎享恭	4. 巻 第1号
2. 論文標題 マオリとの交流を通して	5. 発行年 2021年
3. 雑誌名 K 特集 イタ言葉をつなぐ	6. 最初と最後の頁 41-46
掲載論文のDOI（デジタルオブジェクト識別子） なし	査読の有無 無
オープンアクセス オープンアクセスではない、又はオープンアクセスが困難	国際共著 -

〔学会発表〕 計3件（うち招待講演 1件 / うち国際学会 2件）

1. 発表者名 Matthew Cotter
2. 発表標題 Mixing past, present and future methods for language survival and revival.
3. 学会等名 2021 Okinawa JALT Summer Symposium（招待講演）（国際学会）
4. 発表年 2021年

1. 発表者名 Matthew Cotter, Takayuki Okazaki, Jennifer Teeter
2. 発表標題 Using Moodle as a Multi Modal Tool for Ainu Language Education
3. 学会等名 11th Conference of the Japanese Association of Digital Humanities, JAD
4. 発表年 2021年

1. 発表者名 Matthew Cotter
2. 発表標題 Studying Ainu and Maori Studies in English: Effects on Indigenous Empathy
3. 学会等名 第47回全国語学教育学会年次国際大会（国際学会）
4. 発表年 2021年

〔図書〕 計0件

〔産業財産権〕

〔その他〕

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6. 研究組織

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7. 科研費を使用して開催した国際研究集会

〔国際研究集会〕 計0件

8. 本研究に関連して実施した国際共同研究の実施状況

共同研究相手国	相手方研究機関
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