

# 日本人の他界観の構造：古代から現代へと つながるもの

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(出版者 / Publisher)

法政哲学会

(雑誌名 / Journal or Publication Title)

法政哲学 / 法政哲学

(巻 / Volume)

7

(開始ページ / Start Page)

13

(終了ページ / End Page)

25

(発行年 / Year)

2011-06

(URL)

<https://doi.org/10.15002/00007964>

# **The Structure of Japanese Ideas of the Afterworld**

**Shunichi DAITO**

**This thesis is intended to clarify the structure of Japanese ideas of the afterworld.**

**Buddhism brought to the Japanese the clear idea of the life after death. On the contrary, Yomino-kuni and Nenokatasu-kuni in the Kojiki and Nihonshoki were the worlds that were vaguely considered as existing beside the living space of our daily life. The spirits of the dead were thought to travel back and**

forth between our world and the other world. This is true of the other worlds in the Manyo-shu and the Nihonryōiki. In addition to these ideas, in the Heian era, the other world was thought to exist in the beautiful mountains. This peculiar way of thinking has been succeeded by modern Japanese people.