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Philosophical Problems on Galileo

—Seeking for the Beginning of Science—

Yoshihisa ONUKI

This essay treats philosophical problems on Galileo Galilei (1564-1642). Galileo was convinced of the truth of the Copernican (heliocentric) theory through astronomical observations with his handmade telescope, and doubted the truth of the geocentric theory that the Catholic Church had approved. Therefore Galileo defended the Copernican theory from the scriptural objection in his *Lettera a Madama Cristina di Lorena*. And Galileo demanded freedom of the scientific study from religion. Doing that, Galileo characterized "science" and separated science from religion (Christianity) and philosophy (moral philosophy and natural philosophy). According to Galileo, the meaning of life, and science itself for man was not questioned in scientific study. Considering science and technology develop in modern times, that is an important problem.