

理系の外国人研究者が向き合う日本語に関する経験
—日本でアカデミックキャリアを積む研究者のストーリー—

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本研究は、日本語使用を積極的には求められていないはずの理系の外国人研究者が日本語を伴う実践をどのように経験してきたのかを知ることを目的とする。そこで、本研究では欧州で生まれ育ち、英語による研究留学を果たし、現在日本で研究職を得て働くAさんの協力をえた。Aさんの経験を理解するため、日本語との関わりを中心とした経験を聞き取る非構造化インタビューを実施した。Aさんは参加義務のある諸々の業務や教育研究活動において、日本語力不足による困難があった経験を語った。Aさんは自身の能力を超えた日本語で進行する実践への参加での疎外感や、日本語を必要とする業務で必然的に生じる他者への援助要請への負担感を語った。Aさんの事例から、「研究は英語で」という言説は機能しておらず、日本における外国人研究者受け入れにおいて、共同体への十全な参加を個人の資質や努力を強いる形で実現させている構造が存在している可能性を指摘する。

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**The Lived Experience of a Foreign Scientific Researcher
Who Faced Challenges in Actual Practice Related to the Japanese Language
and Built an Academic Career in Japan**

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This article highlights the lived experience of a foreign scientific researcher who practiced and built an academic career in Japan. Ms. A, a European native, completed an English-based doctoral degree at a Japanese university graduate school and worked as a tenured faculty member at a university in Japan. Researchers conducted unstructured interviews to examine Ms. A's experience during her actual practice related to the Japanese language. Ms. A revealed that she experienced difficulties in communicating with people during work, classes, and research activities due to her low proficiency in the Japanese language. She also mentioned feelings of marginality while participating in communities of practice that went beyond her competency in the Japanese language and of stress when she had to request assistance from her Japanese colleagues. Based on Ms. A's case, this study suggests that the discourse about "carrying out research in English" did not lead to effective transaction, because she could not fully participate in discussions using the Japanese language. Moreover, it highlights the possible existence of a structure pertaining to the acceptance of foreign researchers in Japan, that is, the institutions in question rely on individual qualities and efforts of such researchers to fully participate in the research community.

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