

トピックス 平城京遷都1300年を迎えて

2010年4月23日は旧暦の3月10日にあたります。この日、710年（和銅3）3月10日に都が藤原京から新都・平城京へ遷されて1300年の記念すべき時にあわせ、平城宮第一次大極殿完成記念式典が、皇太子殿下の御臨席のもと、厳粛に挙行されました。その日から11月7日まで、平城宮跡を主会場として、奈良県が主催する遷都1300年祭がくりひろげられました。およそ200日間の会期中、国の内外から363万人におよぶ人々が平城宮跡を訪れました。

奈良文化財研究所も幾多の側面で支援を展開しました。大極殿を訪れるわが国や外国の要人の案内をはじめ、たび重なる講演会や報道取材への対応、平城京を題材としたテレビ番組制作への協力と、多忙な日々を過ごしました。また東院地区で進めていた発掘調査を連日公開し、好評をいただきました。発掘現場だけでなく、平城宮跡の要所々々で、来訪者にわかりやすく案内解説を続けたボランティアガイドの皆さんに対する賞賛と感謝の言葉もしばしば聞かれました。

平城宮跡資料館は4月に改装オープンして以来多くの入場者を迎えましたが、さらに9月25日からは特別展示「天平人の声をきくー地下の正倉院・平城宮木簡のすべて」を開催し、木簡研究の最新の情報とともに、日頃目にすることがまれな多くの実物の木簡を展覧に供しました。研究成果といえば、平城京研究の集大成ともいふべき『図説平城京事典』を研究員総がかりの執筆で刊行したことも特筆しておきます。

会期も終盤に近い10月8日、天皇皇后両陛下をお迎えして、大極殿の前庭で記念祝典が開催されました。天平の時代を彷彿とさせる舞踊や管弦の後、天皇陛下より、平城宮跡を守り伝え、研究を続けてきた関係者に対しての厚いねぎらいのお言葉が述べられました。

明けて2011年、新年にあたり宮内庁が発表した天皇陛下が昨年に詠まれたお歌のうちに次の1首がありました。

《遷都1300年にあたり》

研究を重ねかさねて復原せし大極殿
いま目の前に立つ



大極殿をご覧になる天皇皇后両陛下

Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress view the Former Imperial Audience Hall

Topics: Approaching the 1300th Anniversary of the Capital's Move to Nara

April 23, 2010, is the 10th day of the 3rd month, according to the traditional calendar. On this day, to mark the 1300th anniversary of the capital's move from Fujiwara to its new location in Nara in 710, on the 10th day of the 3rd month of that year (the 3rd year of the Wadō era), a ceremony for the completion of the reconstructed First Imperial Audience Hall was solemnly held with the Crown Prince in attendance. From this day until November 7, with the Nara Palace site as the main staging area, the Commemorative Events of the 1300th Anniversary sponsored by Nara prefecture unfolded. Over the approximately 200 days of the events, the numbers of people from Japan and abroad visiting the Nara Palace site reached 3.63 million.

The Institute also provided support on many fronts. Day after day were passed in busy fashion, beginning with guiding important guests from both Japan and abroad who visited the Imperial Audience Hall, holding public lectures and responding to requests for information from the media on numerous occasions, and cooperating with the production of a television program based on the Nara capital. Also, the excavation proceeding in the Eastern Palace sector was openly exhibited to the public over a prolonged period, and was well received. Not only at the excavation site, but at every important location within the Nara Palace site, words of praise and thanks were frequently heard for the volunteers who provided clear explanations while guiding visitors to the site.

The Nara Palace Site Museum received many visitors since opening in April after renovation, and further held a special exhibit from September 25, "Voices from the Tenpyō Era: The Nara Palace Site *Mokkan*, a Buried Treasure Trove," in which in addition to the latest data from research on wooden documents (*mokkan*), a large number of actual *mokkan*, which normally are but rarely seen, were put on display. Regarding the results of research, special mention should be made of *Zusetsu Heijōkyū jiten* (Illustrated Dictionary of the Nara Capital), a compilation of research on the Nara capital, which was published through the combined efforts of the Institute's researchers.

On October 8, towards the end of the anniversary events, Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress were received, and a commemorative celebration held in the forecourt of the Imperial Audience Hall. After performances of dancing, and of wind and string instruments, reminiscent of the Tenpyō period, warm words of thanks were given rewarding those who have guarded, preserved, and conducted research on the Nara Palace site.

At the start of the following year, the Imperial Household Agency published poems composed by the Emperor in the previous year, among which was the following verse.

(*Sento 1300 nen ni atari*)

*Kenkyū o kasanekasanete fukugen seshi Daigokuden
ima me no mae ni tatsu*

[(On the 1300th anniversary of the move to Nara)
Reconstructed through repeated research, the Imperial
Audience Hall

now stands before my eyes]