

“Spectres of World Literature” and Today’s World Literature

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In this research I attended the conference “Spectres of World Literature” held in the University of London. World literature, originally declared by Goethe in 1827, has at last been emerging as the new mapping of literary system. However, the euro-centric structure which has long dominated both social and literary fields still remains to be powerful underneath. In this conference the presenters were deeply concerned with the new situation and problems emerging in today’s world literature and tried to explore its condition from Marxist, postcolonialist and historical viewpoints. Meanwhile, it is required for researchers of English literature in Japan to rethink their own standpoint in this uneven constellation of power in today’s world and relate to literary texts in original and effective ways.