Judge's Commentary

TSUCHIYA, Maki

A Consideration of *Shakado engi emal*a - With a Focus on the Life Story of Buddha in the First and Second Scrolls

This article considers the Shakadô engi emaki Miraculous Origins of the Shakado Hall) by Kanô Motonobu in the Seiryôji collection. Of particular note is the fact that the iconography in the *Jâtaka Tales* (Life Story of Buddha) depicted in the first and second scrolls of the work reflects a clear dependence on Chinese Ming dynasty Jâtaka Tales iconography. Various previous discussions have mentioned the relationship between the Shakadô scrolls and Ming dynasty printed books, but this article is particularly meaningful for its presentation of the Ming dynasty printed book Shishi yuanliu, its indication of the iconographic commonalities and resemblance between the Shakadô scrolls and the book, and its mention of the painterly direction of the Kanô school. These elements all suggest that we can anticipate further developments on this research in the future. This article greatly advances Tsuji Nobuo's research that emphasized that Motonobu's Buddhist paintings were an extension of the Ming dynasty Buddhist paintings absorbed by Masanobu, as it succeeds in giving detailed proof of the assertion that, based on existing Shishi yuanliu editions, the Shakadô scrolls took up the iconography imported from the Ming dynasty.

The second section of the paper, "Transforming the Legend," takes up the so-called "Shoshin Butsu" theory, which is noteworthy in the study of Buddhist sculpture, as supporting evidence and convincingly concludes that the motive for incorporating the *Jataka Tales* in the scroll was to identify the Seiryôji main worship image with Sakyamuni. The article also offers a convincing discussion concerning the shift in this legend from the so-

called "replacement" myth (which states that the image was secretly replaced by Chōnen) to the "switching" myth (in which the original image is believed to have been voluntarily switched with a reproduction in order to be brought to Japan). The excellent discussion in this section concerning the compilation of the *Jâtaka Tales* reflect, along with other features, Tsuchiya's superior qualities as a scholar.

The definitive reason for the Judging Committee's recommendation for the *Bijutsushi* Article Prize was how the new information in this article offers a fresh perspective to the fields of Motonobu and Kanô school studies. It should also be noted that the article's research premise is both admirably large in scale and densely detailed in content. In addition, the sections that discuss iconographic influence do not simply stop with the identification of the *Shishi yuanliu* as the model work; the article's development and prose is constructed so that it is detailed and persuasive, building the reader's interest in the subject. The article was further highly rated as a completely finished article, with its clear discussion of a complex subject matter and organization of argument that rendered the contents highly readable.

For these various reasons the committee acknowledges the article's merit and awarded the *Bijutsushi* Article Prize to its author, Tsuchiya Maki.