

## **For Development of Researches on Comparative Law**

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Comparative researches of law has been the one of the most characteristic points in the way of researches on Japanese legal system. That can be explained by the history of development of the modern Japanese legal system which began in 1868 when the Meiji Restoration occurred. It could be said that before 1868 Japan had no well organized systems in either substantive or procedural laws in the sense of modern western legal system. Although Japan did have a uniformed legal and political system under the government of shogunate to some extent for about 300 years before the Restoration.

Very rapidly Japan began to walk as a modernized country under the slogan of “catch up the West and go ahead of them as soon as possible”. As the establishment of modern system was accomplished as one part of this national movement, the adoption of the philosophy and contents of fundamental codes of western countries is inevitable result at that time. This was the first impact from the foreign countries which Japan had in the aspect of law. The second big impact which Japan had is of course the one that occurred in 1945 at the time of the end of the Second World War. The influence of the European legal system was overwhelming at the time of the first impact, and the influence of the Anglo-American legal system at the time of the second one. Thus Japan has received the influence of the two representative legal system of the world by today.

As you can see from the above-mentioned statements, the researches on the comparative law are fundamentally important. Further at present Japan has grown up as one of the most developed modern countries in the world, and accomplished huge complicated modern legal system which might be of some use to the rest of the world, even to the West who is mother of modern Japanese legal system.

We firmly believe that this bulletin of our graduate school would be useful one to know the present situation of comparative law of Japan.