

Opening Remark

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President, Kanagawa University

Good morning ladies and gentlemen. I would like to welcome you to the 2nd COE International Symposium, and I would like to express my sincere gratitude to you all for being here with us today. It's an honor for Kanagawa University to host this symposium this year again.

At Kanagawa University, we strive to excel in both education and research. That is because we strongly believe that one cannot be pursued without the other. University education entails imparting knowledge, but we shouldn't be satisfied with teaching only what we already know. We must endeavor to expand the boundary of our knowledge base – to create more knowledge, in other words. That is why it is critical that we also teach how to conduct research to discover the unknown.

The symposium is hosted by a project entitled "Systematization of Nonwritten Cultural Materials for the Study of Human Societies." This project is the embodiment of our educational philosophy as well as the model of research framework at Kanagawa University.

We could not be happier to host the International Symposium for the second year in a row, and to present you some of our research results that has been achieved in the project so far. We all of Kanagawa University hope that this symposium will add to the already growing body of knowledge we have accumulated through our research. We also hope that this gathering will be a springboard to establish "Systematization of Nonwritten Cultural Materials" as a new field that will bring us new discoveries.

I sincerely hope that you will engage in enthusiastic discussions today and to make this symposium a success tomorrow, and that research in the pioneering field of "Systematization of Nonwritten Cultural Materials" will further promote the "Study of Human Culture," and eventually lead to "Progress of Human Culture" and "Realization of Human Welfare." Once again, welcome to the 2nd COE International Symposium. Thank you.