長浜曳山祭とその継承について The Nagahama Hikiyama Festival and its Transmission



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1)秀吉と長浜曳山祭の成立

The Load Hideyoshi and the Beginnings of the Nagahama Hikiyama Festival

秀吉が太刀渡りを復興

Tachiwatari (Sword Parade) procession restored by Hideyoshi

男子誕生を喜んで町民に砂金を与え、それをもとに曳山を建造したという言い伝え

Tradition that delighted the birth of a son, Hideyoshi gave large amount of gold to the citizens and floats were built

• まちの繁栄の象徴としての曳山

Hikiyama floats as a symbol of prosperity of the town

曳山(hikiyama floats)



2)子ども狂言と囃子

Kodomo Kyogen (Kabuki by boys) and Shagiri (Festival Music)

• 移動舞台としての曳山

Hikiyama floats as a moving theater

• 5歳から12歳までの男子による子ども狂言(歌舞伎)。260年以上の歴史。

Kabuki performed by boys aged 5 to 12. Over 260 year history.

- 振付の指導により約3週間稽古。読み習い、立ち稽古、三役揃い。
 Practice lasts for 3 weeks. Three stages of reading the script, practicing movements, and final preparation with tayu (narrator) and syamisen (3-stringed Japanese lute)
- 囃子は各山組の子ども(男女)。横笛、太鼓、締め太鼓、摺がねから成り 週

1回稽古

Festival music called shagiri is played by boys and girls in each yamagumi group. Instruments consist of flutes, drums and flat gong. Practice once a week.

子ども歌舞伎(kodomo kyogen)と囃子(Shagiri)









3) 強固な組織一山組一 Solidarity in Yamagumi Groups

山組の三世代の役割

Three generations and roles: churo, wakashu, and boy actors

子ども役者はやがて若衆となり子どもを支え、中老となって祭りの運営に 関わる

Boy actors join wakashu when they grow up and take care of children, and wakashu later become churo and manages the festival

人のつながりと地域の連帯

Develops bonds and solidarity between people in the district

男衆の祭りと女性の支援

Festival operated by men and supported by women

山組の3世代の役割 Three Generations in the Yamagumi Group and their Roles



Wakashu decides the play, sanyaku and boy actors. They are responsible for kabuki performances.

4) 曳山祭を支える組織と継承のための取り組み Organizations for the Transmission of the Festival and their Activities

 戦後の経済成長による生活様式の変化と若者の都市部への移動、高齢 化により三役(振付、太夫、三味線)、囃子の担い手が不足
 Decline in the number of sanyaku performers and shagiri musicians due to postwar economic growth, change of lifestyle, move of younger generation to the urban city, and aging of successors

1971年に長浜曳山祭囃子保存会を結成、曲の五線譜化、担い手を大人から子どもへ

Establishment of Nagahama Hikiyama Festival Shagiri Preservation Association in 1971, transforming the music into scores, shifting successors from adults to children

4) 曳山祭を支える組織と継承のための取り組み Organizations for the Transmission of the Festival and their Activities

1979年に「長浜曳山祭の曳山行事」が国の重要無形民俗文化財に指定、長浜曳山祭保存会が結成される

The Festival was designated as an important intangible folk cultural property in 1979, leading to establish the Nagahama Hikiyama Festival Preservation Association

 1988年に三役修業塾を開講。 曳山祭に出演できる三役を地元で育成 Training of syanyaku roles (choreographer, Tayu narrator, and Syamisen player) started in 1988 to be able to have local performers

2000年、曳山博物館の開館と長浜曳山文化協会の設立。曳山祭の保存と普及

Opening of Hikiyama museum and establishment of Nagahama Hikiyama Cultural Assoication. Preservation and promotion of the festival.

• 三役修業塾、伝承委員会、子ども歌舞伎教室などの活動

Activities such as sanyaku shugyo juku, succession committee, and kodomo kabuki kyoshitu



曳山博物館(Hikiyama Museum)









裸参り (Hadaka Mairi)

praying for the health and safety of the boy actors







くじ取り式(kujitorishiki)

the order of performance is decided in this lot drawing ceremony





登り山(Noboriyama)

the four floats go up to Hachiman Shrine







the actors in costume go through the dark streets guided by lanterns



The floats perform at Hachiman Shrine in order







ありがとうございました Thank you