Visualizing Mito: From Text to a Procedural View of Japanese Intellectual Historiography

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2 major components:
- DH in the context of East Asia
- Concrete example: The *Dai Nihonshi* Phenomenon
The state of the field

DH and East Asia

- Digitization challenges with non-Latin scripts
- Temporal divide (premodern/modern)

The Dai Nihonshi Project

- Monumentality (source, timeline, participants)
- Shifting dynamics and mutual influences between the overarching topic and the hybrid methodology
- Procedural view – DH for continuity
Main research questions

- How did an initially open-minded and inclusive “imagined community” become associated with nationalism and xenophobia?
- How do we situate Mito’s role and significance in the broader context of Japanese/East Asian intellectual history and history writing?
- What can we learn about the meaning of history, history writing, and the formation of nationalism in Japan through the case of Mito?
The Dai Nihonshi
大日本史
(The History of Great Japan, 1657-1906)
皇帝陛下

體裁臣治記誠惶誠恐頓首頓首

事殊方豈無載籍詳內略外正史固存

比事朝暮是以人事得失宜鑒於古今彰往

考來有述有作勸善懲惡或褒或貶屬辭

威靈之速乎華夷有光雖然時運盛衰蓋螻

一統絕無究之窺覷

國家治亂

寶祚之隆與天壤無窮
The compilers' timeline (date of birth, time in the Shōkōkan (colored section), birthplace)
Thank you!
Kiitos!
Tack!

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