

## **Abstract**

The purpose of this study was to investigate the censorship techniques and administrative procedures employed by censors of the Meiji state (1868-1912) who were trying to carry out plans to shape literary production. Another aim was to find out roots of this “modern” censorship system that clearly evolved from the censorship system of the Tokugawa era. Special attention was given to the unofficial system of threats and pressure, and officers’ attempt to create self-censorship system. In this part concrete cases were illustrated. Finally, reactions of the victims of the censorship apparatus and the impact of the system on a creation of new literary forms in relation to the powerful effect exerted on artistic growth of authors were examined in the study. Concrete examples were given, as well.

## **Keywords**

censorship, japanese literature, Meiji period (1868-1912)