

Japan Academy Prize to:

Takaho ANDO
 Professor, Graduate School of Economics,
 Nagoya University

for *Formation of Liberalism in France*
 — with a Special Reference to the Condorcets

***Outline of the work:***

Dr. Takaho Ando has succeeded in reconstructing the history of early modern French social thought with an international perspective and interdisciplinary approach, to made it clear that in the formation of French liberal thought the two works of Adam Smith played indispensable role.

In the cross currents of thought prevalent within the ancien regime, the author identifies three groups that spurred the modernization of French society: namely, one with a mercantilist reform plan based on merchants led by Necker, another with a physiocrat reform plan based on land owners led by Dupont de Nemours, and the third, which the author sees as most important, led by Turgot and based on independent commodity producers. The author points out that Turgot's small book is a direct forerunner of the *Wealth of Nations*.

After the failure and retirement of Turgot, his reform movement was succeeded by Condorcet. As a matter of fact, however, Condorcet followed directly Adam Smith's model of the commercial or civilized society with some important revisions. While Smith worried about the bad influence exerted by division of labour on the character of labourers, Condorcet tried to avoid this issue by his theory of education.

After his tragic death, the movement was succeeded by his wife Sophie. This accompanied an important development – the introduction of moral philosophy, fully articulated in the last revised edition of Adam Smith's *Theory of Moral Sentiments* which was translated by Sophie with an explanatory essay. Thus, the two works of Adam Smith were for the first time united into a system of social philosophy that represent the peaceful co-existence of self-interested individuals on equal footings, connected each other through the sympathy of impartial spectators, whereas in Britain Smith's moral philosophy was rejected by his successor as a disguised philosophy for self-interest.

Having survived the Jacobin dictatorship, Sophie joined the Thermidorian reformers to reconstruct the post-revolutionary French society. However, she disagreed with such representative Therimidorian as Sieyes and the Ideologues who divided citizens by property or knowledge. In 1795, Benjamin Constant and Germaine Stael entered French politics and joined Sophie. Two important elements of thought were introduced by them. As an active member of a debating society in Edinburgh Constant learned the freedom of expression and also of press. Stael learned from German Romanticism through her friendship with August Schlegel the importance of sentiment vis-a-vis the reason of Enlightenment.

The French version of Adam Smith's social thought was constructed by the Condorcets and Constant, and remained as a basic way of thinking among the post-revolutionary French petite bourgeoisie. It also remained under Guizot's bourgeois government as a persistent form of opposition demanding freedom of press. It appears to have been succeeded by Tocqueville and J. S. Mill.

As an original Japanese contribution to the history of French liberal thought, Ando's work is fully deserving of the prize of the Japan Academy.