

## Impression Mechanism for the Contemporary Japanese Based on the Analysis of Impression Management in *The Tale of Genji*

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### I. The Significance of *The Tale of Genji* in the Study of Emotion

In discussing the origin of Japanese *omotenashi* (おもてなし ; Japanese hospitality) in the viewpoint of marketing, Aishima and Sato (2015, 2016 a, 2016 b) argued that the Japanese concept of *omotenashi* originated from the sequence of the historical flow of the banquets described in the *Man-yo-shu* (万葉集 ; Collection of Ten Thousand Leaves, the oldest collection of Japanese poetry), *renga* (連歌, collaborative poetry) gathering, and the *cha-no-yu* (茶の湯 ; Japanese “Way of Tea”) that was influenced by Sen-no-Rikyu. The culture of a “reading atmosphere” was focused in the papers; that is, the ability of reading delicate nuances of the atmosphere in those banquets and gatherings as well as the ability to compose poems appropriate to a situation was indispensable in those days. To be successful in such occasions, guests as well as hosts should have the highest level of culture, the sophisticated techniques of poetry composition, and above all, the ability of sensing the subtle changes in mood. Sato and Aishima (2016) pointed that the rules of *omotenashi* at the banquets of the *Man-yo-shu* and *renga* gatherings were largely similar to the unspoken but observed rules in karaoke parties.

From the series of research mentioned above, the authors recognize the importance of clarifying how the essential abilities to read the subtle changes of an atmosphere in Japanese *omotenashi* could be nurtured. In this paper, the authors intend to analyze the expression of emotions described in *The Tale of Genji* (hereafter referred as *Genji*), that is, the occurrence and expression of emotions (and the rule), and the strategies of impression management (IM) of the main characters. The reasons are as follows:

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In recent years, in marketing research, emotion has been shown to play an important role in the creation of customer values and co-creation of values in experience marketing, the Service Dominant Logic, and the Service Logic of Nordic school. In addition, in the service marketing, emotional labor and the impression management by sales personnel have been treated as traditional objects of study. Therefore, the study of emotional occurrence and emotion expression serves as a backbone of the previous research.

Otsuka (2000) explained in *Characters Could Not Show Emotions in The Tale of Genji*, an ambitious work with a rather sensational title, that the expression of Japanese emotions has completely changed just after the *Genji*. According to Otsuka, the characters including Hikaru Genji, the shining prince, in *Genji* conceal their emotions, whereas the gods and goddesses in *Kojiki*, the oldest book in Japanese history, demonstrate their feelings forthrightly. They often cry, shout, laugh, and become upset. Otsuka (2000) attempted to analyze their ways of expressing emotions in two categories of Japanese classic literature: (1) before *Genji*, for example, *Kojiki*, *Man-yo-shu*, and Old Buddhist Stories, and (2) after *Genji*, for example, *Konjaku Monogatari* and *the Tale of Heike*. Otsuka (2000) also argued that contemporary Japanese share similar ways of (not) expressing emotions. There is a possibility that her argument corresponds, at a deeper level, to the authors' point that the unspoken rules of contemporary karaoke parties are similar to those in the *Man-yo-shu* banquets and *renga* gatherings.

Apart from the academic (scientific) authenticity of the claim, Otsuka (2000) has a point in her categorization of the historical trend of Japanese emotional expressions. Therefore, it is important to decode *Genji*. The occurrence and expression of emotions or the IM strategy of the Japanese who possess a collectivistic and interdependent sense of self with a high-context communication culture is considered different from those of the Anglo Saxons who have an individualistic and independent self-view and a low context communication culture. If they are different, it is impractical to apply, to Japan, the theory of marketing research and consumer behavior research generated in the United States. It could even lead to a misunderstanding. A Japanese-style marketing research that is theoretically grounded on the foundation of the Japanese culture and its social structure and consumer behavior is required. Therefore, it is significant to analyze the emotions portrayed in *Genji*, which provides the impetus for the "creation" of emotion in the contemporary Japanese.

Holbrook (1999, p. 12) described the eight categories of feelings (efficiency, excellence, status, esteem, play, aesthetics, ethics, and spirituality) that relate to the typical sentiments of consumers by using a 3-dimensional matrix of  $2 \times 2$ , while in *Genji*, there are strikingly few categories of emotions. Rather, the characters in

*Genji* understand skillfully each other's feelings, which are expressed in subtle but diverse ways, just as infinite shades are expressed in *sumi-e* (Japanese ink painting), which is drawn in black and white. In this field, as a study of "self-monitoring in social interaction," the comparative analysis of the high and low self-monitoring features has been advanced (Ickes, et. al. 2006). However, the authors do not think that the comparison between high self-monitor and low self-monitor could explain the ability of Hikaru Genji, the protagonist in *Genji*, to capture the feelings of his opponent.

Therefore, it is necessary to examine the reality of *Genji*. In the research of the classic literature, almost all scholars agree that while the novel written by Murasaki Shikibu in the 11<sup>th</sup> century was a fiction, it was rich in reality, based on customs, values, cultures, human relations, events, and so on. For instance, Goto (1986) discussed in detail the political conflicts, events, and the atmosphere at the courts described in the novel and reasoned that they were based on historical facts. Imai et.al (1991) argued that Murasaki Shikibu accounted faithfully the customs and conducts in those days and detailed several scenes in *Genji* with reference to historical records. Tanaka (1995) confirmed that historical facts were heavily reflected in the fictional novel. Masuda (2002) highlighted that the aristocratic society described in *Genji* was a realistic portrayal of the social aspect of the Heian period. As such, there is no further requirements to confirm the novel's authentic depiction of the Heian era based on the numerous validations from the previous studies.

However, it is important to provide an overview of the influences of *Genji* on Japanese culture in subsequent periods, the emergence and expression of emotions, or the IM strategies in particular. In the Muromachi (1336-1573) and Azuchi Momoyama (1573-1603) periods, when *renga* was popular irrespective of titles, occupations, and social positions, knowledge of *Genji* was necessary for even common people to compose *renga* poems, because the poems reflect the aesthetics of the classic. An immense number of picture scrolls, synopsis, parody fictions, or dramas based on *Genji* were enjoyed by the people so that the novel, its values, and its aesthetic consciousness became widespread in the society, irrespective of rank.

A parody of the classic titled *Incredible Tale of Genji, A Country Bumpkin* was one of the best-selling books in the Edo period (1603-1868). It is true that *Genji* was sometimes criticized as immoral by Buddhists or the government, and Murasaki Shikibu was said to have been condemned for writing the novel. Nevertheless, many novelists and poets willingly used the novel as reference even in those days. Ihara Saikaku (1642-1693) wrote *the Life of a Lady's Man*, one of his most famous novels, based on *Genji*. Matsuo Basho (1644-1694) applied some phrases and sentences of *Genji* into his *Narrow Road to the Deep North*. Ueda Akinari was influenced by the classic in writing *Ugetsu Monogatari* (1776). In addition, there are a large num-

ber of literary pieces created under the influence of *Genji* in theatrical performances, such as *kabuki*, *Noh*, and *Joruri*, as well as in pictures. Motoori Norinaga, an established scholar on Japanese culture, pointed out brilliantly that the essence of *Genji* is not a romance but “*mono-no-aware*,” (an empathy toward things), which resulted in the novel earning an unshakable position in Japanese literature (Teramoto 1983, Suzuki 2003, Iwatsubo 2013).

In the Meiji era (1868-1912), *Genji* was utilized as an advertising material for projecting good images or ideas of Japan, and as teaching aids for girls. Suematsu Kencho, a diplomat, first translated *The Tale of Genji* into English. However, his translation was given an undeservingly low evaluation by scholars. In fact, Seidensticker was influenced by the Suematsu version in translating *Genji*. Suematsu translated the novel to manipulate Japan’s image for the Europeans, particularly the British, so that they would have a positive opinion of the Japanese. His intention was to show them that the Japanese in the 11<sup>th</sup> century could produce such a deep and sophisticated work of literature, aptly grasping the human nature. In addition, Suematsu attempted to apply it as a guidebook of Japanese culture, and dismissed the idea that Japan was a feudal, male chauvinistic society as perceived by the Europeans in those days (Kawakatsu 2008, pp. 44-52).

Suematsu also regarded *Genji* as a somewhat realistic novel. An advocate for female education, Suematsu praised Murasaki Shikibu for her acute power of observation and delicate touch. He intended to publicize that Japanese women, even during the Heian period, had enjoyed a far higher level of education than expected (Kawakatsu 2008, pp. 76-81).

In 1938, an explanation was added in the elementary school textbooks that *Genji* had been accepted as a piece of world literature. After 1951, people began enjoying the classic with much enthusiasm in its various new versions, for example, with more readable synopsis, or in *kabuki* and movies (Kawakatsu 2008, p. 397). Tanizaki Junichiro referred to *Genji* when he wrote *The Makioka Sisters*, which became very popular among women. Pertaining to this point, Donald Keene (2013) stated as follows:

The theme of *The Tale of Genji* is so universal [as] to cross the borders between languages. It has received high praise from abroad. There are various translations in more than ten languages. For example, Waley, Seidensticker, and Tyler, my student, published the translation in English. I prefer Waley’s

...

There are also many translations of *Genji* into modern Japanese, for which Tanizaki is the most famous. Once I wrote for a literary magazine that, in comparison, Waley’s translation is superior to that of Tanizaki. I regretted for being rude to Tanizaki, and sent a written apology to him. I was very relieved be-

cause he answered, “I don’t care.”

Tanizaki was probably influenced by *Genji*. It has been said that he would not have been able to write *The Makioka Sisters* if he had not worked on the *Genji* translation into modern Japanese. Around 1948, Tanizaki sent Waley *The Makioka Sisters*, consisting of three volumes, with his own signature. Not interested in Japanese modern literature, Waley read but did not translate them. He gave me the books. I thought *The Makioka Sisters* was a masterpiece. However, Waley chose not to fulfill Tanizaki’s wish to have the novel translated into English.

As will be explained below, Yukiko, one of the main characters of the *Makioka Sisters*, shares the same IM strategy with Hikaru Genji, to a remarkable extent.

This paper is organized as follows. In Section II, the authors explain the research method for reading *The Tale of Genji* to show the emergence and expression of emotions and IM strategies specific to the Japanese people. In Section III, the characteristics of emotion expressions are pointed out from the analysis of emotions in *Genji*. In Section IV, the authors compare between the analysis of emotions in *Genji* with the research results on emotion in American culture that is contrary to those of Japanese culture, which forms the basis of the emergence and expression of emotions, and IM strategies. Section V presents the summary of the conclusion of this study and future research themes.

## II. Research Method of This Study

In this section, the method of analyzing *The Tale of Genji* is explained. The authors listed the typical scenes where the occurrence and expression of emotions, and IM strategies (emotional scenes) were evident in relation to Hikaru Genji; as a result, 70 scenes were selected.

Then, the emotional scenes were categorized by several standards: the emotional scenes of man-woman relationships centered on Hikaru Genji, the emotional scenes of women in relation to Hikaru Genji, and the emotional scenes of power relationships between men. A comparative analysis of the emotions that occurred was also performed; that is, the emotions were classified into two categories of positive and negative, and subsequently the two main categories were re-classified into sub-categories.

Furthermore, if possible, the process of continuous changes of the occurrence and management of emotions (which included IM as well as emotion management) was pursued. Emotion is considered temporal; hence, the study of emotion has been

developed on this premise. In *Genji*, many scenes illustrate the petrification process of emotions.

Finally, the authors analyze the success and failure patterns of the IM strategies in two cases, that is, the IM strategies against Hikaru Genji and those of Genji. He failed in his IM strategy when he was young, and this leads to his relegation to Suma. Afterwards, he utilizes the bitter experience to overcome the ensuing emotional scenes. Next, the following section shows the results of the analysis.

### III. Analysis of the expression of emotions in *The Tale of Genji*

In this section, the authors explain the results of analysis of expression of emotions in *Genji* as follows. First, the system of social position and the social structure are shown, and this helps clarify the rules of the emergence and expression of emotions, and the IM strategy. Secondly, the dynamic features of the emergence and expression of emotions, and the IM strategies were organized according to timeline in the scenes where the upper and middle nobility showed their emotions. Finally, the authors report the results of the analysis of the IM strategies that were taken by the protagonist, Hikaru Genji, and the characters around him.

#### 1. Social Structures and the Occurrence of Emotions in the Main Characters of *The Tale of Genji*

From the analysis of the emotional scenes in *Genji*, there are diverse rules or norms in the emergence and expression of emotions in accordance with their characters' social class. Upper class aristocracy, particularly highest echelon of the upper nobility (i.e., those who were close to the emperor and the crown prince) showed no great emotion for two following reasons: (1) political reason (if they showed their emotion, they might run the risk of giving their political rivals some cues of their weaknesses), and (2) social reason (those who expressed their emotions freely were regarded as vulgar. The upper nobility had been taught not to express their emotion, and not to show strong emotion. The authors will explain in detail in the following.

In general, the upper class aristocracy includes, according to the order of titles, in the first place, *daijō-daijin* (Grand Minister); in the second place, *sadaijin* (Minister of the Left), *udaijin* (Minister of the Right), and *naidaijin* (Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal); in the third place, *dainagon* (Major Counselor, chief counselor of state), and *chunagon* (Middle Counselor); and in the fourth place, the councilor. The middle-class aristocracy consists of non-councilors of the fourth, and the fifth rank aristocracy. In addition, there is another category: It is the "super-upper class nobility" consisting of the "relatives of the Emperor, the Crown Prince, the Empress, and the Princess."

In the upper class aristocracy, *daijō-daijin*, the Minister of the Left, the Minister of the Right, and the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal classes nearly overlap with the super upper class aristocracy. In other words, only members of the super upper class aristocracy have the chance of being *daijō-daijin* and Ministers of the Left and Right, and the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal. Even nobilities who are not related to Emperor, or even distant relatives, could reach the position of *dainagon*. In such cases, *dainagon* is the highest career point for these classes. It was impossible for a person of this standing to establish communication with the super upper class aristocracy. In the case of the super-upper class aristocracy, one would start as a *dainagon* for a while in youth, and then, he would attain promotion to higher positions. (In general, he starts the career ladder from the fourth.) Yugiri, a son of Genji, who starts from the sixth place is quickly promoted to the fourth, the third, and then to the second place.

It is important to point out that there is an insuperable gap between the super upper class aristocracy and other upper class aristocracy. Not a few middle-class aristocrats were stationed in remote areas as *zuryo*, or governors. In many cases, they prospered there. In fact, people in those days had imagined that *zuryo* led rich lives in their respective areas. On the other hand, the people scorned the *zuryo* for leaving the Capital to remote and unsophisticated areas. For example, the father of Lady Akashi is looked down on because he is a rich *zuryo*. Suetsumu Hana, a young lady of noble birth, repeatedly refuses the offers by her aunt to move to Kyushu, where her husband was appointed as *zuryo*.

There are some cases where even ladies from the super upper class nobility marry *zuryo*, by some quirks of fate. In those days, the parents of the wife (the first wife, or the one from the most distinguished family) had to care for the man (son-in-law), from the preparation of his clothes to financial support. Thus, parents without such properties or assets could not marry off their daughter to a desirable candidate, even if the parents are relatives of the Emperor or the Crown Prince.

Then, the authors classify the differences of the social norms at that time that became the foundations of the emotions of the upper class aristocracy (including super upper class aristocracy) and of the middle-class aristocracy. In examining the emotional scenes of middle-class aristocracy, *The Tale of Ochikubo*, also a typical popular novel in those days, is referred to.

The authors start with the case of a successful romance. Table 1 shows the evaluations of a successful romance seen from the male side. Since it is natural for the parents from the female side to provide the male with economic assistance, the fulfillment of love is heavily depended on their wealth status.

In Table 1, both the man and lady from the upper class would think that the spouse is a “legitimate partner,” in that their partnership is well balanced. On the

**Table 1 Successful Romance Seen from the Male Side.**

Male	Female			
		Upper class	Middle but rich	Middle
	Upper class	Satisfied, pleased	Accept	Comfy
Middle	Joy, walking in the air	Agree	Accept	

**Table 2 Unsuccessful Romance Seen from the Male Side.**

Male	Female			
		Upper class	Middle but rich	Middle
	Upper	Forget or accept	Lost interest	Despise
Middle	Burn for love	Accept	Forget	

other hand, Table 2 shows unsuccessful romance from the male side.

In the case of romance, a man from the upper class aristocracy would attempt to make a situation possible, even though it is unfavorable in the beginning. It is not rare that they would use their power or realize a situation as they pleased. They would not retain their love if the relationship with a woman does not go well from the middle.

Table 3 shows the case of rivalries between men. In the upper class aristocracy, the subtle differences between their positions create a significant impact on their relationships.

For example, when both are super upper class, the man from the slightly lesser class would tend to have a strong sense of competitiveness against his opponent who is slightly higher class.

**Table 3 Sense of Rivalry between the Men.**

		The opponent	
		Upper class	Middle
The person	Upper	Strong	None
	Middle	None	Average

**Table 4 Sense of Rivalry between the Women.**

		The opponent	
		Upper stream	Middle
The person	Upper	Strong	None
	Middle	None	Average

**Table 5 Master-Servant Relationship between the Men.**

Servant		
The person	Upper stream	Trust, consideration, responsibility
	Middle	?

Table 4 shows the case of rivalries between the women. When they have romantic relationships with the same man, the sense of rivalry is “(relatively) strong” in every case. For Sei Shōnagon and Murasaki Shikibu, if the two serve noble ladies (e.g., empresses, princesses, or noble wives) in the rivalry, they also become rivals. In addition, the speediness of their son’s promotion would also lead to rival relationships.

Table 5 shows the master-servant relationship between the male. In general, the upper stream aristocracy has parent-like relationships with their servants. The persons from the middle stream aristocracy



rarely have close feelings with their servants.

Table 6 shows the master-servant (maid) relationship of women. Compared to the upper class, wives and daughters of middle-class aristocracy seem to cognize their role as the master. In *Genji*, such women are described as arrogant. In *The Tale of Ochikubo*, the servants try to change jobs for better prospects when they could not foresee much possibility in the future of their master. Though the main characters in *The Tale of Ochikubo* are in the upper class aristocracy, most of them are not noble members of the super upper class; therefore, they had no direct communications with the Emperor or the Crown Prince.

Finally, Table 7 shows the parent-child relationship. In the upper class aristocracy, the parents tend to devote themselves to the education of the boys, since they will grow up and serve the Emperor. The daughters are also cherished and educated to be a princess or empress. In the case of middle-class aristocracy, because they could not seek for such high positions, the boys are educated moderately. On the other hand, the parents can harbor wishes to have their daughter serve at the court, and to be near the Emperor or the Crown Prince.

Thus far, the basic work has been completed necessary for introducing the emotional scenes in *Genji*. In the following, the authors present the analysis results of the dynamism of the occurrence and expression of emotions.

**2. Dynamism of the Occurrence and Expression of Emotions (IM strategy).**

**(1) Negative emotions**

The authors start the explanation with the occurrence-expression of negative emotions. As seen above, the upper class nobles, essentially, were not considered to have negative emotions. If the upper class aristocracy demonstrates a negative emotion, it is because the romance has not gone well. In the following, the situations are classified into two: (1) “the love has gone,” and (2) “things do not go as they have expected.”

Table 8 shows the emotion occurrence and emotion management of the super upper class aristocracy, upper class aristocracy, and middle-class aristocracy when

**Table 6 Master-Servant Relationship between the Men.**

		Servant (maid)	
The Person	Upper	Trust, consideration, responsibility	
	Middle	Sense of master or employer	

**Table 7 Parent-Child Relationship**

		Opponent	
		Boy	Girl
The person	Upper	Expectation, responsibility, pleasure	Expectation
	Middle	Moderate expectation	Ambition

“the love has gone.” While the upper class nobles think that they should accept such fate, and they would try consciously to do so, the super upper class would unconsciously regard the situation as fate.

**Table 8 Occurrence and Expression of Emotions (IM strategies) When “Love is gone.”**

	Flows of Occurrence and Expression of Emotions (IM strategy)
Super upper	Sad→sighs over his or her fate→sings a part of poems in <i>Kokinshu</i> and covers the face with the sleeve (suggesting tears)
Upper	Sad→tries to accept it as fate but in vain→composes a poem expressing the sorrow; show of tears
Middle	Sad→grieves→shows bitterness, grudges, and resentment; and weeps
Lower	Sad→vents the feelings openly to somebody

Table 9 shows a comparison of the feelings between the four social classes in the case that “things do not go as they have expected.”

**Table 9 Occurrence and expression of emotions (IM strategies) When “Things Do Not Go as They Have Expected.”**

	Flows of Occurrence and Expression of Emotions (IM strategy)
Super upper	Gets somewhat surprised→ wonders if some demonic power has worked and becomes convinced
Upper	Becomes surprised and goes into a bad temper→ tries to overcome the feelings→ grumbles sometimes→ leaves it unsettled/laments over his or her fate→ accepts fate
Middle	Bad mood→ blames other persons for the situation→ continues on blaming →accepts/ has the anger calmed by somebody else
Lower	Feels disappointed but recovers relatively fast

## (2) Positive emotions

Subsequently, the occurrence and expression of positive emotions and the IM strategies are explained in the following. In the super upper aristocracy, they seldom have positive feelings. In *Genji*, the upper class nobility feels happy in a few cases, whereas the middle-class aristocracy often feels glad. However, common people feel various positive emotions. Table 10 shows the flow of emotion occurrence and emotion expression between the four social classes when “they get satisfactory results.”

In *Characters Could Not Show Emotions in The Tale of Genji*, Otsuka (2000) explained about the negative emotions in the following:

[T]hus, tears of the Heian period are not peculiar to commoners. The way of showing tears is particular to the nobility. They did not weep because of hunger, pain related to their labor, or poverty. Rather, their tears are for matters far

above such concerns. (Otsuka 2000, pp. 65-7)

**Table 10 Occurrence and Expression of Emotions (IM strategies) When “They Get Satisfactory Results.”**

	Flows of Occurrence-Expression of Emotions (IM strategy)
Super upper	Satisfied→ grateful for the fate→ happy, but afraid if someone may see the feeling→ hides the happiness
Upper	Happy, satisfied→ thankful to somebody and fate→ is in a good mood, shows tears of joy sometimes→ eager to talk
Middle	Happy, joyful→ thankful to the Gods or fate→ is in a good mood→ weeps for joy→ has a celebration party sometimes
Lower	Happy, joyful→ thankful to the Gods, and is pleased to think it as a reward for worshipping the gods→ cries for joy

[In *Genji*,] the main characters never show their anger, even if they are upset. Only lower persons or countrymen display anger. In the noble class, the feelings of anger are limited to the villains, Empress Kokiden or the adopted Princess Omi, who have no knowledge of noble manners. It is true that the main characters, both men and women, weep often, but they manage to suppress their tears even when they have reasons to cry profusely. On the contrary, they smile in such situations. (Otsuka 2000, p. 87)

Hikaru Genji himself was the person who always suppresses anger . . . [To the people on the enemy side] he did not show anger . . . Such attitudes of Genji were favorably regarded as “generous” by the people. His tolerance led to his popularity and resulted in him winning the support of those around him. They led to “cordial human relations” through the suppression of emotional expression. (Otsuka 2000, pp. 113-4)

As already explained, the people in the upper aristocracy of that era avoided showing their emotions overtly because there were more disadvantages to expressing them; that is, they are relatives to each other by marriage in a closed social circle. In addition, as promotions were often determined by human relations and personalities rather than political abilities or education, they thought that it be advantageous not to express their honest feelings. Realistically, plain expression of emotions might lead to trouble. Politics in those days were founded on private human relationships. Therefore, they could not find any merit in showing their emotions openly.

The other reason is that they showed no expression of emotions as a sign of “being (upper class) noble.” The expressionlessness had some effects to differentiate

with other people. As is explained in the leisure class of theory (Veblen 1899) and the “cultural capital” concept (Bourdieu 1979), the investment of the nobles onto things useless for their jobs, unnatural gestures, and high cultures had a class identification effect. In *Genji*, they usually read the slight change of feelings of the other (s) from facial expressions, which apparently give them no hints. They also manage to understand the other person(s) who muttered a single phrase (of the old poem).

Finally, the results are presented of an analysis of the IM strategies implemented between the protagonist and the characters around Genji.

### 3. IM Strategies against and of Genji

First, the failure cases of the IM strategies in Genji are introduced. In a typical scene, Lady Suetsumu Hana, who is originally a princess from the imperial family, lacks beauty and culture as well as wealth and wit, but is supported by Genji as one of his lovers, sends him a gift for an adopted daughter’s coming-of-age ceremony. Suetsumu tries to show her good personality, but the gift is shabby and old-fashioned. Moreover, the (poor) poem attached to it does not fit the situation; namely, she laments over her fate, as she could not be with him. Her gift giving has created an opposite effect (“Miyuki” in *Genji*, Vol.2, pp. 476-7). In this matter, Genji despises Suetsumu. By analyzing the scene, the reasons for the failure of her IM strategy are summarized as four points as follows:

- 1) She does not understand her own position: She had better be quiet and do nothing in such occasion.
- 2) She fails to have the sympathy of Genji as she sticks to her own principles and does not hesitate to have her own way.
- 3) She could not make herself cultured in that she always makes poor poems with the same (old-fashioned) pattern. She is too pure to behave according to the situation.

On the other hand, a successful IM strategy against Genji is presented by the former Emperor Suzaku, whose daughter Genji accepts as his first wife. (“Wakana” in *Genji*, Vol.2, pp. 547-9). The flow of the IM strategy is as follows.

Suzaku wishes that Genji would marry his third princess, Sannomiya, because Genji was the most trusted, but Suzaku knows that there is Lady Murasaki, who is treated virtually as the first wife and that it seems there is nothing left to be desired for her.

In an uncertain voice, Suzaku talked of old and recent happenings . . . ‘Fearing that I might die without accomplishing the first of my resolves, I have finally taken the step. Now that I have changed to these dark robes I know more than ever how little time I have ahead of me. I fear that I shall not go far down the

way I have chosen. I might be satisfied with the easier route. I shall calm my thoughts for a time and invoke the holy name, and that will be all. I am not a man of very grand and rare substance, and I cannot think that I am meant for anything different. I must reprove myself for the years of lazy indecisions.'

He described his plans and hopes and managed to touch upon the matter that worried him most. 'I am sad for all of my daughters, but most of all for the most inadequately protected of them.'

Genji feels sad for Suzaku. Suzaku admits that that it is hard to choose a suitable husband and says that he should have made a proposal to Yugiri, the son of Genji, while he was still single.

Genji is so moved by the former emperor's word as to say that he is willing to "take responsibility" of the princess. Indeed, he has been interested in the third princess of Suzaku. The fact that he dares not to think of it seriously is because of Lady Murasaki.

The reasons of the success of the IM strategies of Suzaku are as follows:

- 1) He understands their mutual positions: Suzaku is superior to Genji in his social position, but talks as if they were on the same level, in front of "the Buddha."
- 2) He avoids saying things logically or clearly. He chooses to evoke sympathy of Genji by suggesting that he is worried about her daughter, Sannomiya; as a result, Genji feels sorry for him. Furthermore, he hints that there is nobody suitable for the daughter except Genji, by saying that he should have asked Yugiri to marry her.
- 3) He shows culture and manages to control his honest feelings: He needs not appeal to his culture, but his talks of Buddhism suggest his lofty personality. He hides the sickness to Genji in the scene.

Firstly, the IM strategy for Genji of Suzaku is one of the most successful in *Genji*. As already made clear, the successful and failure patterns of the IM strategy for Genji are just the opposite of each other. Secondly, the IM strategy of Genji himself must be explained. In the scene, Genji attempts to draw a yes from Lady Murasaki on the case of Suzaku's request ("Wakana" in *Genji*, Vol.2, pp. 549-50).

Although she knows of Suzaku's intention, Lady Murasaki has never dreamt that Genji would accept the request of Suzaku. Genji could not dare to confess his decision on that day. On the following day, Genji tells her the conversation between Suzaku and him. He says,

He is in very poor health indeed . . . He said many sad things, but what seems to trouble him most as he goes off to his retreat is the future of the Third Prin-

cess . . . I was really so extremely sorry for him that I found it impossible to refuse. I suppose people will make a great thing of it. The thought of taking a bride at my age has seemed so utterly preposterous that I have tried through this and that intermediacy to suggest a certain want of ardor. But to see him in person and have it heard directly from him – I simply could not bring myself to refuse. Do you think that when the time does finally come for him to go off into the mountains, we might have her come here? Would that upset you terribly? Please do not let it. Trust me, and tell yourself what is the complete truth, that nothing is going to change. She has more right to feel insecure than you do.

Lady Murasaki replies as follows. “Yes, it is sad for her. The only thing that worries me is the possibility that she might feel less than completely at home.” She accepts his decision on the marriage.

The IM strategies by Genji in the scene above are as follows:

- 1) He evokes her sympathy by putting himself in her situation. He understands her feelings very well, and he carefully manages to make her feel pity for Suzaku.
- 2) He does not say it outwardly but rather suggests his intention indirectly. Instead, he attempts to win her sympathy. He focuses on Suzaku’s poor health and worries so that Lady Murasaki thinks she should agree to the decision in the situation.
- 3) He shows kindness and sincere love, which the partner could not refuse.

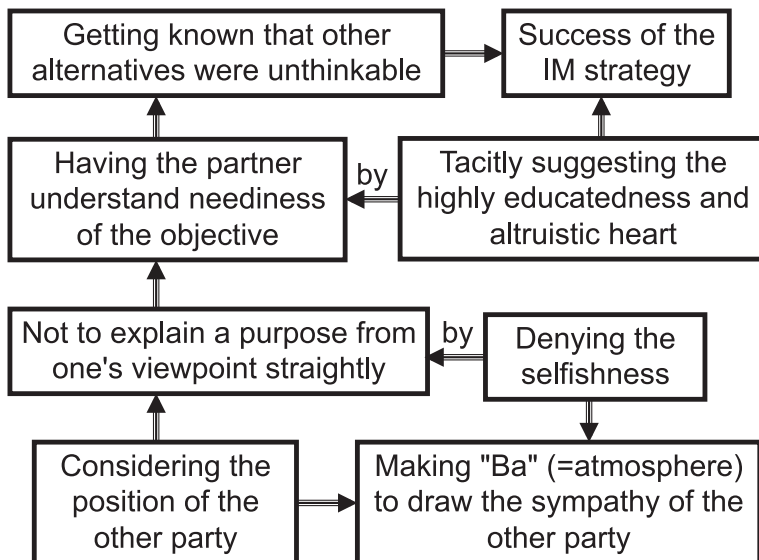


Figure 1 Necessary Conditions for IM Strategy to Become Successful

Lady Murasaki admits she has no choice but to accept the situation.

The successes and failures of the IM strategies of and against Genji are in the state of the pair comparison, as already seen above. They are shown in Figure 1.

#### IV. Discussion

This section compares the features clarified from the analysis of the emotional scene in *Genji* in the context of the framework of the IM strategy that has been mainly developed in the United States (Bolino 1999; Bolino, Long, and Turnley 2016; Côté and Hideg 2011; Diefendorff and Greguras 2008; Ferris, Treadway, et al. 2007; Gardener 1992; Grandey, Rafaeli, et al. 2010; Ickes, Holloway, et al. 2006; Jones and Pittman 1982; Johnson, Griffith, et al. 2001). The most famous framework for the IM strategy in the United States is presented by Jones and Pittman (1982), who classified the IM strategies into five types: ingratiation, self-promotion, intimidation, supplication, and exemplification. Jones and Pittman (1982) identified five types of IM strategy, which are categorized as assertive, whereas Gardener (1992) classified the strategy of face-saving as a defensive type. Defensive IM strategies consist of accounts: defenses of innocence (“I did not know”), excuses, justification, and apologies.

Distinct features are drawn from the introduction of the IM strategy, in the United States. Whether it is assertive or defensive, the IM strategy starts in the self-centered point of view. However, such IM strategies lead to failure in *Genji*. In order to succeed in the IM strategy in the classic, it is necessary to show the utmost consideration for the other party, as Figure 1 shows.

The second feature is that, whereas people express straightforwardly their purposes according to the IM strategy in the United States, the characters of *Genji* would have the other party guess the need for their own purpose. If they are to claim clearly their position, as in the United States, they could not achieve their intentions in *Genji*.

The third obvious features is that people attempt to move the other party, based on the “Opponent Management” to achieve a successful IM strategy in the United States; however, the characters in *Genji* reach their goals by sharing the “*ba*” (場 : the atmosphere of the place) with each other to the effect that they accept smoothly the result. If you try to move the opponent by the strategy in *Genji*, it leads to failure. To succeed in employing the IM strategy, they should share the “*ba*” with each other and create an atmosphere that suggests that there is no other choice. They are required to have high culture and altruistic minds toward each other.

The main characters, including Hikaru Genji, who are skilled in IM strategies,

have much in common with the characters in *the Makioka Sisters*, the famous novel written by Junichiro Tanizaki. The story is known to be based on the everyday lives of his wife, Matsuko, and her sisters. Matsuko is a model of Sachiko in the novel (Tanizaki 2015). The story develops in the following.

The main characters in *the Makioka Sisters* are Tsuruko, Sachiko, Yukiko, and Taeko of a wealthy merchant of Semba in the mercantile city, Osaka. Tsuruko, clever and reliable, marries a banker and inherits the property of the family as the oldest of the four. Sachiko, the most beautiful and sociable, lives in Ashiya with her family. Together with his husband, an accountant, she is eager to seek a suitable husband for her younger sister, Yukiko. Yukiko, beautiful but too shy, tends to be seen as a gloomy person. Taeko, free and uncontrolled, tries to make her career as a doll artist. Her love affairs embarrass the sisters. The novel unfolds the marriage arrangements for Yukiko.

Sachiko worries if Yukiko might not marry young because of her shyness. She is always thinking about her sister and eager to arrange a formal marriage interview with a suitable man from good family and with good personality. Bright and sociable, she expresses her emotions relatively clearly. On the other hand, Yukiko seldom shows her emotions; she rarely laughs nor says no directly. However, she has her own opinion and never allows it to be changed or influenced by others. As a result, her family always guesses her feelings and tries to carry out her wishes.

Now, it is meaningful to examine the IM strategy of Yukiko in comparison with the IM strategy of Hikaru Genji. The results are as follows:

- 1) She evokes others' sympathies by behaving as if they share the same values. Therefore, Yukiko takes it for granted that they understand her values.
- 2) She avoids clarifying her intentions. She manages to make herself understood by her implicit nuances of words and hidden meanings.
- 3) She expresses her opinion only vaguely. People around her finally accept her intention before they know, though she never tries to persuade nor demand.

Those strategies are obviously similar to those of Genji. Then, the authors proceed to explain the features of people who are skilled in the IM strategy. The first feature is that they successfully build a "ba" with the standpoint of the opponent. To achieve the purpose, they use an IM strategy in accordance with a long-term script (a manual to show explicitly which behavior is acceptable in the culture). Hofstede (1994) pointed out that Japanese had collectivism-oriented and long-term-oriented culture, and in that, they are different from the American culture where people prefer individualistic thinking and short-term outcomes.

The second feature of a person skilled in the IM strategy is that they have a high level of ability to control their emotions. It might be said that they possess a



high EQ (emotional quotient), that is, the ability to understand the feelings of the other party as well as to control their own emotions (Goleman 2005). With regard to this, the question is why Genji could demonstrate such a high EQ. As Otsuka (2000) discussed, it might have been related to the coming of Buddhism. Zen Buddhism is the base of *cha-no-yu*. It is also important to see that the practice of mindfulness meditation is another element of Zen Buddhism. The practice of mindfulness allegedly helps to control emotions successfully (Ando 2003).

The third feature is that they had top quality culture. Boys from aristocratic families learned the literature of China from an early age with good tutors. Girls also had a first class knowledge of traditional poems taught by their nurse and governess who were both from noble families. The most important lesson was that of making elegant poems infused with literary techniques and based on the poetic tradition. They learned when they should express which emotions and how everyday through reading poems and stories.

## V. Conclusion

In the final section, the practical and theoretical contributions of this study are explained, and future research themes are suggested. In the first theoretical contribution, this study reveals that the features of emotion occurrence, emotion expression, and the IM strategy of the contemporary Japanese are traced back to those of the upper class nobles depicted in *Genji*. The second contribution is that the successful patterns of the IM strategies held by Japanese, who are collectivism-oriented and have interdependent views of themselves with a high-context communication style, are in striking contrast to those of the IM strategies in United States where people are individualism-oriented and have independent views of themselves with low-context communication styles.

The theoretical findings of the study stated above also have a practical significance in the field of organizational theory as well as marketing. For example, in the realm of marketing, the findings are useful for the co-creation of values between salespersons and the service provider and the customer in the B2C, or furthermore, the co-creation of values between C2C. In addition, it is to be applied to the co-creation of values among various entities among different cultures. It is probable that they are applied to emotion marketing in Japanese *omotenashi* and the aspect of emotional labor (Grandey and Gabriel 2015).

The authors admit that there is a limit to this study. It is necessary for more in-depth research to clarify the reasons why the upper class nobles, including Hikaru Genji, are without plain and simple feelings, as seen above.

It is also required to conduct continuous study to uncover the reasons why and

how the features of EQ originating from the upper class nobility in *The Tale of Genji* have been passed down to the modern Japanese, and why and how they have changed.

Finally, it is indispensable for the authors to examine again how to put the theoretical findings of this study to use in a series of studies of their own on Japanese *omotenashi* (Sato and Parry 2015; Aishima and Sato 2015 a, 2015 b, 2016; Sato and Aishima 2016).

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