Abstract

The recent worldwide spread of the COVID-19 infection forces us to change our own lifestyles. One of the biggest changes is related to the “movement” of going from “place” to “place.” In consequence, face-to-face human interactions that accompany “movement,” are in a tendency towards decreasing due to the COVID-19 infection. This kind of situation is the same in fields of research, and through the decrease in movement and in opportunities to meet face to face, there is the possibility of a loss of opportunities for active debates between researchers, and of a decline in the vitalization of research through debate. In fact, research conditions have become quite difficult, because researchers are limited and even prohibited from visiting other locations (academic meetings, libraries, museums, etc., whether internally or internationally). In this paper, I consider a question of the digitization of materials. It is because research in the humanities (history, above all) always requires documentation, and therefore, the digitization of documents and their release online are helpful and even indispensable. Here, reporting on the circumstances of the Bibliothèque Nationale de France and the search engine “Persée,” I discuss the necessity of document digitization as well as its merits and potential future problems.

Keywords: Documentation of materials, Digital archives, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Persée (search engine), COVID-19 pandemic

1. Introduction – Human Interaction in the COVID-19 Crisis

A variety of effects are spreading throughout our lives from confronting the dangers to one’s life and health that accompany the recent worldwide spread of the COVID-19 infection. One of the biggest changes is related to the “movement” of going from “place” to “place.” Face-to-face human interactions that accompany “movement,” are in a tendency towards decreasing due to COVID-19’s characteristics of affinity (how easy it is to be infected) towards the human body and its rapid activation (the process of becoming severe). Dangers towards one’s mental health also lurk here. This kind of situation is the same in fields of research, and through the decrease in movement and in opportunities to meet face to face, there is the possibility of a loss of opportunities for active debates between researchers, and of a decline in the vitalization of research through debate.

In other words, the current situation is also a human society crisis. Toynbee touched on the rise and fall of civilization and used concepts known as challenge and response. If COVID-19 is a challenge from the natural world, can humanity respond to it?

We are currently in a situation where movement and interaction have to be restricted due to dangers to our lives, but for humans, “movement and interaction” are the most important (while also being the simplest) elements of developing culture and civilization. Without action, humanity could not have developed civilization. One of the elements for making civilization develop is the process of handling words, using tools and realizing thoughts. Human beings then communicate realized thoughts to other people as symbols. Cassirer explains that human beings are animals that handle symbols: A symbol is a kind of expression with its meanings. Human beings symbolize a subject...
with a goal in mind, and use said symbol in order for it to influence other people. To put it in a different way, symbols are “a realized part of thoughts” that human beings carry out in order to intentionally make their own thoughts realizable, and the use of symbols is a practical application of “effective handling of thoughts” in the sense of influencing other people.

This “effective handling of thoughts” made human beings head towards forming culture, and made civilization develop.

In this way, humanity created culture and developed civilization through handling things, but what is held in common here is the “action” known as “influencing.” Influencing means to actively direct another person’s movement. One of the fundamental things that is held in common here is the “action accompanied by awareness of a goal.” Through human beings moving around and interacting with others (dialogue), a variety of ideas were mixed together, and culture and civilization developed.

When thinking about it in this way, one of the fundamental elements that make up human society is the process of movement and interaction, and through dialogue, thoughts and spiritual natures also interact. In the current civilization of Europe as well, the fusion of Hellenism and the Orient can be seen in its original beginning. In other words, the development of civilization is in the interaction of a wide variety of ideas, and this cannot be possible without open interaction. On the other hand, actions are not only caused by concrete movement. This is truly shown by the current network society. Information society truly has network society – which accompanies and seamlessly connects to scientific development – as the foundation of living, with the exclusion of societies that have cut off communication. Here, interactions between people living in current times – and also interactions with great people in the past through historical materials – are made possible. This kind of movement/interaction of ideas is infinitely spreading.

The recent COVID-19 pandemic is hindering this direct human interaction. This truly holds a crisis towards civilization. At the same time, it also impacts the studies that research civilization. Below, I will inspect these kinds of academic research, centering my inspection around the collection and exchange of information through the Internet, which is one of the plans for getting out of this situation. In this paper, I would like to inspect as a part of this plan the example of France.

2. Studies Towards Human Knowledge Through the Medium of Materials – The Importance of Historical Materials

This expansive mesh of society becomes useful in greatly developing research even in the COVID-19 crisis. In other words, the difficulty in collecting information can be raised as another obstacle that researchers are confronted with. Especially when advancing academic research, it hardly needs to be said just how much collecting and investigating materials is important, whatever the field.

This is because academic research always has as its foundation the knowledge and technology that humanity has accumulated. In other words, whether it is the humanities/social sciences, or natural science – which develops cutting-edge technology – progress is seen in grasping and criticizing said knowledge and technology, using our own thoughts on them and then presenting new knowledge and technology, all the while showing respect to the efforts of our forerunners and advancing towards ideas by using questions and answers. At the very least, the history of human knowledge has been constructed through these kinds of experiences of the soul (sophia).
The importance of research of original materials is all the greater in humanities research. This is because this research in question is not only trying to find surface-layer facts from human business and its records, but goes further to the spiritual nature deep within humanity.

For example, reading the phenomena that is the background connected to current times is important in historical science. Moreover, it demands looking back on the long history of humanity and tracing the idée that have been created as ways for human beings – over the passage of centuries – to face nature and people with thaumazein, or sometimes created as solutions towards aporia. In reality, the significance of learning the knowledge of humanities that has been weaved through time like this is immeasurable. This is involved with the inquiring mind (spiritual nature) that has humanity’s unlimited potential hidden within.

When tracing the tracks of human wisdom up until now like this, examples such as the public records in question, investigation records by organizations such as government agencies, newspaper articles and publications, letters of the person that is the subject of research, etc., can be raised as historical materials that will be the subjects of perusal and collection (refer to [Table 1]).

These historical materials include printed type and those left behind in the form of manuscripts that contain handwritten rough drafts. The latter especially include rough drafts before official reports, memorandums of the individual, etc., and are important in terms of knowing the inside of the minds of people in that time period.

[Table 1] Examples of Historical Materials Related to Humanities (with an Aspect of Historical Science)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Historical Material</th>
<th>Content that Can be Studied/Inspected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public records</td>
<td>The state of society and the economy at the time, government plans towards regional activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigation records of organizations such as government agencies</td>
<td>The intentions of the government at the time, and regional situations in regard to these intentions and reactions towards the government in regard to these intentions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newspaper articles and publications at the time</td>
<td>The circumstances of society, public response, critical opinions and academic/cultural activities, in regard to the tendencies and phenomena at the time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters of the person in question</td>
<td>The tendencies (interaction between researchers), thinking methods, private speculations towards things like society, and so on, of the people that are the subject of research.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These historical materials include documentary materials that have been printed, those that have been published as books, and those that can also be obtained by purchasing them, etc. However, especially in relation to historical materials that go back into later time periods, there are many that are impossible to purchase, even if they are books, and it becomes difficult to obtain them, unless one were to peruse and copy them on-site at libraries, old archives, museums, etc., and this also includes the case of manuscripts. To raise one example, there are the manuscripts left by Leonardo da Vinci, which now have reproduced versions. Among them are those recreated to historical fact, including binding such as exteriors formed out of the manuscripts themselves, and those that have been further reprinted. Therefore, through these reproduced versions, it is possible to investigate and research da Vinci’s own research content, his own thought processes, etc. However, this is an extremely rare case, and usually it is necessary to peruse materials at the suitable institution – depending on the case, this includes the act of collecting historical materials that
are scattered across various places. Therefore, on-site investigations are important in humanities research that includes the aspect of historical science.

3. France’s Situation Regarding the Disclosure of Materials – Heading Towards the Promotion of Digital Archives

Taking the inspections up until now into account, I will introduce from this section onwards – in relation to the interaction of opened knowledge in digital archives – the historical science research related to France in particular, as a case study.

My own research task is related to “Félibrige,” a cultural and linguistic revival group established in southern France in 1854, and F. Mistral, one of the driving forces of said group. In this research, the question of how linguistic revival came to be raised in the second imperial period that was the period of the formation of a modern nation state, becomes an issue. Thus, perusing and interpreting historical materials was important in terms of learning the circumstances of the time period and the motivations and goals of the group founders. In other words, materials such as government agencies’ investigation records towards the region, newspaper articles of the region, publications and letters of the person in question, etc. In actuality, as part of this research, I was planning to collect historical materials on southern France – which is the subject of research – in March, through a research visit to the Université de Montpellier and on-site investigations at the Musée de Mistral in Avignon and the old archives of Béziers. However, traveling to France became difficult due to the spread of the COVID-19 infection. Under these circumstances, I was able to continue with my research from March 2020 onwards by using historical materials that France’s various institutions had disclosed on the Internet. Taking this situation into consideration, I will in this paragraph first inspect the situation of France’s release of materials.

France is one of the nations actively carrying out not only the collection, preservation and management of archives of written materials, art, images, etc., under government agencies, but also the release of the abovementioned materials under government agencies. The circumstances that led to France working on the release of information and historical materials are as follows.

The national library of France, the Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF), preserves the most historical materials in France. This BnF is a public facility founded under the supervision of the Ministry of Culture (ministère de la Culture). The reason why France came to pour their efforts into the collection and preservation of materials is especially due to François Mitterrand, the president of the republic. He showed the intention of building the world’s biggest library that cooperates with other libraries in Europe. In reality, the “Proposal for a Large-Scale Library” (“Propositions pour une grande bibliothèque”) was submitted to the president by Patrice Cahart and Michel Melot in November 1988, and based on the bill of October 13th, 1989 (n°89-777 du 13 octobre 1989), the EPBF (l’Établissement public de la Bibliothèque de France) was founded. Through the bill of January 3rd, 1994 (décret du 3 janvier 1994) the EPBF combined with the Bibliothèque nationale that had existed from 1792, and this leads up to the current BnF of today. Furthermore, in this bill, it is written that the mission of France’s national library is to collect, catalog and preserve materials in any academic field, and to expand and manage said process.

For the release of materials on a global scale, the technological development of computer tools and telegraphic communication, as well as the digitalization of actual materials through said development, are necessary, but the digitalization of the BnF catalog was carried out in April 1999. In 1997, Gallica, a digital library that can be used by
anyone for free, was set up in the BnF via the Internet. A large amount of publications, audio recordings, iconographs, maps, etc., were collected in abundance in Gallica, and digital archiving was promoted through cooperation with researchers. Here, it has become a system where many materials that no longer have issues of copyright are released and can be perused on the website. Moreover, through abiding by the rules, it is also possible to download entire texts as PDF files, just as they are. While it does not necessarily mean that the release of documentary materials in the BnF’s Gallica is carried out on the entire library, it still includes quite a large number of books, and old books and historical original materials are also included among them.

In Gallica, it is also possible to peruse the manuscripte that are in the BnF’s catalog. Below, I raise examples of documentary materials obtained from the BnF’s Gallica, which are the history of Provence published in the 18th Century (written by Papon)⁴, the side-by-side translations of Mistral’s “Mirèio” in langue d’oc and French published in 1859,⁵ and the folk song study (manuscript)⁶ by Fortoul in the middle of the 19th Century ([Photographs I to III]).

[HISTOIRE GÉNÉRALE DE PROVENCE, Par M. TAPON, de l’Académie, & de l’Institut de France et des Sciences de Marsy.] ⁴

[PROSPECTUS.

PAPON,

HISTOIRE GÉNÉRALE
DE PROVENCE,

A PARIS,

Par SOUZAIRE, Libraire de la République, et de la République de l’Europe, et de la République de la République du Monde.

1776] ⁴

[MIRÈIO

POUÉMO PROUVENGU

FRÉDÉRICK MISTRAL

[Photographs I]
Papon, Histoire générale de Provence (1776)

[Photographs II]
Pouémou Prouvenou.

MISTRAL, Mirèio (in langue d’oc and French) (1959)

[Photographs III]
Poésies populaires de la France (manuscript, 1801-1900)
In addition to this, in the BnF, the BNUE (une Bibliothèque numérique européenne) plan was made in 2005 and many materials representing Europe’s historical and cultural heritages were presented. Furthermore, this kind of release of digital archives has been actively carried out in Europe, and Europeana, which was set up by the European Commission in 2008, provides access to digital historical materials of cultural facilities in the European Union, and here, institutions such as Gallica and the Louvre Museum are participating.

As seen from what is mentioned above, the release of all materials on the Internet is being advanced with in France. For example, in Gallica, there are currently 7912415 digitalized historical original materials that are released to all citizens including students and researchers, regardless of national boundary. In terms of other releases of information in France, there is, for example, the materials related to the complete radio/television audio-visual archives by the INA (L’Institut national de l’audiovisuel) that was founded in 1975. Through this, all lines were released to all people, regardless of the size of scale of the broadcasting station.

Furthermore, not only national libraries, but the digitalization and release of monographs and essays are also advancing. For example, Persée, the essay search site, does not need registration, and at present, one can directly access 870009 essays and monographs for free. Here, it is possible to search for essays through time period, author, monograph and key words. Therefore, it can be said that it is a highly convenient website in terms of surveying France’s recent research papers, etc. Moreover, on this website, it is possible to download essays, etc., with the premise of abiding by fixed rules. Of course, there is a need to request consent for reproduction from the publisher or author in regard to materials with copyright such as charts, but the point of it being possible to advance with research without worrying about the Internet environment – as you are able to download essays – is extremely efficient.

This kind of releasing service of documentary materials is also being carried out outside of the two institutions mentioned above. In 2020, under circumstances that made traveling to France difficult, I was able to advance with research related to “Félibrige” thanks to these online digital archives. When searching for essays and historical original materials related to France, starting with the method of investigating historical materials by applying digital archives such as the BnF’s Gallica has the effect of lowering the difficulty of forming the first starting point for deepening research. This is very useful for bringing up young researchers and promoting research. I felt that this was significant for humanities studies, and especially for historical science research in which documents and historical materials become important.

4. Points at Issue Regarding the Release and Perusal of Materials on Websites in Humanities Research

For the researchers specializing in humanities that use written materials – especially historical science – the application of online archives shown in the previous section hides a lot of potential towards research promotion. In particular, the efficiency of materials released on a website is notable in the case where materials cannot be directly collected or perused. However, while on the one hand there is great utility in original materials being released on a website like this, there is also the point at issue that only information that is the content written inside the materials – such as the letters and illustrations – can be presented. While it is true that being able to obtain information through a website can by itself be acknowledged as very efficient for research, on the other hand, it is also a fact that there is the point at issue that one cannot take hold and peruse the actual materials. These points at issue should not be left as
demerits, but should be seen as tasks to be inspected for improvements towards the future. Below, I will inspect the advantages and issues of the release and perusal of documentary materials on a website, from a further general viewpoint.

First, in regard to content that can be read from materials, one can grasp and understand information written in the materials – such as written information and illustrations – in digitalized materials just as much as the actual materials. For example, in the abovementioned BnF, the released documentary materials are all released as they are in their actual forms as image data, including the book cover, the spine, back cover and blank pages. Therefore, in relation to inspecting the contents, it is possible to grasp the contents with the inclusion of said book’s binding as well.

Next, I would like to inspect our emotions or senses when we actually hold the real historical materials and when we use digitalized historical materials. In other words, when receiving information from historical materials presented on a screen on a website, it cannot be denied that there is a lack of the deep emotion that comes from directly coming into contact with said materials. Although it is true that deep emotion is a problem of the mental satisfaction of researchers, the quality of information that can be gained by physically going to the actual location and using one’s five senses excels as empirical knowledge, and whether it is coincidence or one’s own intentions, rich information and energy is received from truths that are “encountered” on the path that pursues knowledge.

Furthermore, not holding the actual materials also means that physical information – such as, for example, the binding of the book, the sense of weight, the quality of paper – cannot be obtained. In this sense, there is scarcely any sense of reality in the materials, apart from their written contents. Moreover, in actuality, there are information that can only be obtained from the actual materials. For example, in the research on the manuscripts of Leonardo da Vinci, the time period can be specified from the quality of the paper used and the writing and patterns included as “watermarks.” In other words, this is one of the limitations of image data on a website. Of course, it is possible to say that this is a task for highly specialized research, but even so, the characteristics and limitations of releases on websites can be felt if one were to think of the sense of reality in seeing the actual materials directly with one’s own eyes at exhibitions aimed towards the general public, even if one were unable to directly touch it.

Finally, I will additionally consider it from the viewpoint of preserving materials. In other words, in relation to materials released on a website, whether it is possible to download or print a part of said materials or all of said materials is also an important issue. While it is true that there is the issue of copyright through reasons such as the time period of the materials, it is possible at the BnF to download materials on the condition that one abides by the rules that fundamentally limit said materials for use in personal research. Moreover, in relation to documentary materials with a large page number, it is also possible – in addition to partial downloads – to download them as image data such as JPEG files. The aforementioned Persée also has this kind of service, and with Persée, it is also possible to search for terminology inside the released materials. Like so, the ability to not only peruse documentary materials on websites, but also to download them in forms such as PDFs as long as one takes note of the copyright, etc., is useful on the point of being able to preserve documentary materials in a way so that they are within one’s reach.

Releasing materials on a website as electronic data also has the advantage not only on the perusal side, but also on the storage side. This is because it is indicated that perusing the actual old documentary materials and old texts themselves is undesirable on the point of preserving materials. In actuality, human-made damages and deterioration through physical contact can be thought of, such as issues with the quality of the paper on each page, and with bindings such as leather covers. Moreover, the process of repeatedly reproducing materials by way of methods such
as a copying machine is also not desirable for documentary materials. When considering these points, turning the materials themselves into electronic data such as images opens up the possibility of carrying out perusal for research, etc., with electronic data and carrying out the release of the historical materials themselves – such as, for example, the exhibition of old texts – with the actual materials.

Moreover, plenty of consideration towards the issues of copyright is needed for the release of documentary materials on a website, in the case where printing said materials is possible or in the case where downloading the materials through electronic data such as PDF files is possible. This is a problem that is set upon both on the releasing side and the perusal side.

[Table II] Merits and Demerits Related to the Release of Documentary Materials on a Website (from the Viewpoint of Humanities Research)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advantages of Turning Materials into Electronic Data</th>
<th>Issues of Turning Materials into Electronic Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The perusal of materials (historical materials) through turning them into electronic data.</td>
<td>· It cannot be denied that seeing the historical materials on a website without physically holding the actual materials has a point of it being scarce in the deep emotional impact of historical research (a problem of the mental satisfaction of researchers).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convenience that accompanies the turning of materials (historical materials) into electronic data</td>
<td>· Not physically holding the actual materials means that physical information such as the binding of the book of the documentary materials, the sense of weight and the quality of paper are not obtained, and the sense of reality of the materials – apart from the written content – is scarce.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The handling of materials (historical materials) that have been turned into electronic data</td>
<td>· The ability to download materials (historical materials) as electronic data (in forms such as PDF) is useful on the point of being able to preserve said materials in a way so that they are within one’s reach.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Depending on the form of the data, it is possible to search, process, etc.</td>
<td>· The release and perusal of materials (historical materials) on a website demands plenty of consideration towards copyright (related to limitations in release and perusal).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The ability to download materials (historical materials) as electronic data (in forms such as PDF) is useful on the point of being able to preserve said materials in a way so that they are within one’s reach.</td>
<td>· The boundaries of handling the materials (historical materials) depend on the form of preserving the electronic data.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Furthermore, other problems can be found in electronic data. Even if it is possible to download materials released on a website as PDF files or text files, this involves the limitation of depending on a form that is decided in advance. In other words, PDF files can be obtained within the boundaries of the single format known as PDF, and can only be dealt with in ways that are decided as the ways of PDFs. This is also the same in the case where materials are given as written information known as text files. Although it is true that there is convenience in making it easier to deal with information by having it possible to obtain the contents of materials as electronic data, the potential of formats that can show the information held by historical materials as they are can be thought to be a task for the future. Furthermore, as an addition, converting data into different expressions – such as sound and texture – in terms of materials digitalized as written information, is also probably a task for the future.

Actually, many materials become more and more digitalized as written character information. Normally, digital libraries are targeted at all the viewers on the internet, and therefore, they seem to be equally available for all the
people. This corresponds with the motto “Library for Everybody.” The abovementioned BnF, for example, announces that the Section Gallica is “intended for all readers, whether users are just having a look, booklovers, students or academics.” However, thinking of the support for people with disabilities, it is necessary to convert data into different formats. Digitalized materials cannot be read without visual information. Therefore, considering persons with a visual impairment, digital libraries should be required to offer other functions, for example, a system converting written character data into voice data or tactile data (the character code of braille). On that point, an interesting and useful example can be found in Korea—a device called the “Tactile Pro Braille Tablet” which has been available since 2019. This is a system that converts character data into braille pins. Nowadays, since ICT technology has developed markedly, the digitalization of materials has improved. This evolution can contribute to libraries providing various ways of presenting documentation for all kinds of people, and promoting such development should be a task of libraries for the future.

In current times, where notable developments of ICT technology can be seen, the turning of materials into electronic data is being advanced with in a variety of forms. However, it is also a fact that the points at issue are becoming just as clearer. For example, although there are international standards on copyright as well, a subtle difference in sensation can also be felt in how said standards are grasped. In addition to the problem of whether the “right” to be protected can be found in the actually existing materials themselves and whether said right can be attached to drawn illustrations and information on the meaning of content, would not a variety of problems arise in the future through the diversification of forms of preserving said materials? Unlike the case with science and technology, where there is a certain type of “common language” of numbers and graphs, humanities that include a historical science aspect have the question of how to grasp as “succession of knowledge” the ideas, cultural expressions, etc., that cannot be all put together. It is thought that the turning of materials into electronic data contains these kinds of problems.

Furthermore, the advantages and issues written in this section related to the turning of documentary materials into electronic data and releasing the said data on a website, are organized and shown in [Table II].

5. Conclusion

In this paper, I looked at the spread of the space where there is interaction of knowledge – with the perusal of materials in humanities as one example – in regard to the problems of “movement” and “interaction” in the COVID-19 crisis. As seen in the example above, in France, a wide variety of materials including many documents, artworks, images, etc., that have been collected, preserved and managed up until now, have been digitalized and released to all people through the medium of the Internet. This kind of release of digitalized materials in humanities was one manifestation of the interaction of human knowledge in the COVID-19 crisis. This is not a problem limited to humanities research. Whether it is historical materials or current themes, a variety of information can be communicated to researchers, students and the general people through the Internet. This kind of world of knowledge is universally and rapidly shared with no boundaries of people or society. In this sense, the interaction of information on the Internet opens up a new direction in the COVID-19 crisis.

In the past, the invention of printing techniques freed human knowledge. The spread of printing techniques contributed to the development of printed letter culture, even if it was in a part of the educated class at first. However, this knowledge was communicated in a closed physical space known as a book. The development of ICT technology in the 21st Century broadens that space to a limitless world. Here, digitalized written information sets human
knowledge free to create an even broader universal world. The current digitalization of materials is truly the first step towards this.

On another note, in the COVID-19 crisis, in what direction will the Internet – which is one of the solutions for the crisis – go in the future? The importance of directly coming into contact with materials was referred to in the argument related to humanities materials, but the same applies to human interaction as well. Just like how romanticism appeared in order to resist the rationalism of the modern Western European mind, the mentality of sensibility is just as important for human beings as rationality is. It is possible that digitized information received via the medium of the Internet can sometimes be received as something that is inorganic. For example, reading through this method – especially in the case of manuscripts – spoils the feelings of the writer and the personality (nature) of said feelings. Moreover, it is possible for the actual materials to excel in terms of turning one’s mind towards the time period in question through the binding of the book. Furthermore, in terms of electronic information released without physical qualities, there is the fear that there will be demands of thoroughness in preservation and management so that said information does not become something that is changeable. However, the world of knowledge – which we can obtain by reading content from the digitized subjects and striving for dialogue with the people who created the content or said subject – provides the same space even if there is a difference in the quality or quantity of information. This kind of world of knowledge will further open up through the current digitized written materials being converted from something that is visible to, for example, audio data and touch-related data, such as braille. In a certain sense, I would like to have hope in the possibility that the world of knowledge will broaden through the Internet taking in human sensibility in this way.

Confronting the dangers of COVID-19, human society is a way of searching for new possibilities – in other words, this is the realization of the “new ordinary.”

Notes

3. The research related to Félibrige and F. Mistral was, fundamentally, a research related to the revival, maintenance and movement of the language culture of regions towards unified policies – including language – of the period of the formation of France as a modern nation state. At the root of this, there existed the relationship of regional nationalism or regional identity resisting the totalitarian nationalism of the nation, and this itself is linked to the problem current society is confronted with, known as globalization and maintaining diversity.

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