
Abstract

Theory of Social Evolution by Teiho Oyama

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Teiho Oyama (1879–1919) is a Japanese journalist, sociologist, educator, politician and Christian who played an important role from the late Meiji period to the early Taisho period.

This article is aimed to examine and clarify his understanding about a theory of Social Evolution. Considering the context of his thought and surveying *Social Theology* (1909), his response to Hiroyuki Kato (1836–1916) and his articles, it is pointed out that evolutionary theory is so influential in him that Jesus Christ is likely to be reduced to only one of the processes of evolution of Christianity itself, and short of pneumatology makes his theological thought inadequate. Besides it is pointed out that his suggestion of the importance about sympathy and mutual help has profound significance at the present day.