

### Abstract

As one of the researches on the significance of K. R. Popper's thought in postwar Japan, I shall take up Kentaro Hayashi, one of the leading historians in Japan. In his paper, *The Task of Modern History*, he attacks Marxism on the basis of Popper's work, *The Poverty of Historicism*, and places Popper among conservatives, the representative of which is E. Burke. Then he compares E. H. Carr and Popper and he himself prefers Carr's view of history to Popper's. I correct Hayashi's misrepresentations, and conclude that though Popper's critical rationalism has nothing to do with the dichotomy of the progressive and the conservative, it is possible to relate critical rationalism with liberalism and social reformism.