

## 'Ikebana'-its Stagnant Situation and the Facts

### Study 2: A Fact-Finding by Cross-Sectional Analysis

IMAI, Takashi

In Study 1, historical factors contributing to the stagnation of Ikebana were investigated by a fact-finding study. In Study 2, these stagnation factors will be examined by a cross-sectional analysis from the following points:

- 1) A specific structure of the flower market has created difficulty in supplying flower materials for Ikebana lessons,
- 2) A divergence exists between the classic style of Ikebana *Seika* and the modern tastes of life-style, such as the style of architecture,
- 3) A definite curriculum for an instructor/master training program has not been well-established yet among Ikebana schools, with a few exceptions; a strong 'guild' relationship has developed, and
- 4) 'Flower Design' supported by European florists' technical skills has become popular among modern flower arrangement schools, and this tendency has decreased the popularity of Ikebana as well as the numbers of practitioners.

Discussion in Study 2 will be continued in Study 3, An Encouragement to Ikebana.