

ABSTRACT

[Object] To provide an observation device capable of obtaining a good optical image by keeping contrast constant while eliminating the necessity of work for adjusting the distance from a phase contrast microscope to an observation target.

[Solution] An observation device 10 includes a microscope 12. The microscope 12 includes an illumination light beam source 50, an illumination optical system 51, and an observation optical system 52 forming an optical image of an observation target 28 from reflected light beams 62 obtained by reflection of illumination light beams 61 by the observation target 28. The observation optical system 52 includes a phase plate 57 changing the phase of directly reflected light beams 62A reflected on a reflection surface 49a among the reflected light beams 62. Both the illumination optical system 51 and the observation optical system 52 are arranged under the observation target 28. The observation device 10 includes an image pickup device 53 photoelectrically converting the optical image obtained by the observation optical system 52 to create image data of the observation target 28 and a display device 38 displaying the image data. The illumination light beam 61 emitted from the illumination optical system 51 is a collimated light beam.