

KINKO SŌSHO
BULLETIN
OF
THE TOKUGAWA REIMEIKAI FOUNDATION

NO. 45

March 2018

THE TOKUGAWA INSTITUTE
FOR THE HISTORY OF FORESTRY
(*Tokugawa Rinseishi Kenkyūjo Kenkyū Kiyō* Vol. 52)

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Summaries

THE TOKUGAWA INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF FORESTRY

Articles

A study concerning an administrator (*Oyamamori*) who controlled forests in a selection process of logged trees for lumber production, conducted by the Owari domain during the Hōreki era (1750~1764) in the Edo period.

ŌTA Naohiro

The Owari domain implemented forestry administration reforms in Kyōho era (1716~1736), reflecting on the deforestation in the 17th century. It preferentially cut down trees that could no longer grow, due to damage, etc., and through this the domain organized a system to obtain necessary lumber.

Within the forests of the Owari domain, a basic policy of spontaneous regeneration of forest was adopted. This system eliminated inferior trees and established a basis to smoothly pass on it to the next generation. However, to implement this measure it was indispensable to have local administrators who were capable of judging characteristics of the forests and conditions of trees.

The study analyzed a process during the Hōreki era (1750~1764) by which *Oyamamori*, a newly established post created through the forestry administration reform, intervened in duties of traditional administrators, referred to as *Yamatedai*, and took control of the forestry administration, clarifying that *Oyamamori* played a role in properly maintaining the forests and nurturing good-quality native forests of Japanese cypress.

A study of economic crises that occurred in mountain villages in the late Edo period, taking the case of Outakimura, Shinano-no-kuni as an example

ŌSAKI Akira

This study follows a previous one (appearing in Bulletin Vol. 51 of The Tokugawa Institute for the History of Forestry, 2017 March issue), which examined historical characteristics of the Edo period when viewed from the perspective of life in mountain villages where people engaged in farming and forestry.

In this study, the subject period is the Genroku era (1688~1704), a time of economic turnabout. The area covered is the Kiso region in territory of the Owari domain.

A summary of the study result follows. In the early Edo period, the Owari domain had made a great profits by directly overseeing the cutting of lumber in the Kiso mountains on a large scale, thanks to its domain-owned forests with bountiful forest resources.

Employment undertaken by inhabitants of the mountain villages within the domain who were engaged in cutting down trees and hauling lumber was stable. However, depletion of the forest resources in Kiso mountains gradually became noticeable, and revenues from the forestry decreased. As a result, the domain gave up its management of forestry which was taken over by lumber merchants.

Management by the lumber merchants reinforced related jobs other than the main

business line, to compensate for the revenue decrease caused by depletion of the resources, as well as the burden of taxation. The side jobs involved financing to merchants who dealt in the annual tax with rice; rich farmers; feudal warriors who served the Owari family and so forth; trade in grain such as rice used to pay the annual tax; development of new rice fields; and so forth.

These activities led to an outflow of funds obtained from forestry to other industries, or to some areas other than the mountain villages. This also led to employment hardships among the inhabitants of mountain villages, and an economic depression (or strains on the system) in mountain villages in the future.

A study concerning natural calamities and relief activities in mountain villages based on *Tenpōnenchū-minoare-shisonden* with a case study of Minamiyama Village in Mogami County, Dewa-no-kuni

KURIBARA Kenichi

This study examines the heavy flood and landslide occurred in 1833, the food shortage with it and its relief by analyzing *Tenpōnenchū-minoare-shisonden* written by Kakizaki Yazaemon, the village headman of Minamiyama Village in Mogami County, Dewa-no-kuni (now Okura Village in Mogami County, Yamagata Prefecture). *Tenpōnenchū-minoare-shisonden* is one of the records of Kunō-bunko Library, which consists of the library of Sekiguchi Takayoshi, the 1st governor of Shizuoka Prefecture, and now a part of Aoi-bunko Library in the possession of Shizuoka Prefectural Central Library.

First, this thesis checked out the facts about Sekiguchi Takayoshi and Kunō-bunko Library, and then examined the several versions of *Tenpōnenchū-minoare-shisonden*.

Second, after confirming the outline of Minamiyama Village and Kakizaki Yaemon, this thesis overviewed the damage of the heavy flood and landslide to Minamiyama Village in 1833.

Third, this thesis stated the disaster relief in Minamiyama Village such as reducing or exempting *nengu* (land tax), dealing out rice porridge, suppling food and medicine and so on by following the activities of the village headman.

Finally, this thesis showed specifically how the lord and officials of the Shinjō clan went round the village and checked out the damage. A noticeable fact is also revealed that Yaemon felt grateful for the lord's activity, so he made the lord's portrait and praised his benevolent rule.

A Study of distribution controlling policy on Japanese lacquer solution by villages in the Odawara domain and the domain during the Bunka era (1804~1818)

KIRYŪ Kaisei

This study compiles the policies for local specialties taken by the Odawara domain and examines a reality of the distribution control of Japanese lacquer solution, and how it influenced the villages, as an example. The policy of the Lord of the Odawara domain during the Bunka era was different from that of his predecessor, who had increased the annual tax. His policy was to limit the distribution of local specialties within the domain so as to encourage their production. As one of these policies, the distribution of Japanese lacquer solution that had been widely produced and distributed in the past was controlled through a government office called *Kokusankata*.

Unfortunately, things did not go easy, in part because middlemen dealing in Japanese lacquer, who had connections with peasants and persons who tapped the lacquer in the Odawara domain were traditionally situated in other domains and extended monetary loans to many of them. To sever the connection, villages requested monetary loans from the Odawara domain and resolved the issue of debts owed to the middlemen in the other domains. The restrictions on lacquer solution in the Odawara domain was gradually implemented in this manner.

A study on the ranking expressed in administrating politics of the Tokugawa shogunate by analyzing the *Bakufu-nikki* (a daily record of the Tokugawa shogunate) in 1734

FUKAI Masaumi

Edo period society was one in which formality was practiced to a high degree. Various formalities were obligatory, not only for ceremonies or regular annual events, but for routine political activities as well. This study determines the formality implemented based on social standing or position, such as by *Daimyo* (a feudal lord), *Bakushin* (a shogun's retainer), *Baishin* (an indirect retainer) and so on, focusing on rooms where audiences with Shogun were given or orders by a *Rōju* (a member of Shogun's council of elders) or *Wakadoshiyori* (a managerial position in the Tokugawa shogunate) were given on occasions of political activities.

In this context, a room to be used for an audience with Shogun was specified minutely according to the audience's standing or position. In a similar manner, a room in which an order was conveyed to *Daimyo* or *Bakushin*, by *Rōju* or *Wakadoshiyori*, might be differentiated by the proximity or distance from where Shogun was residing, depending on the individual's social standing.

Setting up those differentials, an authority of Shogun was enhanced and order in samurai society (warrior society) was maintained, while also providing a sense of stability within the government.

A study of the internal affairs and political trends of the Owari Tokugawa clan around 1868

FUJITA Hideaki

This study examines the internal affairs and political trends of the Owari Tokugawa clan around 1868. Previous studies centers around the trends of Tokugawa Yoshikatsu, the 14th head of the Owari Tokugawa clan and in retirement at that time. It is said that Yoshikatsu, despite being the head of *Gosanke* (the three independent branches of Tokugawa family), committed the coup for the restoration of imperial rule in 1867 and worked for inaugurating the new government. As the battle of Toba-Fushimi occurred in January, 1868 and the shogunate army was defeated, Yoshikatsu showed a trend of taking sides with the new government such as purging the pro-shogunate subordinate warriors of the Owari clan and persuading neighboring lords to take part with the new government.

However, this thesis raises a question that it is appropriate or not to say Yoshikatsu decisions resulted in the trends of the Owari Tokugawa clan at that time. In this thesis it is pointed out that it was the anti-shogunate subordinate warriors of the clan, the leading members of the domain school *Meirin-dou*, who lead the purge of the pro-shogunate subordinate warriors and the persuasion to neighboring lords.

From this study, it is revealed that Yoshikatsu himself had a strong awareness as a member of *Gosanke* and tried to support the Tokugawa shogunate family after the alliance between the Owari clan and the new government by ordering subordinate warriors secretly to work for the continuance of the Tokugawa shogunate family behind the scenes.