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Summaries

THE TOKUGAWA INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF FORESTRY

Articles

A study on the structure of *Nentō-onrei* (a New Year ceremony) of the Tokugawa shogunate and the function of ranking in the ceremony by comparing Enpō, Genbun and Tenpō periods

FUKAI Masaumi

To analyze *Nentō-onrei* (a New Year ceremony) of the Tokugawa shogunate is a key to understand how the social classification was formed in Edo era.

The shogunate government made the participants aware of their own social classes for one another and maintained the social order by conducting this ceremony. Although some general structure of the ceremony has been revealed, the details are not cleared, nor are the temporal changes. This study closely examined *Nentō-onrei* in the early, middle and later Edo era and clarified how the structure changed as well as how the classification was formed according to one's social class, family ranking and status.

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 aims to understand historical characteristics of the Edo period through analysis of the economies of mountain villages where the population engaged in farming and forestry. This report follow two that appeared previously in Bulletins 51 and 52 published by this institute.

The essential points of study in the above-cited first and second reports were as follows. In the early Edo period, the economy of the Kiso mountains was stable, with cutting of lumber on a large scale and employment of the people within the domain for cutting down trees and hauling lumber directly managed by the Owari domain, thanks to its abundant forest resources. However, by the middle of Edo period, management of forestry was taken over by lumber merchants, and forest resources became considerably depleted. To compensate for the revenue decrease caused by the resources problem and the burden of lumber taxation, new jobs and activities were created as a substitute, such as grain brokering, financing to feudal warriors and so forth, investments for development of new rice fields and others. However, the cycle of capital funds began to shift away from the mountain villages.

The essential points of this third report are as follows.

By the late Edo period, forest resources became further depleted and even if the forestry merchants started to expand the forestry operation to territories directly controlled by the Shogunate (referred to as *Tenryō*), territories owned by *Hatamoto* (who were direct vassals of the shogun) and so forth—or in other words outside the forests belonging to the domain—the earning ratios tended to be low because of the need to pay concession money to gain access to the mountains, paid to land holders, and higher delivery costs due to operations

in distant areas. As one countermeasure the Owari domain encouraged the planting of Japanese lacquer trees to obtain Japan wax (also known as Japan tallow or sumac wax), but this policy resulted in failure as the overall wax market had been dominated by good-quality wax trees. Consequently the local economy found itself in a worsening bind.

A study concerning a role of an administrator (*Oyamamori*) for Miure & Three Villages in a forestation policy adopted by the Owari domain from the 18th to 19th centuries

HAGA Kazuki

This study examines the forestation policy adopted by the Owari domain that had not been covered in previous research. From around the middle of 18th century in the Owari domain, Naiki Hikoshichi of the *Oyamamori* and his people planted trees on *Osuyama* (a term used for mountains where hunting and entry was prohibited, so as to encourage the proliferation of hawks to be used for hunting and to protect nesting areas). Culling withered trees within the *Osuyama*, they planted saplings of Japanese cypress, Japanese cedar, chestnut and so forth.

Since the reforestation work not only created forests for different purposes but enabled a growing environment for the forests, this stood out as an important policy in forestry management. In acknowledgement of the forestation work performed by the *Oyamamori* during the Edo period, the Meiji government appointed Naiki Zen-ei, a descendant of the family that had been the *Oyamamori*, as an official in the service of planting trees. This underscores the importance of the role performed by the Naiki family as *Oyamamori* in the forestation policy of the Owari domain.

A study on conflicts between *Yamakata* and *Kōrikata* in the Hirosaki domain at the end of the 18th century

KAYABA Masahito

This study examines a differences in thinking on a mountain forest within the domain created by the conflict between the *Yamakata* (a department in charge of domain's forestry administration) and the *Kōrikata* (a department in charge of domain's administration on area control and agriculture) in the Hirosaki domain at the end of the 18th century. From the results of the study, the following points were clarified.

First, forestry administration reforms were carried out in the Hirosaki domain at the end of the 18th century to restore the mountain forest ravaged by a famine. As part of the reforms, a *Yamakata* centered on the *Yama-Bugyō* (a commissioner of forestry administration) was established as the department in charge of the forestry administration. Since then, plans for forest rotation or forestation of Hinoki (Hiba) cypress, Japanese cedar and so forth were organized to center around the *Yamakata*.

Secondly, the *Yamakata* believed that the mountain forest had to be conserved in order to utilize it on a constant basis as well as restoring it. For that purpose, it asserted that people in the domain should not even be permitted to utilize *sueki* (trees that remained trees after logging operations). However, the *Kōrikata* claimed that people in the domain should be allowed to utilize the mountain forest to help relieve them from their impoverished circumstances. The two sides disagreed, with the *Yamakata*, claiming if people were prohibited from utilizing the mountain forest this would lead to illegal logging (tree felling actions performed without permission from the domain).

Thirdly, at the beginning of the 19th century the office of *Yama-Bugyō* was abolished and measures to control the mountain forest were assumed by the *Kōri-Bugyō* (a commissioner of administration on area control and agriculture), the *Kanjō-Bugyō* (a commissioner of finance) or the *Ometsuke* (an upper-level superintendent officer). This change of jurisdiction was decreed in response to increases in the jobs performed by the *Yamakata*. It is also assumed that prevailing circumstances would easily facilitate adoption of the opinion of the *Kōrikata*, since rice was the primary economic staple in the Hirosaki domain.

As described above, thoughts concerning the mountain forest differed depending on positions in the domain at the end of the 18th century and it is considered the rulers of the domain were exploring various policies for mountain forest management.

A study examining the impact of the anniversaries of the deaths of the shoguns and the lords of the Owari Tokugawa clan to the annual events of Owari clan in the late 19th century

YAMAMOTO Eiji

This study analyzes the relation between the annual events and the anniversary of the death based on '*Nentyū-tōsyō*', an official record written by the Owari Tokugawa clan in the late 19th century. The Owari clan prepared '*Nentyū-tōsyō*' to grasp the deaths of the shoguns and the lords of the Owari Tokugawa clan and decide the date and time of abstinence. The anniversaries of the deaths of the lords of the clan were controlled not to get fallen on the annual events held in Edo Castle or in the Edo residence of the Owari clan. In the 17th century, the anniversary of the death was prior to the annual events. However, the priority went to the annual events in the 19th century. Under these circumstances, the shogunate government ordered to include the anniversaries of the deaths of the Emperor and Empress. The increasing number of the anniversaries of the deaths of the shoguns and the lords made the schedule tighter and tighter and it was getting difficult to maintain the annual events. It also caused significant damage to the daily activities of the shogun and the lord. Thus, the government's order of including the anniversaries of the deaths of the Emperor and Empress resulted in destroying its annual events.

As the result of this study, it is revealed that the ceremony in the the Edo era was based on the death of the hierarchies.

A study of the political trends and position of Tokugawa Yoshikatsu, the 14th head of the Owari Tokugawa clan, in Kyoto at the end of the Edo era

FUJITA Hideaki

This study examines the political opinion and activities of Tokugawa Yoshikatsu, the 14th head of the Owari Tokugawa clan, in Kyoto from 1863 to 1864.

As the result of the study, the following three findings were identified.

1. Previous studies considered Yoshikatsu as an exclusionist imperialist. This thesis puts emphasis on the fact that Yoshikatsu's political speeches and deeds were based on the regard for the shogunate as the head of the Owari Tokugawa family, which was also the head of *Gosanke* families (three independent branches of Tokugawa families). He criticized the shogunate government from the view point of exclusionistic imperialism because he wanted to support the shogunate family.

2. While the shogun was still young, Yoshikatsu got trusted by the Imperial Court as the head of Tokugawa family in Kyoto. As for the matter of foreign relations, Yoshikatsu at that

time recognized it was important for the shogun to take command of *Daimyō* (feudal lords) in carrying out the exclusion with the honor of the Imperial Court over them. Concerning domestic matters, he also emphasized that it was essential to unify the understanding between the Imperial Court and the shogunate government and the shogun should go up to Kyoto and have a long-term stay.

3. Unlike radical exclusionists, Yoshikatsu tried to live up to the expectation of the Imperial Court by getting Yokohama port closed. He thought the shogun should take the lead in the closing of Yokohama port, so he expanded an energetic mediation to unify the shogunate conference in order to realize the closing of the port. With the thought that controlling *Daimyō* as well as foreign relations was a sole prerogative of the shogunate, Yoshikatsu claimed that the shogunate government should give special preference to Shimazu Hisamitsu, a brother of the lord of the Satsuma clan, over other lords who worked for the union of the Imperial Court and the shogunate and bestow him before the Imperial Court. His opinion was based on the thought that it should be the shogun, the head of warriors, who took command of *Daimyō*.