

2017年度 公益財団法人日本台湾交流協会フェロシップ事業成果報告書
(人文社会科学分野)

日本統治時代における台湾の都市計画研究
—高雄州の基礎建設を例とする (1920-1945)

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招聘期間 (2017年10月31日～12月3日)
2017年
公益財団法人日本台湾交流協会

平成 29 (2017)年度第二回 日本台湾交流協會
招聘活動 (人文・社會科學相關領域)

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研究主題：日本統治時代における台湾の都市計画研究---
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Summit Date:2018.3.16

I. Introduction

The study attempts to find exact clues that function to help to map out the historical tracks of the economy of Kaohsiung and to find out the exact clues about the original design and policy implantation of city planning in Kaohsiung City, Taiwan, during the Showa Era, which was exactly the climax of Kaohsiung City' s modernization process over the past 100 years. During the time, Kaohsiung was designated as the HQ for Japan' s actions in Southeast Asia. Thus, Japanese colonial government appropriated a large sum of investment and resources to be poured into developing the city with critical facilities and infrastructure of military and civilian purposes. After WWII, most of the infrastructure have been serving as the foundation for the city development and its economy.

Moreover, Taiwan is currently pushing ahead to build a closer and stronger economic and cultural relations with ASEAN Indian Ocean Rim, Australia and New Zealand. The experiences by the Japanese colonial government shall be serving as a reference for Taiwan Government.

Under this context, in order to conduct the study, the research areas shall be include at least three parts of knowledge background: a) the modernization process of Japan(since the Meiji Restoration) and Taiwan(during the Japanese rule from 1895-1945), b) the history of Japan' s international relations since the Meiji Restoration, c) the history of Japan' s urban planning policy over the past 100 years. Thus, the data collection and interviews were designed with the three area around the three areas.

II. The description of the study and its originally anticipated outcome.

The study centers around three interconnected field of knowledge:

- Urban planning.
- Political history.
- International relations.

Taiwan and Japan' s lifeline are pinned on the same thread: the maintenance of liberal international order in East Asia and on the broad scale, the whole world.

From the prism, I started to construct a sketchy framework for my research. Along with each interview, field study, investigation, and literature review I have conducted in 34 days' research time in Japan, the framework had been gradually developed and crystalized as a clearer one. The process keeps helping me to demystified the gap on the understanding between Taiwan and Japan.

III. Interviews, field studies, investigation into nurture a epistemology on Japan

In a hope to understand the way of thinking, thoughts from diverse perspectives, reflections on Japan' s modernization history, and expectations and imagination for global politics in the future, I design the study with a strong emphasis on the interviews with Japanese experts of the aforementioned three sciences of knowledge, along with field studies to a number of cities to investigate the on-site situation of rebuilding in the aftermath of wars and disasters.

Most importantly, I design the study with the ultimate goal to provide a channel to understand the reality and fact of Taiwan-Japan relations. Thus, I had myself fully prepared to conduct the research through requesting for interviews. My initial attempt was to listen to the true feelings and thoughts from Japanese researchers, but at the end of day, I harvested more than my original expectations before I embarked on the research trip to Japan.

From the issues relevant to Japan' s modernization process, urban planning, disaster relief, political history, international relations, and culture, I interviewed more than ten experts and practitioners during my research time in Japan.

My journey of interviews started with Taiwanese Ambassador to Japan Mr. Frank Hsieh. Only after the interview with Ambassador Hsieh, I have started to sense the rift in the ladder that has upheld Taiwanese experts on Japan, of those can feel the same mind as Japanese.

In the interview with President of JICA Professor Kitaoka Shinichi(北岡 伸一), I highly appreciated the chance to meet the renowned historian on Japan politics and distinguished diplomat. The one-hour conversation depicts me a

picture of the fundamentals of Japan national interest and its transformation over past 150 years. On the other hand, after the interview, I have started to understand an essential fact of Taiwan-Japan relations: Taiwan was at the beginning posed as an experiment field for Western-style modernization, which was amount to a successful story in result.

In the interview with Vice Dean of School of Engineering Professor Asami Yasushi, I learnt the driving force of social experimenting in reconstructing and rejuvenating a city' s economy. Moreover, Osaka also has the footprints of the same kind as Kaohsiung City in history. I will start to investigate Osaka and do a comparative research in my next phase of doing Japan Studies.

In the interview with MP Kakizawa Mito, thanks to Secretary in General Kakizawa 's arrangement and Mr. MP' s warm reception and sharing, I was well-informed with the first-hand information and knowledge about the three critical issue:

- Japan' s diplomacy.
- Taiwan-Japan relations, bilateral trade, possible rectification on Article 9 of the Constitution of Japan.
- The strategy local governments in Japan resort to rally financial support from the central government

In the interview with Director of Foundation for Housing of Warranty(HOW)(一般財団法人 住宅保証支援機構)Professor Koshizawa Akira, I received a profound lecture and field trip by Professor Koshizawa, which is going to be one of education that I will treasure and make the best use of it in my research. I was conferred and instilled with the abundance knowledge of the science of urban planning. Most major findings in the interview was the continuity of city development and composing of economy of many cities in Taiwan have still been vividly affected by Japan' s design during the colonial era.

In the interview with former Japan Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Mr. Nishida Tsuneo, I consider it was my highest honor to conduct an interview with a distinguished diplomat. I was lectured with the concept that overhaul my recognition in doing research on international

security: building and maintaining of collective peace in East Asia.

In the interview with President of GRIPS Professor Tanaka Akihiko, what lied in the core of the interview was that Taiwan needs to beef up ourselves and fit into every chance that can play a role in contributing to the peace in East Asia.

In the interview with political commentator and principal of JET Dr. Kin Bi-rei, I have learnt the great side of the civilization that Japan made its way to achieve and its enlightenment for younger generations of both Taiwan and Japan.

In the interview with Secretary in General Mr. Kakizawa Michi, thanks to Mr. Secretary in General's generosity and well-informed advice for my research time in Japan, I have conducted a research that is definitely going to reinforce my academic career and develop my own philosophy of worldview.

Finally, in the interview with Director of Urban Planning Professor Fukui Hideo, only with Professor Fukui's advice, can I avoid distraction of method and step out to my every brave step in the research trip,

In the meantime, I also conducted two field studies to Hiroshima and Sendai. My academic concern and expectations were to investigate the city rebuilding in the aftermath of war and natural disaster.

IV. Initial findings

The collective advances on economic life and the formation of attractiveness of a country is based on the construction of uniqueness of the way of life, namely, the culture. This was the lesson I learnt in person in Japan, which was the valuable part of the research time.

The special relationship between Taiwan and Japan was not only born out under the imperialistic context in late 19th century, but also was originally included and bonded together by China Tributary System, which has been one of the dominating force defining and containing the East Asia in the past centuries.

Thus, the façade of relationship can be dissected, degraded, or even denied by a group of political uncertainties including diplomatic coercion, national interests, or balance of power, but it cannot be removed from the mind and sight of human beings. The connectedness of geography and within the same range of military power projection by PRC is also another natural factor defining the whole picture of the special relationship.

History is not only recorded and written in characters and papers. The most crucial part of it should be invisible connections between people and expressions transcended from collective memories and cultures.

The fact shall be objectively conveyed and interpreted by narration by more of people to people exchanges.

For example, in my personal experiences and humble view, the museum can be served as a meaningful intermediary to revolve the racket of mutual understanding.

History of urban planning will be served as a good interface.

To continue the first part of my personal suggestion, coordination shall be also urgently called for and built with a clear roadmap and a set of measures.

Moreover, diversify exchanges, not only those related to culture, especially regarding to infrastructure initiated and constructed under Japanese colonial rule, should be promoted starting from now. Many of these infrastructure is still in well use or even be legally registered as historical site and protected by the law. In the eyes of homeland redevelopment, the experiences, countermeasures, and findings shall be also served as a valuable asset for both countries.

Security and peace can be only guaranteed by mutual trust and understanding. By more of exchanges to detect the gaps in understandings and thus there will be more windows of chances to reflect on the past and future for both countries.

V. Conclusion

The 34 days in Japan would be served as one of the most profound enlightening in my quest for clues to construct knowledge and the philosophy to form my way of thinking and worldview.

To sum up, I aim my study as a small but first-ever examination to awake the people of the countries to look into the future of the special relationship. I will continue to doing the journey of research, which continue to go on after 34 days in Japan.