

英文レジュメ

"Regional Development" and Changes in Regional Community

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This article is a case study of the changes brought about in the regional community, especially that engaged in fishery, by the reclaiming development project in the sea off Futtsu City in Chiba Prefecture — a project planned in the 1960s and actually embarked upon at the end of the 1970s.

The reclaiming development project in question was first planned at the beginning of the 1960s for creating a new site for heavy and chemical industries. The project's planners came to an agreement with the four regional fishery cooperation after a series of negotiations in the period from 1968 through 1970 to pay reparations to the cooperation members at the rate of ¥13 million per head in exchange for their fishery rights. The project, however, was later subjected to large-scale modifications in the face of a series of drastic changes in Japanese society, especially the oil crisis and the following economic slump, and growing criticism against the environmental pollution.

The reclaimed land as a matter of fact, was reduced to only about 40 per cent (660 hectares) of the original plan and heavy and chemical industries were replaced by more life-related industries as the future users of the reclaimed land. The project lumbered into action in 1979.

During the period, the four fishery cooperation, mostly engaged in laver culturing and shellfishes collection and formed along the residential district and fishing ground, disintegrated into four new categories. One is the group which has developed a new fishing ground and started specializing in laver culturing, while the second is the group which majors in shellfishes harvesting through the use of diving equipment. The third is the group which is engaged in traditional fishing thanks to the delay and scale reduction of the reclamation project with its fishing permit lasting until 1985, while the last group comprises those who completely quit fishing for other jobs.

In other words, the four fishing communities formed on the basis of their respective common fishing grounds and fishery cooperation have turned themselves into a single and wider community comprising a mixture of fishermen (members of the three different fishery cooperation) and non fishery workers.

The present article reveals the process in which the above development has taken place and points to the problems involved.