

論文 / 著書情報
Article / Book Information

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Title(English)	
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種別(和文)	論文要旨
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論文要旨

THESIS SUMMARY

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要旨 (英文 800 語程度)

Thesis Summary (approx.800 English Words)

This thesis, 'The meaning of 'sacredness fostered by the endemic' in the sustainability of local civic activities centering on conservation', consists of eight chapters.

Chapter 1, 'Introduction', provided the background, purpose, methodology and structure, terminology definition, and study position, and overviews previous research.

This study focused on community-based norms which were internalized within residents, and externalized as civic activities.

The objective was to present the concept of 'Sacredness fostered by the endemic', through analysis of regional documents, and interviews with residents whose desire to conserve places of sacredness continued, despite enormous changes in the period of high economic growth.

Chapter 2, 'The Fuudo and The Sacred', set out the framework of 'Fuudo' and 'Sacred' within this study. 'The Fuudo' written by Tetsuro Watsuji, and subsequent studies were interpreted, and the concept of time was added in relation to the ontology.

Furthermore, important points regarding Japanese faith practices were highlighted, such as awe for nature related disasters and blessings, performing regular rituals, and the importance of keeping sacred places clean. Understanding these points enabled a better understanding of the case studies.

These religious practices, centering on an object of faith, were defined as 'Hatarakikake'.

Chapter 3, 'Case study 1: The Nuinoike-Yusuikai - Regional revitalization activities involving *Benzaiten*', clarified the factors behind how the Yusuikai group could continue. The group was formed to protect a local spring that once depleted due to excessive use of groundwater for agriculture, but was later restored.

Existing organizations contributed to the birth and development of the Yusuikai. Their events were organized taking seasons, rituals, and agricultural activity into consideration, and were managed in the communication opportunities provided by community gatherings.

Activity history was detailed chronologically, and divided into 'Phases 1 to 4' and 'Corona pandemic'. Analysis of environmental changes and differences in experiences between generations showed that 'Hatarakikake' activities connected to Benzaiten ensured the sustainability of the Yusuikai.

Chapter 4, 'Case study 2: Kojoren cleaning activities in Shimosuwa-town' clarified the factors behind the sustainability of the Kojoren group's activities - cleaning the shores of Lake Suwa, famous for the ice cracks that appear on its surface, through which, legend says, the deity of Suwa Shrine crosses.

The Kojoren is an aggregation of support from existing organizations, persons, grants and administrative assistance. Chronological analysis revealed the presence of 'Basic Activities' such as monthly clean-ups, and 'Activities of the Moment' such as parent-child boating classes, and that the combination of these activities was important for sustainability. It was also revealed that customs related to the Onbashira Festival and the revision of its objectives by successive generations contributed to the sustainability of the group's activities.

Chapter 5, 'Case study 3: The Morimori-Club in Kogakubou Memorial Park', clarified the sustainability of woodland management activities performed by 'Morimori-Club', a group formed by citizens in an urban park connected with the historical figure Kogakubou. It revealed that support of unique park systems such as the Park-Master and the Entaku meetings for citizens and government to discuss together, contributed to the creation and development of Morimori-club. Nostalgia for past scenery supported the sustainability of their activities. Chronological analysis indicated routine work around the wooded area related to Kogakubou could be called 'Hatarakikake'.

In Chapter 6, 'Discussion 1', the following were identified as common characteristics that supported the sustainability of civic activities in the three case studies:

- ① Locations in which the activities were conducted were those where the sacredness of the area was internalized in the residents before the period of high economic growth, and then externalized through activities.
- ② Activities were performed in order to keep the environment close to what it once was
- ③ There were similar stages in the activity history, such as 'formative', 'growth', 'turning point', 'development and stability' and 'the Covid pandemic'.
- ④ Both 'Basic activity' and 'Activity of the Moment' existed and the combination of both was important.
- ⑤ The former were 'hatarakikake' activities, such as organizational maintenance, while the latter were activities that provided enjoyment related to certain times.
- ⑥ Groups enjoyed chatting after working.
- ⑦ Local traditions and history were taught.
- ⑧ Existing organizations were utilized
- ⑨ Environmental experiences of group initiators were important.

It was also clarified that 'hatarakikake' actions ensured the sustainability of the activities. This concept was defined as 'sacredness fostered by the endemic'.

In Chapter 7, 'Discussion 2', the relationship between people and place was structured via a 'Place Model', showing that sacredness was internalized in the people. Previous results of research on place theory show that place has 'factors for all people', (visual objects or events) and 'factors for each person' (individual experiences. Furthermore, noting that *fuudo* had been fostered between the individual and the collective, it was considered that civic activities were the shared experiences of 'factors for each person'.

'The sacredness fostered by the endemic' was defined as an idea that was internalized in the individual through experiences carried out with others, and externalized to the sacred place in the local community through performing 'hatarakikake'.

The following six meanings of 'The sacredness fostered by the endemic' in local conservation activities were noted:

- ① Sustainability of activities
- ② Effective norms for local conservation
- ③ Nostalgia and self-understanding
- ④ Activities fueled by pride in knowledge of local history
- ⑤ Sharing personal experiences with different generations
- ⑥ Well-rounded relations with people and places

Chapter 8, 'Conclusions', summarized results obtained in each chapter, and described concerns and prospects for future work.

This thesis presented the concept and meaning of 'Sacredness fostered by the endemic' through a close examination of previous studies and an empirical analysis of civic activities. It showed that acts of faith, usually regarded as unscientific, contained rationality when it comes to contemporary local conservation.

備考：論文要旨は、和文 2000 字と英文 300 語を 1 部ずつ提出するか、もしくは英文 800 語を 1 部提出してください。

Note : Thesis Summary should be submitted in either a copy of 2000 Japanese Characters and 300 Words (English) or 1copy of 800 Words (English).

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