

外国語要旨

学位論文題目 The Formation and Development of the Overseas Chinese Society in Yokohama: From
1859 to the Mid-1920s

氏 名 IIJIMA (ITO), Izumi

In this paper, I discussed the historical development of the overseas Chinese society in Yokohama over the period between 1859 when Yokohama opened its port to foreign trade and the Great Kanto Earthquake reconstruction period in the mid-1920s. In doing so, I examined the development from three angles: (1) historical background, (2) organizations, and (3) economic activities. Furthermore, I have explained in detail the historical workings of the real overseas Chinese society in Yokohama based not only on literature but also a combination of images (old photographs, postcards, and ukiyo-e), items (excavated bricks and old piano), and oral history.

[1. Historical Background of the Overseas Chinese Society in Yokohama]

Based on the examination of the historical background of the overseas Chinese society in Yokohama from 1859 to the mid-1920s, the period can be divided into the following five phases by using the opening of Yokohama to foreign trade (1859), the execution of the Sino-Japanese Friendship and Trade Treaty (1871), the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War of 1894 to 1895, the implementation of the revised treaties (1899), and the Great Kanto Earthquake (1923) as turning points.

<Phase 1> Formation Period of the Overseas Chinese Society in Yokohama: 1859 (opening of the Yokohama port) to 1870

After the port opened, the Chinese came to Yokohama for instance as compradores of Western trading companies. As the number of Westerners and Chinese increased, the number of Chinese people engaged in work to provide clothing, food, and housing to those Westerners and compradores further increased, marking the beginning of the formation of Chinatown. It is worthy of mentioning that the reason for living clustered together in the Chinatown district was not due to ethnic segregation; it was due to issues with the settlement construction process and the practice of zoning by business type.

<Phase 2> Growth Period of the Overseas Chinese Society in Yokohama: 1871 (the execution of the Sino-Japanese Friendship and Trade Treaty) to 1893

Driven by the execution of the Sino-Japanese Friendship and Trade Treaty which granted a certain status to the Chinese, and the opening of the Chinese consulate which protected their public authority, the population of Chinese rapidly increased and Chinatown was gradually formed. The treaty also enabled the Chinese to own real estate, prompting them to build the Guandi Miao temple, Chinese guild house, cemetery, and hospital to enhance their social structure.

<Phase 3> Unstable Period of the Overseas Chinese Society in Yokohama: 1894 (Sino-Japanese War of 1894 to 1885) to 1899 (the abolishment of foreign settlement)

The abrogation of the Sino-Japanese Friendship and Trade Treaty, the implementation of the revised treaties, and the abolishment of foreign settlement dramatically changed the legal, social, and economical status of overseas Chinese in Yokohama. Furthermore, affected by politicians in exile from the mainland such as Liang Qichao and Sun Yat-sen, changes like the introduction of modern organizations such as school and the Chamber of Commerce, development of awareness as Chinese, and inclination to cooperate with the Japanese society emerged among overseas Chinese in Yokohama.

<Phase 4> Development Period of the Overseas Chinese Society in Yokohama: 1900 to August 1923 (prior to the Great Kanto Earthquake)

The population increased from 1900 and reached its peak at about 6,200, as the economic activities of overseas Chinese also expanded. Reflecting the stable development of society, various organizations were established and festivals such as Guandi-tan frequently took place.

<Phase 5> The Devastation and Recovery of the Overseas Chinese Society in Yokohama: September 1, 1923 to the mid-1920s

As the Great Kanto Earthquake killed approximately 1,700 people, or nearly 30% of the population of about 5,700 prior to the earthquake, the overseas Chinese society in Yokohama faced a devastating crisis. Many overseas Chinese evacuated to Guangdong, Shanghai, and Kobe. Because major merchants including traders did not immediately return to Yokohama although the reconstruction was relatively quick, there was a trend among overseas Chinese in Yokohama of gradually specializing in food, clothing, and housing-related occupations such as cooking, tailoring, and painting.

It is notable that their relationship with the host society of modern Japan and Yokohama was generally good throughout the period of 60 years or so described above. In addition, as

the second generation who were born in Yokohama began growing around mid-1890s, 30 years after the opening of the port period in the 1860s, self-awareness as overseas Chinese gradually developed.

[2. Organizations in the Overseas Chinese Society in Yokohama]

The overseas Chinese society in Yokohama had a variety of organizations for internal purposes such as self-governing, mutual assistance, friendship, and keeping faith as well as for external purposes such as conducting various negotiations and communicating their intentions. This paper examined the details of the establishment and activities of the Chinese guild house, Guandi Miao temple, cemetery, Chamber of Commerce, school, associations based on the shared hometown or occupation, and emerging organizations of the mid-1920s influenced by the rise of Chinese nationalism. Furthermore, through the examination of these aspects, the paper revealed the growth process and characteristics of the overseas Chinese society in Yokohama as well as the challenges they faced in each period.

[3. Economic Activities of the Overseas Chinese Society in Yokohama]

The overview, characteristics, and significance of the economic activities of overseas Chinese in Yokohama from the late 1860s to the early 1920s were examined based primarily on analysis of *The Japan Directory* over a period of 55 years.

(1) Overview

The economic activities of overseas Chinese in this period included a wide variety of businesses such as manufacturing and construction-related business in addition to the traditionally recognized trading, commerce, and financial activities. As for developments over time during this period, the economic activities burgeoned around 1893, in other words immediately before the Sino-Japanese War of 1894 to 1895, gradually developing to reach a peak during 1910, and subsequently staying at the same level until the 1920s. Therefore, it can be said that the maturation stage had been reached prior to the earthquake.

(2) Characteristics

Various points can be noted, such as 1) there were no workers in the primary industries, 2) merchants and craftsmen were the majority, 3) the manufacturing industry (tailoring, painting, printing, wickerwork, construction-related business, etc.) was also a substantial segment, 4) many individuals were employed by Western trading companies.

(3) Significance and Role

1) Middlemen for commercial interaction: Overseas Chinese in Yokohama mediated trade activities and bridged the gap between Westerners and Japanese who had different languages and business customs. 2) Promoters of trade: As key players in trade activities, the Chinese were indispensable for the international trade city of Yokohama. 3) Transferors of Western technology: Because the Chinese took on jobs such as dressmaking, Western cooking, Western architecture, and typography to provide food, clothing, and housing to the Westerners, those new technologies were transferred to Japan as a result.

Yokohama Chinatown is a leading tourist destination in Japan. However, its history has not really been explained despite the high level of recognition and interest it receives. Yet, as an international community that has continued to exist for close to 160 years, the overseas Chinese society in Yokohama is exceptional in Japan. Clarifying their historical development process is essential for coexisting with the immigrant society as well as for understanding Japan's relationship with China in the future.