

Re-examining the Analysis of the Compiling Trends of Local Government History and Geography Published in Shizuoka Prefecture Using "Chosen Tsushin-shi (Korean Envoy to Japan)" as a Keyword

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Abstract: The 2018 revision of curriculum guidelines for Japanese history education in high school has made increasingly clear that the teaching policy should emphasize modern and contemporary history and global perspectives, while allowing students to understand the characteristics of the nation and the period through their own research of materials remaining in the region. As a symbolic subject of such revision, "Advanced Japanese History" was newly established in 2022 in high school. When practicing this type of education, one of the most important sources of literature is the local government history and geography called "Jichitai-shi". However, when using this source, it is important to note in what year, under what editorial trends, and by whom the desired municipal volume was published. This is because the desired material may not always reflect the latest research results due to its correlation with research trends in the academic community. Therefore, it is necessary to conduct a study that visually presents the compilation trends of local government history and geography to the general reader in an easy-to-understand manner. So, since 2018, the author has been working on a chart document that sets one prominent term in the general history as a keyword and then explains how the keyword was mentioned in each province. This paper examines the academic validity of the author's approach. In 2005, Kinya Kitamura analyzed materials published in Shizuoka prefecture up to 2003, using Shizuoka prefecture as the target region and setting the keyword of Korean envoys to Japan during the Edo period. The results are organized in a list. In response, the author would like to verify the effectiveness of the improvement of the method of explaining the trends of the compilation project, which has been repeated based on the results of research efforts.

Key words: Japanese history, History compilation, Early modern, Shizuoka Pref, Korean envoy

1. Introduction

The 2018 revision of curriculum guidelines for Japanese history education in high schools has made increasingly clear that the teaching policy should emphasize modern and contemporary history and global perspectives, while allowing students to understand the characteristics of the nation and the period through their own research of materials remaining in the region. As a symbolic subject of such revision, "Advanced Japanese History" was newly established in 2022. When practicing this type of education, one of the most important sources of literature is the local government

history and geography called “Jichitai-shi”. In fact, its study guidelines also specify the use of local municipal history as a resource [1]. The library’s website now allows students to search for publication information on local government histories, and the National Diet Library’s (NDL) digital collections allow them to directly access the text of local government histories [2]. And immediately, a paper was published that researched the practice of using local government history in high school Advanced Japanese History classes [3].

However, in reading materials, it is important to understand how it was written. Because the material may not always accurately reflect the research findings of the academic community, depending on what year, by whom, and under what circumstances it was written. Therefore, research is also necessary to be able to properly explain the trends in compilation and its positioning when using the material.

With these ideas in mind, the author has been working since 2018 to improve the visually pleasing diagrammatic documentation of trends in the compilation of local government history and geography [4] [5] [6] [7]. The examination of this paper is to chart the trends in the compilation of local government histories published in Shizuoka prefecture, using “Chosen Tsushin-shi (Korean envoy to Japan)” as the keyword, and using as the target material the volumes of municipal histories published in the prefecture, including the general histories of the modern period. The purpose, frankly speaking, is to verify the effectiveness of the improvements that the author has been working on.

2. Research background

In early modern Japan, which adopted a policy of “national isolation”, Chosen Tsushin-shi had an important role as one of the few means of international exchange. However, according to Kinya Kitamura’s article, it has been difficult to find detailed descriptions in history textbooks since the Meiji Era that confronted this issue head-on. Of course, he points out that although current textbooks do include such descriptions, past education seems to have lingered in the minds of the public, and it is difficult to keep them in mind [8]. This matter is also explained in the new textbook “Advanced Japanese History”, and can be understood as one of the most important keywords in understanding Japanese modern history [9].

During the Edo period, Chosen Tsushin-shi came to Japan a total of 12 times between 1607 and 1811. From the fourth of these visits, the purpose was to celebrate the inauguration of a new shogun. Although some did not travel to Edo and turned back (The second itinerary was to turn around at Kyoto, and the twelfth itinerary was to turn around at Tsushima located in Nagasaki prefecture), the envoy traveled to their destinations, resting and lodging at inns (shuku-eki) along the land and sea routes. Therefore, it was important to experience international exchange not only between national governments, but also with local residents along the transportation routes. In other words, from the perspective of local history, Chosen Tsushin-shi is a valid theme for exploring how local communities at the time experienced international exchange and supported the passage of the envoy.

With this understanding, researchers published an encyclopedia that summarizes the research results accumulated up to that point in the 1990s [10]. But in reality, many teachers will first ask students to research how the Chosen Tsushin-shi were portrayed in local government histories when they focus on the topic of the envoy in their school classes. The problem is the way the envoys are written in the materials.

In the case of Shizuoka prefecture, the Tokaido, one of the Go-kaido, passed through the area, and the envoys also traveled along this transportation route. However, according to Kinya Kitamura (2005), the envoy was not easily described in local government histories published more than half a century ago, as was the case with descriptions in history textbooks. Then Kinya Kitamura read local

government histories published in Shizuoka prefecture and compiled lists of changes in descriptions of the envoys. His analysis allowed us to identify changes in the amount and content of the descriptions in the prefecture that were so clear that they could be divided into time periods. The attempt to depict the compilation trend of local government history and geography in a single prefecture in a single chart began in earnest in 2009 with the regular meeting of the Kanto kinsei-shi kenkyu-kai (Kanto Early Modern History Research Association), which focused on the Kanto region [11] [12]. His paper is highly regarded as a pioneering work by the society that raised this issue. Specifically, progress in the content of explanations can be seen since around 1975. Kinya Kitamura cited the remarkable development of China and South Korea as a factor in this development and discussed the fact that Japanese society had shifted the axis of international society from being exclusively Western to being Asian. In other words, Kinya Kitamura considered that the factors that caused the change in local government history were to be sought in changes in the general society.

3. Setting up a plan to solve the problem and limiting the task

The first question we would like to raise is whether the changes in local government histories are primarily due to changes in general society, as Kinya Kitamura discussed. The author would like to attempt to resolve this point by linking the themes analyzed by Kinya Kitamura with the research the author has been engaged in. In doing so, we would also like to verify that the author's research was also effective in Shizuoka prefecture.

Then, the author made a specific plan to study the following three phases.

The first is to chart the academic connections of the researchers involved in the historiography project in the prefecture based on the author's previous research, and to contrast the results with the changes in the content of the local government histories in the prefecture. Through this discussion, the author would like to look at the correlation between the changes in municipal history in the Shizuoka prefecture area and the personal connections of researchers involved in the compilation project.

Secondly, the author prepares the same format of charts and graphs for Shizuoka prefecture's neighboring prefectures and compares them to the Shizuoka prefecture case. This contrast allows us to examine whether changes in local government histories within Shizuoka prefecture were caused by influences from neighboring prefectures.

And thirdly, the author would like to contrast this with national research and trends in local government projects. Through this work, the author hopes to determine the universality and particularity of compilation trends of local government histories in Shizuoka prefecture. However, in the case of this work, it will be done after accumulating research papers and analyses of local government histories from around the country.

In this paper, the author will do the first phase, and the next phase will be described in another paper.

4. Study

Please look at Figure 1 and 2. In both cases, the meanings of the marks in the figures are noted below.

1	1912	▶Mishima City (Mishima Town)												
2	1913	▶Kanaya Town	✓					●				●		
3	1923	▶Iwata City (Nakaizumi Town)												
4	1924	▶Fujieda City (Fujieda Town)												
5	1926	▶Hamamatsu City												
6	1930	▶Iwata City (Mitsuke Town)												
7	1930	▶Fujieda City (Aojima Town)												
8	1930	▶Fujinomiya City (Omiya Town)												
9	1931	▶Shizuoka City	✓	●				●	●					
10	1937	▶Numazu City												
11	1949	▶Shimizu City (Okitsu Town)												
12	1949	▶Nakaizu Town (Nakaomi Ville)												
13	1951	▶Nakaizu Town (Kamiomi Ville)												
14	1954	▶Iwata City												
15	1954	▶Yaizu City (Otomi Ville)												
16	1954	▶Yaizu City (Kogawa Town)												
17	1958	▶Ito City	✓		●							●		
18	1959	▶Hamamatsu City (Komyo Ville)												
19	1959	▶Mishima City	✓	●										
20	1961	▶Shimizu City (Sodeshi Town)	✓								●	●		
21	1961	▶Numazu City												
22	1961	▶Yui Town												
23	1962	▶Fujikawa Town	✓											●
24	1963	▶Numazu City (Hara Town)												
25	1964	▶Shimizu City												
26	1965	▶Kikugawa Town												
27	1965	▶Shimada City (Hatsukura Ville)												
28	1966	▶Daito Town (Ohama Town)												
29	1967	▶Atami City	✓	●	●						●	●	●	
30	1968	▶Kakegawa City	✓											
31	1968	▶Kanbara Town												
32	1968	▶Shimada City												
33	1969	▶Fuji City	✓							●	●	●	●	●
34	1970	▶Okabe Town												
35	1970	▶Fujieda City												
36	1971	▶Hamamatsu City	✓							●	●	●	●	●
37	1971	▶Fujinomiya City												
38	1971	▶Yaizu City												
39	1972	▶Sakuma Town	✓								●	●		
40	1972	▶Fuji City (Yoshiwara City)												
41	1972	▶Yui Town	✓							●				
42	1973	▶Shibakawa Town												
43	1974	▶Kannami Town												
44	1975	▶Atami City (Ajiro Town)	✓									●	●	●
45	1975	▶Hamaoka Town												
46	1976	▶Ogasa Town												
47	1976	▶Shimizu City	✓	●			●			●	●			
48	1976	▶Mikkabi Town												
49	1979	▶Shizuoka City	✓										●	
50	1980	▶Oosuka Town												
51	1980	▶Tatsuyama Ville	✓								●	●		
52	1980	▶Hamamatsu City (Kami Ville)	✓											
53	1981	▶Gotenba City	✓									●	●	●
54	1981	▶Tenryu City	✓									●		
55	1983	▶Fukuroi City												
56	1983	▶Misakubo Town	✓									●	●	●
№	Year	Name of local government that have published history and geography	Description	Description by period of time										
				№1	№2	№3	№4	№5	№6	№7	№8	№9	№10	№11
				1607	1617	1624	1636	1643	1655	1682	1711	1719	1748	1764

Fig 1-1. References to “Chosen Tsushin-shi” in local government history in Shizuoka prefecture

Re-examining the Analysis of the Compiling Trends of Local Government History and Geography Published in Shizuoka Prefecture Using "Chosen Tsushin-shi (Korean Envoy to Japan)" as a Keyword

1	1912	Mishima	
2	1913	Kanaya	
3	1923	Iwata	
4	1924	Fujieda	
5	1926	Hamamatsu	
6	1930	Iwata	
7	1930	Fujieda	
8	1930	Fujinomiya	
9	1931	Shizuoka City	
10	1937	Numazu	
11	1949	Shimizu City	
12	1949	Nakaizu	
13	1951	Nakaizu	
14	1954	Iwata	
15	1954	Yaizu	
16	1954	Yaizu	
17	1958	Ito	◆◆
18	1959	Hamamatsu	
19	1959	Mishima	
20	1961	Shimizu City	
21	1961	Numazu	
22	1961	Yui	
23	1962	Fujikawa	
24	1963	Numazu	◆
25	1964	Shimizu City	
26	1965	Kikugawa	
27	1965	Shimada	
28	1966	Daito	
29	1967	Atami	◆◆◆
30	1968	Kakegawa	
31	1968	Kanbara	
32	1968	Shimada	◆◆◆
33	1969	Fuji	◆◆◆
34	1970	Okabe	◆◆
35	1970	Fujieda	◆◆
36	1971	Hamamatsu	◆◆◆◆
37	1971	Fujinomiya	◆◆
38	1971	Yaizu	
39	1972	Sakuma	◆◆◆
40	1972	Fuji	◆◆◆
41	1972	Yui	
42	1973	Shibakawa	
43	1974	Kannami	◆
44	1975	Atami	
45	1975	Hamaoka	
46	1976	Ogasa	
47	1976	Shimizu City	◆
48	1976	Mikkabi	
49	1979	Shizuoka City	
50	1980	Oosuka	
51	1980	Tatsuyama	
52	1980	Hamamatsu	◆◆
53	1981	Gotenba	
54	1981	Tenryu	◆◆◆◆
55	1983	Fukuroi	◆◆◆◆
56	1983	Misakubo	
№	Year	Name of local government that have published history and geography	Y.Yamamoto T.Tsuzuchi T.Araiuchi T.Masumoto K.Nagahara M.Tsurumoto H.Kitagawa M.Nakada T.Hashimoto S.Suzuki T.Saitoh T.Owada K.Watanabe K.Kodama M.Shokawa S.Takahashi H.Takahashi M.Shokawa I.Yamashita T.Honda H.Hara T.Iwasaki S.Tarboi X.Ohno F.Kuruda F.Kimura S.Matsunaka S.Matsunaka K.Mitsunaka I.Takada K.Suzuki H.Matsui M.Ohno I.Matsubae A.Wakabayashi I.Ohba Y.Abe
Researcher involved in multiple editions of early modern general history			

Fig 2-1. Network of researchers on local government history in Shizuoka prefecture

57	1984	▶Oigawa Town																		
58	1984	▶Kakegawa City																		
59	1984	▶Daito Town																		
60	1984	▶Fuji City (Takaoka Town)																		
61	1986	▶Kikugawa Town (Yokochi Ville)																		
62	1988	▶Shimoda City																		
63	1988	▶Haibara Town																		
64	1989	▶Arai Town	✓							●	●	●	●	●						
65	1989	▶Hamakita City	✓							●	●	●	●	●						
66	1989	▶Higashi-izu Town																		
67	1989	▶Maisaka Town	✓												●	●	●			
68	1989	▶Yui Town																		
69	1991	▶Inasa Town																		
70	1991	▶Iwata City	✓	●											●	●	●	●		
71	1991	▶Oigawa Town																		
72	1992	▶Shimizu City (Okitsu Town)																		
73	1992	▶Nagaizumi Town																		
74	1993	▶Kikugawa Town (Kamo Ville)	✓																●	
75	1993	▶Sagara Town																		
76	1993	▶Yoshida Town																		
77	1994	▶Nakaizu Town																		
78	1995	▶Toyooka Ville																		
79	1995	▶Minami-izu Town																		
80	1996	▶Shizuoka Pref.	✓	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
81	1996	▶Toyoda Town	✓								●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
82	1996	▶Nirayama Town	✓																	●
83	1996	▶Mori Town																		●
84	1997	▶Omaezaki Town																		●
85	1997	▶Shizuoka Pref.	✓																	●
86	1997	▶Haruno Town																		●
87	1998	▶Oyama Town	✓												●	●	●	●	●	●
88	1999	▶Kawazu Town																		●
89	1999	▶Toi Town																		●
90	2000	▶Asaba Town	✓													●			●	●
91	2000	▶Izu-nagaoka Town	✓																	●
92	2000	▶Kosai City	✓																	●
93	2000	▶Susono City	✓												●			●	●	●
94	2000	▶Nishi-izu Town																		●
95	2000	▶Hosoe Town																		●
96	2002	▶Nakakawane Town																		●
97	2002	▶Fukude Town	✓																	●
98	2003	▶Shimizu Town	✓	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
99	2004	▶Kanaya Town	✓	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
100	2005	▶Honkawane Town																		●
101	2005	▶Matsuzaki Town																		●
102	2005	▶Yaizu City	✓													●			●	●
103	2006	▶Numazu City	✓						●								●	●	●	●
104	2009	▶Ryuyo Town	✓													●				●
105	2011	▶Hamaoka Town																		●
106	2014	▶Ohito Town	✓													●			●	●
107	2016	▶Fukude Town	✓														●	●	●	●
108	2016	▶Heda Ville																		●
109	2019	▶Ito City																		●
110	2024	▶Minami-izu Town																		●
№	Year	Name of local government that have published history and geography	Description	№1	№2	№3	№4	№5	№6	№7	№8	№9	№10	№11						
				1607	1617	1624	1636	1649	1655	1682	1711	1719	1748	1764	Occasion and year of the arrival of the envoys					

Fig 1-2. References to "Chosen Tsushin-shi" in local government history in Shizuoka prefecture

* About keyword, ▶ mark indicates that the local government has been located on or near the Tokaido, the route of Chosen Tsushin-shi. ✓ mark means that the material describes the diplomatic envoys. And ● mark means that the envoy was individually described in the material.

Figure 1 shows a selection of 110 volumes of local government history and geography published in Shizuoka prefecture, including early modern general histories, arranged in chronological order of publication. The author has read the text of each book and marked those with individual descriptions of the Chosen Tsushin-shi. The list prepared by Kinya Kitamura in 2005 categorized the explanations and indicated their classification numbers, while the author's focus was on clarifying the presence or absence of explanations at each embassy turn. In addition, while Kinya Kitamura's analysis was up to Figure 1-2/2-2 №98 Shimizu Town published in 2003, the author searched up to the volume published in 2024.

The analysis revealed that until the 1960s, there were few descriptions of the envoys, despite the fact that the publication of historiography was active in local governments along or adjacent to the Tokaido through which the envoys passed. This is as Kinya Kitamura pointed out. Since the end of the 1960s, there have been a number of histories of local governments that specifically describe about №7~11 (1682~1764) envoys. "History of Shizuoka Prefecture" (Figure 1-2/2-2 №80/85) published in 1996/1997, mentions all of envoys, but did not explain in detail the early Edo period, while analyzing many historical documents.

Next, please look at Figure 2. This figure shows the researchers who were involved in the writing or editing of the analyzed local government histories, and those who were involved in two or more cases were selected and marked as to which the materials they were specifically involved and in what roles. Of course, there may be many informal connections that are not specified in the material, but the authors detected 37 persons.

The distribution reveals clear differences from period to period. First, until the 1960s, there are few researchers who fall into this category, and the connections are not easily seen. This indicates that each municipality was mostly compiling its own compilation rather than outsourcing it to outside experts. However, from the end of the 1960s, the number of marks began to increase, and the network gradually became visible. By the 1990s, when the "History of Shizuoka Prefecture" was published, a broad network could be seen. What is noteworthy is that the network doesn't spread only vertically, but also horizontally. This indicates that the human network of the compilation project involves not only some generations but also a wide range of generations at the same time, including newly joined researchers. Then, in the 2000s, the emphasis of the network shifted to the right side of the figure. This indicates a generational shift in the mainstay of researchers involved in the compilation project to those who have newly joined since the 1990s. It is important that although there has been a generational shift, the figure shows that there has been no breakdown in the network. The number of participants per person is not large, so it cannot be said to be massive, but the gradual interactions by individuals have accumulated to form a single network.

Then compare the two figures side by side. Based on our discussion so far, we can see that there is a correlation between the changes in the description of Chosen Tsushin-shi in the compilation of local government histories and the dynamics of the network of researchers involved in this project. As the researcher's connections became more visible in the 1970s, more local government histories began to explain the times of №7~11 envoys. Although researchers change from one generation to the next, the 1990s, when "History of Shizuoka Prefecture" is published, is the connecting point and does not lead to a disconnection. As a result, even in the 2000s, after the publication of "History of Shizuoka Prefecture" was completed, the same tendency to explain the Chosen Tsushin-shi continued. What is noteworthy in the case of Shizuoka prefecture due to its geographical characteristics is the participation of researchers from the Tokyo and Nagoya areas. When a new network of researchers from outside the prefecture was established, what specific changes in the explanation of the envoys occurred? Looking

at the names of individuals, the participation of researchers from outside the prefecture began in the late 1980s, prior to the publication of "History of Shizuoka Prefecture". This specific explanation is the next issue to be addressed.

5. Conclusion

In this paper, the author read 110 volumes of local government history and geography published, including early modern general histories, with the area of Shizuoka prefecture as the target region and the Chosen Tsushin-shi set as the keyword. Then, we compared the two by creating a graphic material that contrasts the changes in the references in each book with the personal connections of the researchers involved in the project. This was the first step in a research plan by the author on Shizuoka prefecture and was intended to verify the validity of the research that has been improved upon.

In 2005, Kinya Kitamura considered that changes in municipal history are due to changes in society. In response, the author expanded the analysis to include books published in 2024 and newly explained that the issue was correlated with changes in the network of researchers and could not be put to rest by social changes alone. The author's proposed analytical method is valid for Shizuoka prefecture.

Based on the results of this paper, the author will proceed with the second phase of the research.

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