

On-site Education of Practical Languages for Area Studies

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Graduate School of Asian and African Areas Studies

Takehiro Ido

On my research theme or language training: (400 words)

Soon after the independence, the government of Zimbabwe had purchased a part of lands from white farmers that are then not fully utilized, and re-distributed to war veterans and poor farmers who don't have enough land to cultivate, although most of fertile lands continued to be in the hand of white farmers. Mashonaland Central Province, Shamva district, Mupfurudzi Resettlement Area Magadzi 1 is the village I selected to conduct my field research. The resettlement programme was executed in 1980 in the village. Settlers were composed of those who have no kinship relations with each other following clan systems nor territorial connection, which is not common for African villages. Therefore, I selected my research topic as to how re-settled people build their social relationships so far to establish the new way of life in post independent Zimbabwe.

Almost no resettled people have properties such as cattle and agricultural tools in 1980 except those provided by the government. Although they got fairly big piece of land (5 ha) when settled, they didn't have enough labor forces to cultivate their land, nor foods. In order to solve these problems, they intermarried with women living near by resettlement villages. By doing so, they could get labor forces to cultivate large land and exchange food with those relatives. In order to get more labor forces, they intermarried with another women continuously, so that they could increase the harvest and livestock.

Due to such polygamy, these days the population of the village was tripled since 1980, which brought the situation that some people couldn't inherit enough land to survive. Meanwhile some families who have abundant labor forces extend land in earnest by themselves after traditional chief manage this area from government in 2000 (Mudege, 2008). It is clear that there is a widening gap between rich and poor in this village.

After 2000, Zimbabwe government expropriates farmland from white farmers that is called "white track", and was exposed to international criticism through economic sanction. Under such situation, life of people became intolerable inducing mass out-migration from Zimbabwe, and inside Zimbabwe, people have to diverse their means of survival besides agriculture. So I will study their multiple livelihood strategy in the next research. Furthermore, I will study land privatization on which traditional chief has a major influence.

Mudege, N. N. (2008). *An Ethnography of Knowledge The Production of Knowledge in Mupfurudzi Resettlement Scheme, Zimbabwe*. Leiden and Boston: Koninklijke Brill NV.