



Relationship between Transformation of Civic and Reclamation of Moat in Case of 7 Cities Based on Japanese Castle-Towns

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In the early Meiji era (about 1870) in Japan, government and municipal offices were built one after another in prefectural capital cities by "abolition of the Han system". Many Japanese castle-towns were selected as prefectural capital cities. In the castle districts of Japanese Castle-Towns, government and municipal offices gathered each other to form civic center, and castles were broken at the same time. After World War II, People were interested in protection of cultural properties, and the ruins of a castle were recognized as precious cultural properties. After this it is important to face urban renewal as to harmonize with civic center and the ruins of a castle.

This paper aims to clarify how to form civic center and how to break castles in the castle districts from the Meiji era to the present day, analyzing cases of 7 prefectural capital cities of the Chubu region based on Japanese castle-towns where civic center was formed in the castle districts in the present day. Civic center in this paper was defined as "public districts where public facilities such as city office, prefectural office and libraries were concentrated ". I pay attention to reclaimed rate of moat as the state of broken castles. About method of study, first I calculate reclaimed rate of moat of each four periods (1910, 1940, 1970, 2000) by city maps of four periods. Second, I measure area of military installations, government and municipal offices, cultural facilities, educational facilities, private lands and roads in the castle districts to grasp changes of land use. Third, I measure area of civic center of each four period in the castle districts to grasp changing process of civic center. Findings are as follows. First, about reclaimed rate of moat, average reclaimed rate of moat is 28.6% (1910), 52.7 % (1940) and 74.0 % (1970, 2000). At present, there are two cities (Sizuoka and Nagoya) where many moats are kept (reclaimed rate of moat is below 50.0%) and five cities (Tsu, Kanazawa, Toyama, Fukui and Kofu) where many moats are broken (reclaimed rate of moat is more than 70.0%). Second, as a result of analyzing changes of land use, as time goes on, ratios of cultural facilities and educational facilities are higher. I mention specially that there is a great difference after that whether land use of the castle districts in 1910 is military installations or private land. That is to say, if land use of the castle districts in 1910 is military installations, reclaimed rate of moat is low and land use of the ruins of a castle is cultural facilities and educational facilities, and if land use is private land, reclaimed rate of moat is high and land use of the ruins of a castle is private land. Furthermore; in the cities where reclaimed rate of moat is high, civic center was formed taking advantage of constructing cultural facilities and educational facilities at 1970. Third, as a result of analyzing area of civic center, area of civic center was expanding after World War II.

KEY WORDS: Civic center, castle district, Japanese castle-towns, reclamation of moat, modernizing process.