

Characteristics of Shugo System and Command System of the Muromachi Bakufu in the Era of Northern and Southern Courts

Hanada Takuji

The purpose of this study is to make it clear that the transformation process of the early Muromachi Bakufu, through an analysis of characteristics of Shugo System and Command System in the Era of Northern and Southern Courts.

An introductory chapter, the author argued that in order to clarify the regime of the Muromachi Bakufu, it is necessary to consider the difference between Ashikaga kin and non-kin.

In chapter 1, it made an analysis of documents of enfeoffment and fiduciary assignment issued by provincial constables and generals in the Era of Northern and Southern Courts. Ashikaga kin were granted substantially superior authority over the assignment of fiefs when compared to non-kin. Behind this difference of authority, there was the desire of the Ashikaga shoguns to use their kinsmen to extend their control over local provincial warriors, and incorporate them into the bakufu's organizational scheme, on the one hand, while on the other placing limits on the expansion of non-kin authority.

In chapter 2, it considered policy conversion of Muromachi Bakufu. After the Era of KANN?, as bakufu policy changed, the difference in the authority to assign fiefs between Ashikaga kin and non-kin constables and generals tended to disappear.

In chapter 3, it thought about the authority which nominates the wartime services of local provincial warriors to the Muromachi Bakufu. At the beginning, the authority was held by only Ashikaga kin. After the Era of KANN?, not only kin but also non-kin has the authority. In addition to, local provincial warriors who reports their own wartime services to the Muromachi Bakufu directly appears.

In chapter 4, it discussed that the feudal estate policy of the early stage of the Muromachi Bakufu in the Era of Northern and Southern Courts was affected by policies of opposed regimes such as the Kenmu Regime and the Southern Court.

From what has been discussed above, the following results were obtained:①The early stage of the Muromachi Bakufu intend to construct the regional control by "Ashikaga kin".②After the Era of KANN?, the Muromachi Bakufu re-construct the regional control by "constables". ③This kind of change of bakufu policy lead to the regime in the Era of Muromachi.