

A study on regional vision creation based on inheritance of Sense of Place for synchronizing residents' consciousness with merged municipality after Heisei merger - Focusing on Ohnan Town in Shimane Prefecture case- Keywords: Sense of Place, Semiformal Vision, Regional Vision, Heisei Merger

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This study tried to seek practical findings for creating local visions by integrating "Sense of Place (SOP)" as "emotional bonding" between residents and various planning actors and, as a method to settle conscious frictions among residents after large-scale municipality merger in Heisei era.

Focusing on 21 municipalities of Shimane Prefecture, the first chapter shows two patterns on involvement of planning actors into the process for creating local visions. Four municipalities let various actors involve from the initial process, from adults to future generations. Others regard planning actors as only residents who have residence registration in the regions. Additionally, municipal employees regarding involvement of residents to the planning process of local vision as prescriptive requirement not as practical reasons.

In the second chapter, after defining the hypothetical concept of "Sense of Place (SOP)", residents' contemporary condition of SOP are identified in Wadahara district, Ohnan Town in Shimane Prefecture, which is suffered from aging and depopulation as one of the fastest speed in Japan. Through an analysis, it is revealed that residents expressed their strong SOP for their own place instead of poor emotional bonding to the new town. Addition, verification for logical suitability of a psychological SOP model that is constructed through the findings mentioned above showed that residents' SOP could be translated to "place symbols" which derived from their own emotional bonding to the place.

The third chapter conducts an empirical test for creating the semiformal vision as the pre-process of the fundamental plan of the town in Ohnan Town in Shimane Prefecture. This test shows that employment of place symbol as a key element of semiformal vision has necessary requirement for the new regional vision of the town.

The fourth chapter examines effects of semiformal vision on SOP of residents for the new town. This chapter demonstrates that it is possible to integrate SOP to the new town through participation in the visioning process of semiformal vision by employing local symbols and that can be shared between various actors.

This study shows that SOP of planning actors can be estimated and it is a requirement to employ their place symbols for creating local visions. And this study demonstrates it is possible that planning actors, who originally have separated SOP to their own place, can finally share the semiformal vision of the new town through the direct participation to the visioning process of semiformal vision.