

Action research on community development based on the preservation of cultural landscape in the west coast of Amakusa

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The Sakitsu church is one of the most famous constitution assets of “Churches and Christian Heritage Sites in Nagasaki” which were candidate of UNESCO’s world cultural heritage. However, it was shelved again in this February. Even if it is not a world heritage, the Sakitsu church and cultural landscape around this church are the important cultural landscape in Japan. Since the middle age, the relationship between the Sakitsu district, which is a fisherman’s village and the Imatomi district, which is a farmer’s village. Between these two villages, there were “Megoinae”, which is the traditional barter system. The authors have been held the participant investigation about natural environment, local history, life and industries, in the collaboration with the local inhabitants and administration in both village. Each element are the criteria for the outstanding universal value cultural landscape. By these investigations, it shares local essential value, and it is right nothing but the activity of the regional revitalization in Japan now to build the sustainable community based on the “Fudo”. For this regional revitalization, it is important to create new work place for women and young generation, and to move the population from urban area to country side. The collaboration with the local high school student and the junior high student are indispensable to create these movement. “Furusato” is an important key concept for the regional revitalization. The Portuguese came Amakusa in the 16th century and conveyed various techniques, such as type printings and Christianity culture. Cultural landscape of the Sakitsu and Imatomi districts, is established on these European medieval culture. Understanding of the European medieval culture is indispensable to make a participant sustainable community development with local community.