

# I. Rural Transformation in African Countries

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## I. RURAL TRANSFORMATION IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES

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### 1. The Comprehensive Research Project on Africa at IDE

In 1988, we started the second three-year project under the overall title of "Socio-economic Development and Nation Building in Contemporary Africa".

The purpose of the project is to examine the process of transformation in the rural and urban areas of African countries after Independence, analyse the changes in the social stratification and ascertain the socio-economic basis of contemporary African states. In other words, we would like to clarify the purpose of the development policy of independent African states and the social class on which African states depend.

Although more than a quarter of a century has already been passed since "the independence year of 1960", many African countries are often suffering from politically unstable conditions of military coups and the social instabilities of ethnic conflicts.

Besides, there are many economic problems such as the persistence of mono-export type of economic structure, the damages caused by two oil crises in the 1970s, the drought and famine in the early 1980s and the debt problems throughout the 1980s. Therefore, many African countries have not succeeded in the Nation Building or National Unity.

In this context, we took up the above-mentioned topic as the theme of the second three-year study project.

The title of the first-year study organized by K. HAYASHI is "Rural Transformation in African Countries". This study is to examine the agricultural development poli-

cies of African countries after Independence, and to analyse the changes of the social stratification before and after Independence and to clarify the socio-economic basis of African states.

As the theme of the second-year study, we intend to take up the topic of "Urban Transformation in African countries". In this study we will analyse the change of social stratification in urban areas in African countries after Independence.

Then, in the third and the last year of the study, we try to put together the results of the previous two years' study and to investigate further the factors of military powers and ethnic groups that are omitted.

In this way, we are planning to ascertain the configuration of the social classes on which contemporary African States stand.

## 2. The Scope and ongoing topics of our study

To pursue this objective, we classified African states into three categories.

Three categories of African states are as follows: --

- (1) Marxist-Leninist oriented states: Mozambique and  
Ethiopia
- (2) African Socialist oriented states: Tanzania and  
Zambia
- (3) Capitalist oriented states: Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya,  
Nigeria and Zaire

We focused our attention to analysing the social stratification in rural areas of African countries after Independence.

The names of co-researchers and the titles of their studies in our ongoing study are as follows: -

- (1) Rural Transformation through Socialism in Mozambique  
by Koji HAYASHI
- (2) Agrarian and Land Tenure Reforms in the Revolutionary  
Ethiopia by Mitsuo OGURA
- (3) Transformation of Rural Society through Provision of  
Agricultural Credit in Tanzania by Masao YOSHIDA
- (4) Development Aid and Changes in Tanzanian Rural Society  
--- the case study of an irrigation project in  
Kilimanjaro Region --- by Toshitaka KATSUKI
- (5) The Increase of Production of Cash Crop in Zambia  
--- the State vs. Peasants --- by Shiro KODAMAYA
- (6) Rural Transformation and Development Policy in Kenya  
by Kazuo HANZAWA
- (7) Transformation of Rural Society in Nigeria  
--- Integrated Agricultural Development Plan and Hausa  
Peasantry under oil economy ---  
by Yoshio MUROI
- (8) Transformation of Agricultural Producers in Zaire after  
Independence by Shinichi TAKEUCHI
- (9) Rural Transformation in Côte d'Ivoire  
--- the case study of Ahoué village ---  
by Takehiko HARAGUCHI

I will not introduce and summarize the result of these studies because they are ongoing and before the writing up of their final reports. Maybe through the discussion of this workshop, the co-researchers who are all participating in this workshop, will give their views and opinions based on the results of their researches. I wish to propose only a few points here.

(1) As far as the timing of transformation is concerned, it is very difficult for us to fix the period. Generally speaking, it is recognized that independence was the period

of transformation. That is, independent states intended to abolish the colonial economic structure and to create a new national economy. But the practice was often delayed according to circumstances. For example, Mozambique became independent in 1975 but started her socialist policies from 1977 when the 3rd FRELIMO party Congress was held. The Independence of Tanzania was 1961 but she adopted Ujamaa Socialism only after the Arusha declaration of 1967. Moreover, after the transformation has started, it is often re-adjusted or abolished according to circumstances.

(2) Although we focused our attention to analysing the social stratification in the rural area of African countries, it is also very difficult for us to clarify it. There are no comprehensive and reliable statistics to make it possible for analysing the social stratification in rural area as a whole. Therefore, we must take up the land reform, the introduction of new cash crop and agricultural technology, the economic intervention by the state through marketing boards and agricultural finances as the indicators of the analysis. Most co-researchers of this project [HAYASHI, OGURA, YOSHIDA, HANZAWA, MUROI, TAKEUCHI] are analysing the rural transformation according to these institutional changes on the macro level, but some of our co-researchers [KATSUKI, KODAMAYA, HARAGUCHI] conducted their own field surveys and intended to analyse the results on micro level.

### 3. The Purpose of this Workshop

This workshop was planned by the IDE Comprehensive Research Project on Africa in order to exchange views and opinions with foreign expert official as well as Japanese professors and researchers who are interested in the

problems of "Rural Transformation in African countries" and to deepen our understanding about the subject.

Fortunately, we were able to invite a foreign expert official and two Japanese research officers to present their papers at this workshop.

Dr. Bertil Egerö is the Senior Research Officer of Swedish International Development Agency (called SIDA) in Stockholm and has much experience in Mozambique. He published a book entitled Mozambique: A Dream Undone --- The Political Economy of Democracy, 1975-84 from the Scandinavian Institute of African Studies in Uppsala in 1987. Previously, he contributed an article to our study project on Frontline States and Southern African Liberation which was organized by HAYASHI in 1983.

He is now working at SIDA office at Harare in Zimbabwe. He took a long journey from Zimbabwe to participate in this workshop.

Mr. Takehiko HARAGUCHI is the Senior Research Officer of IDE and is working at CIRES at Abidjan in Côte d'Ivoire as a visiting research fellow since last April. He has been conducting a field survey of an African village (called Ahoué village) near Abidjan.

Mr. Shiro KODAMAYA is the Research Officer of the Development Studies Department of IDE, and stayed in Zambia from 1986 to 1988 as a visiting research fellow of Institute of African Studies at University of Zambia. He also conducted a field survey of an African village.

Moreover, we asked two persons besides co-researchers of this study project as discussants.

Dr. Makoto KATSUMATA is the Associate Professor of Meiji Gakuin University and is the expert on rural society in Senegal.

Mr. Kōichi FUJITA is the Research officer of National Research Institute of Agricultural Economics, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and has been interested in the subject of Rural Transformation in African Countries.