

Abstract

This study focuses on an in-depth study of the urban development in the city of Osaka, the second largest city in Japan. The urban development in Osaka has been bifurcated between north and south region. The north area is known as a highly developed region having a high net worth income earning families whereas the south has been characterized as the area for financially low income households. North is less dense compared to South with more senior population. Also, the South area is adjacent to a largest minority Korean-ethnic population in Japan. Such bifurcation within the city of Osaka is taken as a case study to analyze the inherent causes hidden in the system of urban development. It is hypothesized that the divided shaping of the city may not be the outcome of the development, however, historically it may have unintentionally included or excluded certain population within the given region. In order to analyze the bifurcated characteristics between the north and the south region in Osaka city, Jacques Derrida's notion of difference and critical theory is applied. Derrida's difference derives from a critical analysis of culture.