



Takuya SOMA

Ph.D. in Agricultural Science

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Diasporic Ethno-Community of the Kazakhs across Central Eurasia

“Mobility and Migration” from the Perspectives of Nomadic Social Contexts

Abstract:

Central Eurasia is a centre of human mobility from ancient times, such as Silk Road traffic routes created since the dawn of early history. So called "human mobility" and "migration" have been therefore internal custom of livelihood by people dwelling in central Eurasia. For example, the Kazakh is one of the biggest ethnic portion which distributed around C.I.S. States (Kazakhstan, Kirghiz, Uzbekistan, etc.), China (Xinjian and Chinkhai), and Mongolia (Bayan Ulgi). The number of Kazakh nation outside of Kazakhstan is summed up to more than 1.5 million those who faced to cross the border due to political turbulence, resource conflicts, and so on since 17th century.

However, Positive reaction and emotion is also seen about human mobility in the context of nomadic way of life. Seasonal migration of nomadic herders is not really dependent on the free intention, but basis on environmental adaptation fitting to grassland resource and livestock condition. Physical mobility is rather defined as one of rational reactions against natural disaster or seeking new resources in nomadic livelihood. It is therefore becoming a chance to foster positive expectation toward "mobility" and "migration" which will be brought potential better future.

The presentation will show reinterpretation of "mobility" and "migration" in reference to ethnographic contexts of nomadic way of lives.