

17.3 Agricultural development and colonisation

Room 107

Chair: TBA

17.31 Seung-Jin Chung and Takenori Matsumoto – The Japanese Hosokawa Family Farm at a Colonial Korean Village: Its Experiences at the Obamura Village in North Cholla Province

In contrast to many feudal lords who lost their political and economic positions in the aftermath of the Meiji Restoration, the Hosokawa family from Kumamoto Japan succeeded in transforming themselves to large landlord both in their old prefecture and in the new colony. The Hosokawa family came to Korea immediately after the Russo-Japanese War (1904-05), acquired a large tract of land, and built a tenant farm and model village. The family put forth a great amount of investment and donation to Obamura so as to build social infrastructure as well as to carry out land improvement for rice production. The Obamura Village in Cholla Province, the best rice-basket in Korea, was a Korea branch of the Hosokawa farm domain, and witnessed a rapid development of Japanese immigrant society. However, this highly-developed community brought about confusion and alienation to the native Korean villagers, and presented itself as a contradiction to the assimilation policy of the colonial authorities. It was because the Obamura Village stood as a quick transplantation of the Japanese version of rural improvement project for building a model village, rather than as an outgrowth of native agricultural development and local improvement.

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17.32 Bina Sengar – The villages of Marathwada transforming themselves from Maratha-Nizamat hegemony to British: perceptions of the villagers

The Maratha and Nizam's power were the supreme in the seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Deccan in Indian Subcontinent. Their supremacy was far ingrained to the political authority which they envisaged over the region and its people. A major source of the revenue and economic support in the region was carried by the political powers of the region through the rural population of Marathwada, as a result they reconstructed overall socio-cultural and economic functioning bodies of the village system of the region. The mechanism of village which they formulated continued to thrive itself till the hegemony of Britishers developed its stronghold. In the initial years of the British domination in the region, the British constituted the continuation of the pre-existing system because of the administrative constraints and physiographic and cultural differences that existed in the region. However, after middle of the nineteenth century, several changes that were introduced in the land-revenue administration of the region invariably affected the socio-cultural milieu of the people of the Marathwada region. The research paper intends to understand the change which occurred in the region in the transition phase of administrative system from Maratha-Nizamat to British and how it affected the people of the village. Wherein to build the argument: case studies of two villages is taken into consideration from the historically important two case studies of the

towns of Sillod and Kannad in Aurangabad district. The study will emphasise the comparative understanding of the regional in the inter-temporal triangulations.

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