The Echigo Oei Rebellion as Seen from Ou: The Invasion of the Date Clan and Its Background

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This paper traces the movements of the Mutsu Date clan (陸奥伊達氏), who intervened militarily from neighboring countries, in the Echigo Oei War (越後応永の乱, an internal conflict between the Uesugi clan, the shugo of Echigo, and the Nagao clan, the shugo, in the 1420s), and what emerges from this, which examines the aspects of human and material exchanges that took place between Echigo and the southern part of Ou (奥羽, the two countries of Mutsu and Dewa) during the same period.

At that time, the Muromachi shogunate (室町幕府) and the Kamakura-Fu (鎌倉府) were in a political dispute, and Shogun Ashikaga Yoshimochi (足利義持) supported the Shugo Uesugi clan. It is believed that the Date clan headed for Echigo under the direction of the shogunate. However, the Date clan took advantage of the confusion and secured territories such as Okuyama-no-syo (奥山荘) in northern Echigo. Even before that, the Date clan was associated with the shogunate and became a member of the Kyoto Gofuchishu (京都御扶持衆), who received special support. Based on this relationship, the shogunate gave the Date clan territory in Echigo, and the distribution from the Sea of Japan side reached the Date clan's territory via Echigo, so the Date clan had a relationship with Echigo. It is thought that the Mr. Date's departure for the front also needs to be considered in the context of such wide-ranging movement of people and goods.

Key words: Echigo Oei War (越後応永の乱), Mutsu Date clan (陸奥伊達氏), Okuyama-no-syo (奥山荘), Kyoto Gofuchishu (京都御扶持衆), Ashikaga Yoshimochi (足利義持)