Formations and Development of Countyside Tourist Area in 20th Century Focusing on Railway Absent Area

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In the 1930's, the boom of tourism in the 20th century reached a peak. This boom has continued as so-called "Wartime Tourism" until 1942 after the outbreak of Shino-Japanese War. Those phenomena have been explained mainly focusing on craze for travel in urban area, but overlooked formation of tourist resorts accepting those people.

Famous tourist sites, such as Ise, Nikko, or Shirahama were indeed visited by many tourists even during wartime. On the other hand, for marginal tourist resort areas, it became hard to attract tourists because of lagging tourism developments, limited traffic accesses.

It is hard to unambiguously express what element affected to these area, which did not flourished during wartime, because we have to take into account various factors such as war damage, tourism resources, and popularization as tourism area after the war.

This paper focuses on the developing process of Togakushi, in Nagano pref. as tourist resort area before, during and after the war. This area had long been known as a holy mountain and the legend of Kijo-Momiji, which she stayed there in Heian period. In the 1930's, with the travel boom, Togakushi had dramatically become famous as a tourist resort after the opening of bus service form railway station.

However, due to beginning of wartime control on fuel, bus service was forced to reduced, and then Togakushi declined as a tourist resort. On the other hand, however, Togakushi began to attract novelists and scholars, and they lyrically described this area in essay or literature.

After the war, Togakushi was relaunched as a holiday resort for citizens of Nagano City. In the rapid economic growth era, Togakushi designated as a National Park, and grew as a famous tourist resort. In this process, while Togakushi have been famous based on described lyrical images, those virtue was reduced by brilliant popularization as a national tourist resort.

Key words: sightseeing, Togakushi, Bus, Asian-Pacific War, wartime control