City Planning on “Grand Map of Sakai in 1689 (Genroku 2)” and Architectures of Edo Period

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Grand Map of Sakai in 1689 (Genroku 2) known as city planning of Edo period. The city planning style known as “Jokamachi” (castle town) developed in Edo period, but Grand Map of Sakai in 1689 shows another style. This paper discusses about the city planning style of Grand Map of Sakai in 1689.

At first, I drew the schematic diagram of Grand Map of Sakai in 1689 to find out original plan. This schematic diagram of the map shows that partially blocks are systematic regularly and there are multiple width roads. Particularly regular blocks are along the south-north street. The east-west street “Osho-ji” divides those regular blocks into two areas. North area has “Bugyo-sho” (magistrate’s office in Sakai) and “Sugawara-Jinja” (Shinto shrine). South area has “Aguchi-Jinja” (Shinto shrine) and “Shukuin-tongu” (Shinto shrine). There are two especially wide roads. One of them is near the “Bugyo-sho” the other is in front of “Syukuin-tongu”. Those facilities are known as already exist at Sengoku era.

Subsequently, I compared elevation distribution of Sakai Moat City with the schematic diagram. The 3D image of elevation distribution shows geographical natural features. Those systematic planned blocks are distributed in higher elevation area of Sakai Moat City. Because of existence of those particularly regular blocks and “Osho-ji”, the higher elevation area of Sakai may have inheritance relationship between the pre-modern Sakai and the older city planning.

Then, compared the plan of “Bugyo-sho” in Sakai with another plans of buildings of samurai magistrate’s offices and samurai residences. The analyzed result is that they are functionally equivalent in city planning to a castle in “Joka-machi”.

Development of pre-modern city is closely related with development of fireproof building “Dozo” (plastered storehouse), those are adapted successfully to low level land. “Dozo” and “Senretsu-tatemono” (building with roof tile structure foundation) those found around Sakai share a similar feature. Reclamation works over low elevation land with the advance of technology may aggrandize city planning of the pre-modern Sakai.

City planning style shown on Grand Map of Sakai in 1689 is one of the most important attempted approach which developed around Edo period.

Key words: Grand Map of Sakai in 1689 (Genroku 2), city planning style, geographical natural features, samurai residence, Dozo (plastered storehouse)