

Title	英文抄録
Sub Title	
Author	
Publisher	慶應義塾経済学会
Publication year	1955
Jtitle	三田学会雑誌 (Keio journal of economics). Vol.48, No.2 (1955. 2)
JaLC DOI	
Abstract	
Notes	
Genre	
URL	https://koara.lib.keio.ac.jp/xoonips/modules/xoonips/detail.php?koara_id=AN00234610-19550201-0097

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Thought of the Merchant, Residing in Kanto.
—the family code of ethics and family constitution.—

T. Shimazaki.

During the reign of Tokugawa Feudalism, the Genroku and Kyoho periods, roughly the latter part of the 17th Century to the beginning of the 18th Century, marked a tremendous growth in the number of consumers which lead to the appearance of the large cities and towns such as Edo, Osaka and Kyoto. The production of commercial crops increased on the farm and farther stimulated with the development of manufacture and transportation, the structure for a nation wide market system was then laid. It brought about in the large cities of Edo, Osaka and Kyoto, the appearance of the merchant class, the possessors of a huge accumulation of wealth. The merchants were a new element among the lords and tenants of the feudal system, and were developing into an important social class. But due to the nature of their commercial activities and other social and economic conditions under which they were placed, the Japanese merchant class could not develop into such a modern bourgeois similar to as seen in Europe. Instead, they strongly retained the features of commercial money lenders of the embryonic period. Their attitude toward the basic ideas of feudalism were nonetheless critical and in some instances the attack was quite exhaustive. Examples of this attitude can readily be seen in the personation of the merchant class in such literary works by "Saikaku" and "Chikamatsu".

This report does not deal with the merchants of the larger cities such as Edo, Osaka and Kyoto, but has taken as material, the family code of ethics and family constitution of a single merchant residing in Musasino-kuni, Kodama-gun, Honjo-juku (Northern Kanto district near Edo) in order to comprehend the ideas of a merchant of the Edo period.

It is without saying that the ideas of the merchants are the products of the social and economic conditions and live of thought existing in

the period which gave birth to their class. In this reason, the ideas of this one merchant is the product of that which formed the local merchant system developed around the town, and thus shows conceivable variance from the ideas of the merchants in the larger cities. By clarification of this difference in thought, this report gives an observation into another phase of ideas held among merchants during the Tokugawa Period.

Agricultural Management in Neighbouring Villages of *Edo*.

A. Hayami.

Due to the geographical location, strong influence from the city was naturally felt by the neighboring villages during the *Tokugawa* Era. This urban influence was extended, as seen in the changes in *Tsunohazumura*, to every phase of village life. But this report has been limited to only the changes seen in the managerial aspect of agriculture and has set out to make a factual analysis of the various peculiarities which were conceivably brought about by the proximity of the city; i. e. the variety of crops, the method and use of fertilizers, farm wages, land price and the social composition of the villages.

Limitations to this report were imposed by restriction in available data dealing with each of the aforementioned points, and also by scope in that research was extended only to villages in the neighborhood of *Edo*.

This research has brought to light, nevertheless, that the introduction of commercial crops on the farms were not as extensive as is generally understood to have been, while a peculiar relationship with the city is indicated by a comparatively large weight given to the growth of vegetables and other dry field crops as well as the use of fertilizers. The modernization of farm management was potent but it seems to have failed to develop. An observation on this latter point will be made in a later report.