

# **The Research on Adaptation after Migration into Underpopulated Mountainous Regions**

## **-Via the case study of a Chinese settler into Ryujin Village of Tanabe City-**

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**Keyword: *depopulated village, immigrate, settlement, environment adaptation, local activity***

### **1. Research background and purpose**

In recent years, in the countryside of Japan, population decrease and aging problems are!more and more serious. And the villages are reducing, and in this way, may disappear in the future. In order to prevent the possibility, the communication between people living in the city and the countryside started to make the villages more active, and try to improve the situation.

Up to now, the long term residences promote policies usually pays more attention to the phases before the long term residences. However, the living after the emigration, including the communication between the native and the settlers were not paid enough attention. The content of the paper is to research the life of the settlers after emigration, their adapting process, and the problems in the permeation phase, according to the visit and communication to a settler from China, Ms. K, living in Tanabe City ,Wakayama.

### **2. Overview of investigation objects and methods**

The investigation is done through the visits to the villages, the communication between the village natives and the settlers, and the observations to the life of the settlers. The area is as same as some other areas in the mountainous area in Japan, economically backward, population decreasing, and the aging rate is about 45.7%. The Chinese settler, Ms. K lives with her husband and parents in the traditional village in Japan. The life after emigration is so different from her life that she met a lot of trouble there.

### **3. Investigation results**

As a Chinese lady, though meeting lots of problems in language and culture, Ms. K permeated into the village favorably, owe to the natives' enthusiasm, her families' help and her own efforts. And there are still some problems of the adaptation to local life, since there are few young people living there, and sometimes loneliness exists.

### **4. Conclusion and future research**

As the foreigner, Ms. K adapted to the life in the villages. She was approbatory in the family and the village. And her affairs also prove that, as a settler, the emigration resolution is necessary in the setting and adapting phases.