The Process of Formulating Policies for the Forced Immigration of Chinese

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Abstract

A group which has a revisionistic view of history, namely, the Nationalistic Historical School, has argued that the forced immigration of Chinese to Japan did not occur. It is needless to say that such deniers have an ideological prejudice with regard to the forced immigration because they have not examined fairly the references, reports of actual conditions, surveys and illuminating literature, regarding the alleged forced immigration.

On reconsidering the matter, however, it is a fact that there have not been any serious academic studies of the forced immigration of Chinese people so far. Therefore, I recognize the scholars' side is somewhat responsible for allowing the background to develop on which the deniers publicly and insistently deny the existence of the forced immigration of Chinese. Nonetheless, it is clear that a study on the forced immigration is not only an attempt to specify particular aspects of the Japanese wartime economy. In my understanding, the study contains an historical view that the Japanese wartime economy was a system of wartime slavery; in a sense, the economy structurally depended on slavery.

Given the preceding unawareness of the issue, the theme of this research is focused on the historical process of formulating policies for the forced immigration of Chinese people.