

PREFACE

The present volume is the seventh collection of papers of the Mediterranean Studies Research Group at Hitotsubashi University. This time, we have focussed our studies on problems relating to population mobility, understood in the broadest sense of the term. The studies range over the demographic, social and economic aspects of mobility and also the consequences of mobility.

We are fully aware that our work is far from being systematic or comprehensive. Our attempts are only the first step towards interdisciplinary intercourse among researchers in the histories and societies of the Mediterranean countries, studies regarding which have hitherto been carried out only rather sporadically in Japan. Most of the papers collected in this volume are based on field studies subsidized by the Scientific Research Fund of the Ministry of Education during the period from October 1980 to February 1981. Publication of the present volume has been made possible by the arrangement of the same fund. We are privileged to have been able to afford the hospitality of our volume to two Italian researchers who, as specialists in the areas and in the problems in which we are interested, have greatly helped us in our field work. It is our sincere hope to be able to further develop international academic collaboration of this nature.

We are greatly indebted to many institutions and persons in the Mediterranean countries for assistance in our field surveys. For their especially kind help and advice, we are most grateful to the following institutions: The National Centre of Social Research, Athens, The Institute for Balkan Studies, Salonika, and The National Archives of Florence; and also to the authorities of Montepulciano in Italy and Cazalla de la Sierra in Spain, who kindly permitted us to conduct surveys in their municipalities and provided us with the use of various facilities. Our colleagues of the Institutes of Geography of the

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