

## Earthquakes and Foreign Minorities in Japan: A Comparison of the Great East Japan Earthquake with the Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake

MATSUDA Toshihiko

In the disastrous 2011 earthquake, there were and have been fewer reports of foreign residents being affected compared with the reports of the effect on foreign residents in the Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake (1995). The starting point for this paper was the simple question of whether any structural problems are hidden behind that situation.

Certainly, the Tohoku region had a relatively small population of foreign minorities. In 2010, the total foreign resident population of Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima prefectures was approximately 34,000, while that of Hyogo was nearly 100,000 in 1994. Furthermore, another aspect to consider is the possibility of the problems of the foreign minorities being overwhelmed by the powerful tsunami waves and nuclear accidents triggered and caused by the earthquake.

In this paper, I investigate the difference in the composition of the foreign resident population in the Tohoku region and the Hyogo Prefecture as a bigger fundamental problem. Tracing the population change in foreign residents in Japan from a historical point of view, two big changes can be found: one during the 1930s and the 1940s and the other after the 1990s. Foreign residents who moved to Japan before World War II are commonly called “Old-comers,” and those who settled in Japan in the last few decades are referred to as “New-comers.” Differences exist in their respective residential areas. In the case of Hyogo Prefecture, Old-comers, especially Koreans, who had come to Japan before World War II, formed the nucleus of foreign residents; in contrast, in the Tohoku Prefecture, the population of New-comers is larger. This paper discusses as to what differences were made in the behavior of foreign residents of both areas during and after the earthquakes by the demographic and ethnic characteristics of Tohoku and Hyogo.

震災と外国人マイノリティー—阪神淡路大震災と東日本大震災を比較して

松田利彦

2011年の東日本大震災においては、阪神淡路大震災（1995年）に比較して、在住外国

人についての報道が少なかった。そこには何か構造的な問題が隠されているのではないか—これが本稿の出発点である。

東北地方においてはそもそも外国人住民の数が相対的に少なかったことはあげられる（各震災時において、岩手・宮城・福島3県合計で約3万4千人、兵庫県では約10万人）。また津波と原発事故が複合的に重なった東日本大震災では、外国人の問題は後回しにされたのかも知れない。

しかし、本稿では、より根本的な問題として、東北被災3県と兵庫県では在住外国人の構成が大きく異なっている点を重視したい。在日外国人の戦前からの人口推移をたどると、そこには1930~40年と1990年代以降という大きな二つの波が見てとれる。一般にオールドカマーとニューカマーと区分される彼らは地域的にも居住地域が異なる。そして、兵庫県の場合は、戦前に形成されたオールドカマーが在住外国人の中核を占めているのに対し、東北3県の場合はどちらかというとなニューカマーが中心となっている。このような在住外国人構成の差異が、両震災における在住外国人の対応と震災後の行動にどのような違いをもたらしたのかを検討したい。