

結婚と出産の変容：水俣と水俣病の物語(1)

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Transformation of Marriage and Change of Childbirth : Tales of Minamata and Minamata Disease vol.1

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In those days when Minamata disease happened, it was a just period of Japanese highly economic growth. The people of Minamata has experienced Minamata disease while their life greatly changes with the economic growth. In the series of articles, I want to draw the experience of the Minamata disease of people in Minamata area with the transformation of their life. At first, in this article, I will take it up about transformation of marriage and change of childbirth in the area.

Like the Japanese whole, the way of the marriage and the way of bearing a child changed very much in Minamata. At first, “institutionalization” and “specialization” happened. A wedding ceremony and a childbirth conventionally performed at home came to be done in a specialized institution. Second, shared territorial bonding and the blood relative bonding which occupied the big position in the past were weakened by the process of the change. On the other hand, a job relationship became a important one in life. In particular, it has a strong meaning that a bond between member of a labor association was strengthened by the great strike called “anteichingin-tousou”.