

Historical Studies on the Ideologies and Theories of Social Development in Japan : From Population Problems to Social Security Issues

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During the 1960s, the ideologies and theories of social development were introduced in Japan. This process was led by Minoru Tachi (1906-1972) and Hideo Ibe (1921-2002), who were engaged in the Ministry of Health and Welfare. They called for the establishment of a social policy research institute, so the Social Development Research Institute (Shakaihosho Kenkyusho) was established in 1965 in Japan.

It is possible to say that the ideologies and theories of social development spread in order to overcome the harm caused by economic growth. At the same time, the policymaking emphasis was shifting from the quantity of population to its quality. The concerns about improving the quality of the population came to be embedded in the social security system development.

This paper focuses on the ideologies and theories of Minoru Tachi in the 1960s in Japan, in order to explain the shift from population problems to social security issues. Minoru Tachi was a key person in establishing the social development policy frameworks, including population and social security.