

A Historical Study on Prosperity in Ueno -Using the Changes of *Haré* and *Ké*-

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Abstract

Recently, with the internationalization and informationization of Tokyo, the need for a unique approach to urban development which revives culture and history has arisen. Prosperity is an important element in city development.

The following study focuses on Ueno, which has been a popular area of Tokyo since the Edo period. This study reveals how Ueno has inherited as an urban center and how it has changed, and considers the reasons and influences of the development.

Unique Japanese prosperity has its origin in temple festival, and that essence is in changes of the places of *Haré* and *Ké*. So it can be said that the existence of the places of *Haré* and *Ké* is necessary for prosperity.

The method of study is as follows: at first, we use a map and research the characteristics of the area as the stages of *Haré*. And then, we use literature and extract activities to confirm the function of the area as the stage of *Haré*.

Finally, we found a conclusion. The essence of Ueno's prosperity is in mixed the existence of *Haré* and *Ké* that is created in differentiation and diversion of Japanese-style quality of *Haré* (from timely limited to spatially limited) with the space in urban formation after the modern age, having its origin in space structure of the mountain and the town; Kaneiji and Monzenmachi. And we got the suggestion as follows. To create prosperity in the city, scatter selectable spatially limited stages of *Haré* in the area and create the mix of diverse activities.

Keywords: Prosperity, *Haré* and *Ké*, Ueno, Activity, Monzenmachi

1. Introduction

1-1 Background

Recently, with the internationalization and informationization of Tokyo, the need for a unique approach to urban development which revives culture and history has arisen. We are able to pick out various cultural elements of the city. In that situation, an element of prosperity is the most important and abstract important to catch.

The place where prosperity exists is referred to as a Hankagai—a prosperous business center. We can divide the Hankagai in Tokyo into two types. One type has developed since the Edo period from the Monzenmachi¹ of temples. Ueno, Asakusa and Shiba are good examples of this phenomenon. The other type began from new commercial areas near railway stations since the Meiji period. Shibuya, IKébukuro and Kichijoji all had such beginnings.

The reason for the existence of most Hankagai developed from Monzenmachi is due in large part to the historical background of the Japanese city. In the Edo period, Bakufu regulated the use of every area. There were very few public spaces for rest and

amusement with the exception of the spaces around temples and shrines. Monzenmachi were created in front of temples and shrines, and around temples and shrines due to the surrounding activity.

After the modernization of the Meiji Revolution the overall makeup of Japanese cities changed. Namely the city structure of Tokyo changed with the creation of a railway infrastructure. Residential areas were expanded with the new rail lines and the Hankagai also moved to the newly created areas such as Harajuku and Shibuya.

As the new Hankagai prospered, many of the ancient Monzenmachi began to decline.

Ueno Park is one of the first five parks designated by Dajokanfutatsu. Ueno Park has been widely used by the people since the period it had been Kaneiji Temple and has been a popular spring destination for viewing cherry blossoms. After it was designated as a park by Dajokanfutatsu, exhibitions were held to show the power of the nation, a university and museums were also constructed in the area. Over years of use, different activities were created to suit each era. Shinobazunoike Pond, for example, was once used as

a race track. Furthermore, activity in the surrounding areas continued to change and evolve in response to the events and exhibitions, and that is what has created the patterns of today's development.

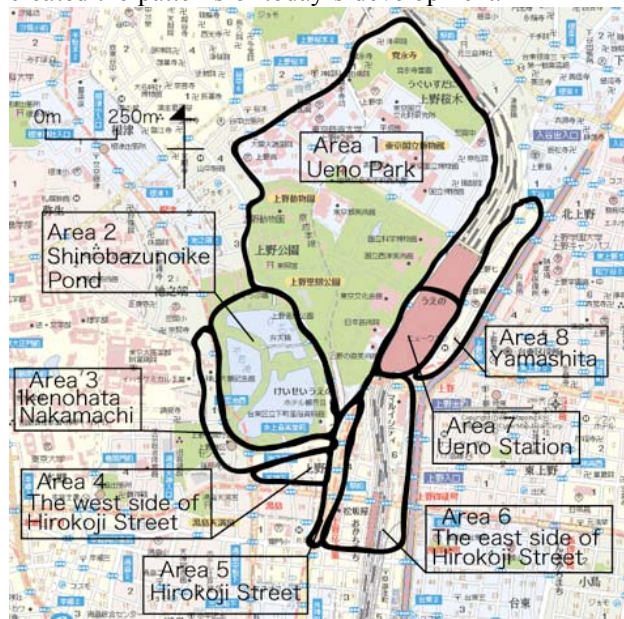


Fig.1. The Map of Ueno

(The authority; Mapion with our modification)

1-2 Objective

This study focuses on Ueno, which has been a focus of scenic beauty and has seen patterns of activity continued over many years. This paper aims to illustrate how activities in Ueno have been inherited and changed in response to development patterns. The above mentioned can be used to encourage activity in modern Tokyo.

1-3 Viewpoint

Crowds and the movement of people create activity.

Activity unique to Japan, with origin in the festivals of temples and shrines, is reflected in the changes of *Haré* and *Ké*.

Therefore we are able to state that the existence of the places of *Haré* and *Ké* is necessary for social activity. And we are also able to state that the place of *Ké*, which is one of the two sides of the same coin, exists by the existence of *Haré*.

In short, Ueno, which has inherited the prosperity of Monzenmachi of the Edo period, embodies the changes of *Haré* and *Ké* in its basis.

First of all, we would like to state the definition of *Haré* and *Ké*. By the general opinion, *Haré* is a special and often bright formal public spectacle, such as ceremonies and festivals. On the contrary, *Ké* is the ordinary state of such a place.

1-4 Method

At first, about the real space, we follow the changes of the spatial structure of the mountain area of Ueno and Shinobazunoike pond using the plans and literature. For the built-up area we follow the changes of the aspect and the main buildings.

From above mentioned, we divide Ueno into eight

areas and make clear the potential stages of *Haré* in Ueno (refer to fig.1).

Thus we assess the actual use of Ueno as a place for *Haré*. We also illustrate the use of the activities of *Haré* and *Ké* using contemporary literature.

We explain the uses of areas for the activities of *Haré* and *Ké* using the cleared stages.

About the literature, we extract the most important works about Ueno from "Tokyo Kiroku Bungaku Jiten" by Tsuchida and the literature corner of Taito ward in Taito Chuo Library². Finally, for the Edo period, we use "Edo Meisho Zue".

The different periods of Japanese history addressed for the uses of Ueno Park are the Edo period (from 1603-1867), the Meiji period, Before the WW2 (from Taisho period to the end of the WW2) and After the WW2 (from the end of the WW2 to Showa period 50's).

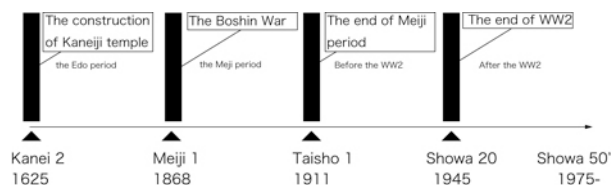


Fig.2. The Different Periods

2 Kaneiji temple and Monzenmachi in Edo period

2-1 The temple's interior special structure

Tenkai Shonin constructed Tendaishu Toeizan Kaneiji temple to protect Kimon of Edo Castle in Kanei 2 (1625). It was located to the north-east of Edo Castle and formed a pair with Zojoji temple protecting the south-west.

Next, we would like to state the decision of the place by Fusui³. Kaneiji temple's location was decided as the best place for four different gods. Namely the mountain of Ueno rose as a mountain of Genbu in the north part, the waterway flew along the Shiin as water of Seiryu in the east, there was Shinobazunoike pond as a place of Suzaku in the south and there was the street Yanaka as a street of Byakko in the west.

Next, we would like to state the metaphor of Kaneiji temple. It was planned to reconstruct the shape of Kyoto in Edo. Namely, the mountain of Ueno and Mt. Hiei, Shinobazunoike pond and Lake Biwako, Nakanoshima Island and Chikujima island, Daibutsu and Daibutsu in Kyoto and Kiyomizudo temple and the stage of Kiyomizu corresponded.

Furthermore we would like to state the relation between Onarimichi street and the axis. Kaneiji temple had the axis along the Onarimichin street and with a view of Edo Castle.

Additionally, we would like to state the relationship with the city structure of Edo. The general temples had the spatial sequence of Monzenmachi, Shiin and the inside area of the temples against the approaches, but Kaneiji temple had the sequence of Monzenmachi and the inside temple area. This rare layout created a holy space facing the common space directly.

Next, we would like to state the axis in the inside area of the temple. The main axis in the inside area of the temple was decided by the axis in the direction of Edo Castle. The axis of Toshogu temple and Benzaiten shrine were made to face east. Reibyō grave located behind Honbo was made to face Edo Castle making the most of the subtle topography.

From the above, the domains of Kaneiji temple were created. The spatial hierarchy was created by the bridges, the gates and the waterways as the boundaries and making the most of the topography. The people were able to enter the first domain where Shiin existed. There was Honbo in the second domain. And there was the Reibyō grave in the third domain.

Thus the area of Kaneiji temple created a strong hierarchy for the stage of *Haré* (refer to Table 7).

2-2 Changes of the town

After the two great fires (the great fire in Meireki and Genroku), the surroundings were largely developed as Monzenmachi. At that time, the place created as a fire break allowed for further activity; it was used as a public space for amusement like a teahouse or a street booth, which amused the people who came to visit Kaneiji temple. So it prospered much and became the most active place in Edo at the time was Ikenohata Nakamachi.

Thus the town developed the area of receiving the stage of *Haré* accompanying the area of Kaneiji temple (refer to Table 7).

2-3 The activities of the people

During the cherry blossom season people did main activities of *Haré* around the mountain of Ueno forming the stage of *Haré*. And they did the accompanied activities of *Haré* in the surroundings.

Table 1. The Activities of the People (during the cherry blossom season) in the Edo Period

| Area | Kind | Activity |
|------|------------|---|
| 1 | Haré | Visiting the temple, Cherry blossom viewing |
| 2 | Haré | Visiting the shrine, Seasonal activity |
| 3 | Ké | Shopping |
| 5 | Haré Ké | Visiting the temple, Eating, Shopping Eating, Shopping |
| 6 | Haré | Visiting the temple |
| 8 | Haré | Sightseeing, Eating |

Except the cherry blossom season activities of *Haré* were performed only in ShinobazunoiKé pond. A few activities of *Ké* appeared accompanying that.

Table 2. The Activities of the People (except the cherry blossom season) in the Edo Period

| Area | Kind | Activity |
|------|------|--|
| 2 | Haré | Visiting the shrine, Eating, Seasonal activity |
| 3 | Ké | Shopping |
| 5 | Ké | Eating, Shopping |
| 6 | Haré | Visiting the temple |

2-4 Small conclusion

In the Edo period Kaneiji and the town united together and worked as one large stage of *Haré* only in the cherry blossom season.

3 The exhibitions in Meiji period and associated

development

3-1 The spatial structure inside the park

The Boshin War in Meiji 1-2(1868-1869) completely destroyed the interior of Kaneiji temple. After that it was designated as Ueno Park by Dajokanfutatsu in Meiji 6(1873) to be used as a space for exhibitions, where the spatial structure reappeared.

Thus the stage of *Haré* remained in the inside area of the park when the exhibitions were held (refer to Table 7)

3-2 Changes of the town

The prosperity in the west side of Hirokoji street (the area of IKénohata Nakamachi) remained because of the appearance of Shitaya Geisha after the end of Edo period. Furthermore Ueno Station was opened in Meiji 15 (1882). At that time new attractions developed along Hirokoji street such as Kankoba⁴ and the beef restaurants⁵.

Thus the area came to have its own stages of *Haré* separated from the park (refer to Table 7).

3-3 Activities of the people

At the time of the exhibitions, Hirokoji Street and the station joined the stage of *Haré* inherited from the Edo period, and more varied activities came to be done than during the Edo period.

Table 3. The Activities of the People (during the exhibitions) in the Meiji Period

| Area | Kind | Activity |
|------|------------|---|
| 1 | Haré | Sightseeing, Resting, Visiting the temple, Eating, Viewing, Cherry blossom viewing, Seasonal activity |
| 2 | Haré | Sightseeing, Eating, Viewing, Cherry blossom viewing, Seasonal activities, Meeting |
| 3 | Haré Ké | Sightseeing, Eating Eating, Shopping, Viewing, Meeting, Visiting, Other activity |
| 4 | Ké | Shopping, Visiting |
| 5 | Haré Ké | Shopping, Other activity Eating, Shopping, Visiting |
| 7 | Haré Ké | Taking the train Taking the train |
| 8 | Ké | Other activity |

Except the exhibitions Hirokoji Street and the station appeared as the stages of *Haré* surrounding area, various activities were done around the mountain of Ueno and ShinobazunoiKé pond.

Table 4. The Activities of the People (except the exhibitions) in the Meiji Period

| Area | Kind | Activity |
|------|------------|---|
| 1 | Haré | Sightseeing, Resting, Visiting the temple, Eating, Viewing, Cherry blossom viewing, Seasonal activity |
| | Ké | Sightseeing, Resting, Eating, Taking a walk, Meeting, Other activity |
| 2 | Haré | Sightseeing, Eating, Viewing, Cherry blossom viewing, Seasonal activity, meeting |
| | Ké | Sightseeing, Resting, Eating, Taking a walk, Viewing, Meeting, Other activity |
| 3 | Haré Ké | Sightseeing, Eating Eating, Shopping, Viewing, Meeting, Visiting, Other activity |

| | | |
|---|------|----------------------------|
| 4 | Ké | Shopping, Visiting |
| 5 | Haré | Eating, Other activity |
| | Ké | Eating, Shopping, Visiting |
| 7 | Haré | Taking a train |
| | Ké | Taking a train |
| 8 | Ké | Other activity |

3-4 Small conclusion

In the Meiji period the one aspect was inherited that Ueno and the town united together and worked as one large stage of Haré only in the exhibitions. On the other hand the spatially limited stage of *Haré* in the usual time appeared in the town such as Kankoba, beef restaurants and Ueno Station.

4 The fusion of the prosperity of the park and its surroundings before the Second World War

4-1 The spatial structure inside the park

Ueno Park was presented to Tokyo in Taisho 13 (1924). At that time the Imperial Household Agency made some rules about its management. According to the rules, fixed buildings were constructed as follows to establish a uniform spatial structure (except the borderlines) as Kaneiji Temple.

Thus the time limitation of the stage of *Haré* disappeared (refer to Table 7).

4-2 Changes of the town

After the great Kanto earthquake of Taisho 12 (1923) the east side of Hirokoji street came to be crowded. Department stores developed quickly and the east side where Matsuzakaya⁶ is located. Additionally nearby Okachimachi Station was constructed on the Yamanote circle line. However the commercial area of Karyukai⁷ declined.

Thus the stages of *Haré* in the surroundings grew and came to not be associated with the park (refer to Table 7).

4-3 The activities of the people

The stages of *Haré* were fixed in the mountain of Ueno and Hirokoji Street as the exhibitions disappeared and activities of *Ké* extended largely.

Table 5. The Activities of the People Before the WW2

| Area | Kind | Activity |
|------|------|--|
| 1 | Haré | Sightseeing, Resting, Eating, Viewing, meeting, Other activity |
| | Ké | Sightseeing, Resting, Eating, Taking a walk, Shopping, Viewing, Visiting, Other activity |
| 2 | Haré | Eating |
| | Ké | Resting, Viewing, Other activity |
| 3 | Ké | Eating, Viewing, Visiting |
| 4 | Ké | Eating, Visiting |
| 5 | Haré | Sightseeing, Eating |
| | Ké | Eating, Shopping, Meeting, Other activity |
| 6 | Ké | Eating, Shopping |
| 7 | Haré | Taking a train |
| | Ké | Taking a train |
| 8 | Ké | Shopping, Visiting, Other activity |

4-4 Small conclusion

Before the WW2 the stages of *Haré* came to scatter in each buildings spatially limited. It is because it inherited the spatial structure of Kaneiji Temple but the constituent of the sequence disappeared. The town

inherited the flow from the Meiji period; the increase of the spatially limited stages of *Haré*, and the sequence with Ueno Park came to deteriorate.

5 The new activities of the area following the Second World War

5-1 The spatial structure inside the park

The new park entrance was opened near Ueno station in Showa 31 (1956) and it increased the number of people who entered the park from there. The new crossing axis against the original main axis appeared with the construction of the National Museum of Western Art in Showa 34 (1959) and of Tokyo Bunka Kaikan in Showa 36 (1961). The north side of Shinobazunoike pond became the west part of the zoo and was closed to the public (refer to Table 7).

Thus the spatial structure of the park and the pond as the stages of *Haré* changed were divided into smaller fragments.

5-2 The changes of the town

The black market of Ueno was formed in Showa 20 (1945) as WWII ended. With that development Ameya Yokocho (Ameyoko) shopping street was formed in Showa 21 (1946). In Showa 25 (1950) the street booths in Hirokoji Street were removed, and in Showa 26 (1951) Ueno Department Store and Hirokoji Center, which were large commercial buildings for the street booths, were opened. On the heels of that the Matsuzakaya building was renovated. And in Showa 34 (1959) Akafudado came to have six stories, and from that point on high-rise buildings have been a regular sight on Hirokoji street (refer to Table 7).

Thus commercial space as the stage of *Haré* was diversified.

5-3 The activities of the people

The activities of *Haré*, which had relocated to the areas around the park before WWII, largely came back to the mountain of Ueno. This was, in large part, due to the elements that strongly caused the stages of *Haré* to be created, such as museums.

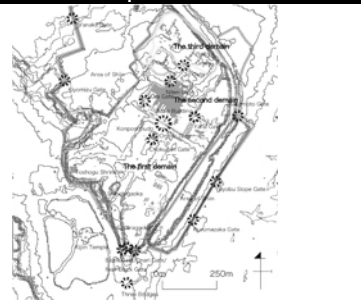

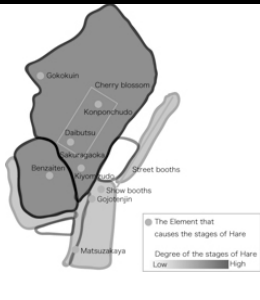
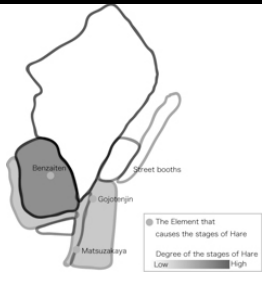
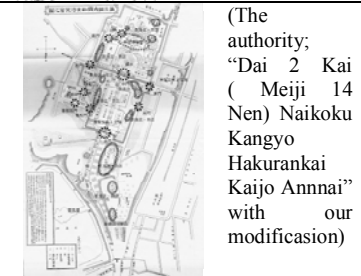
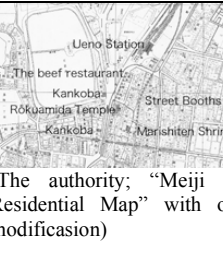
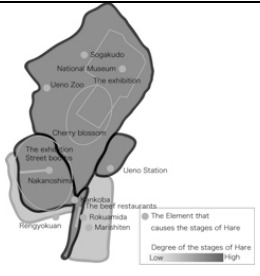
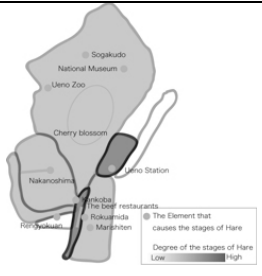

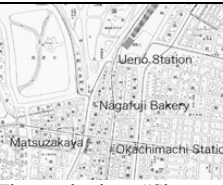
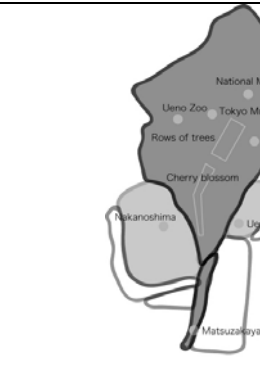
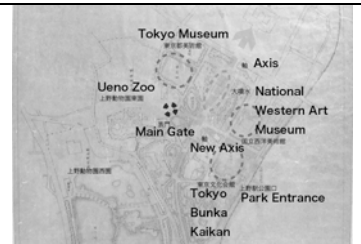


Table 6. The Activities of the People after the WW2

| Area | Kind | Activity |
|------|------|--|
| 1 | Haré | Sightseeing, Cherry blossom viewing, Viewing, Other activity |
| | Ké | Taking a walk, Other activity |
| 2 | Haré | Taking a walk |
| | Ké | Taking a walk, Meeting |
| 3 | Ké | Eating, Shopping, Other activity |
| 5 | Haré | Shopping |
| 6 | Haré | Shopping, Eating |
| | Ké | Other activity |
| 7 | Haré | Taking a train |
| | Ké | Taking a train, Other activity |
| 8 | Ké | Other activity |

5-4 Small conclusion

After the WW2 Ueno Park came to have a new axis., which advanced the separation of each stages of *Haré*. In the town by the development of the east side of Hirokoji Street, the attraction of the shops increased and it increased the spatially limited stages of *Haré*. And the high-rise buildings in Hirokoji Street also

broke the sequence with Ueno Park and also advanced the separation of timely unite with Ueno Park.
 Table 7. The changes of Kaneiji Temple/Ueno Park and the town and the possibilities as the stages of *Haré*

| | The changes of Kaneiji Temple/Ueno Park | The changes of the town | The possibilities as the stages of <i>Haré</i> The time of events | The possibilities as the stages of <i>Haré</i> The normal time |
|----------------|--|---|---|--|
| The Edo |  |  (The authority; “Taito Ward History” with our modificasion) |  ● The Element that causes the stages of Haré Degree of the stages of Haré Low High |  ● The Element that causes the stages of Haré Degree of the stages of Haré Low High |
| The Meiji |  (The authority; “Dai 2 Kai (Meiji 14 Nen) Naikoku Kangyo Hakurankai Kaijo Annnai” with our modificasion) |  (The authority; “Meiji 44 Residential Map” with our modificasion) |  ● The Element that causes the stages of Haré Degree of the stages of Haré Low High |  ● The Element that causes the stages of Haré Degree of the stages of Haré Low High |
| Before the WW2 |  (The authority; Tokyo Park Association with our modificasion) |  (The authority; “Showa 12 Residential Map” with our modificasion) |  ● The Element that causes the stages of Haré Degree of the stages of Haré Low High | |
| After the WW2 |  (The authority; Tokyo Park Association with our modificasion) |  (The authority; “Showa 54 Zenrin Residential Map” with our modificasion) |  ● The Element that causes the stages of Haré Degree of the stages of Haré Low High | |

6 Conclusion

The inheritance and the changes of the spaces as the stages of *Haré*

1: Ueno Park

Ueno Park, which formed the areas inside Kaneiji Temple in the Edo period and was used as space for exhibitions after the Meiji period, inherited the nature of the timely limited stages of *Haré*. After that the buildings of the museums came to be fixed before WWII, and the various cultural buildings came to be located independently after WWII. They became the spatially limited (not timely limited) independent

stages of *Haré*.

2: The area of Ueno

The area of Ueno, which was constructed accompanying Kaneiji Temple as Monzenmachi, was united with Ueno Park as the stages of *Haré*. It came to have independent stages of *Haré*, such as a railway station and Kankoba, by the influence of the exhibitions and the railway after Meiji period. Commercial space in the area began diversifying before WWII. It came to have the spatially limited (not timely limited) independent stages of *Haré*.

The changes of the activities of *Haré*

In the Edo period, active times around the area was limited to certain activities. Visiting the temple and cherry blossom viewing was done by many in the space inside Kaneiji Temple and Monzenmachi.

After the Meiji period those same activities of *Haré* as in the Edo period continued. On the other hand in the town the spatially limited activity appeared as the space changed.

From the time before and after WW2 the spatially limited activities of *Haré* that the individuals were able were diversified by the construction of buildings in Ueno Park and by the creation of places such as the railway station and department stores.

The changes of *Haré* and *Ké*

In the Edo Period clear timely changes *Haré* and *Ké* were seen because the stages of *Haré* were active at specific times of the year.

In the Meiji period Ueno Park came to be used as the place of *Haré* for season-specific activities, as during the Edo period, but it also served as a park. On the other hand in the town the spatially limited stages of *Haré* appeared.

In the period from just before to immediately after WW2, *Haré* and *Ké* were mixed together in the regularly opened Ueno Park, where the buildings such as the science museums had been built and, thereby, diversified activities in the area, because of the appearance of the spatially limited (not timely limited stages of *Haré*) as in the town.

Conclusion

The essence of the prosperity of Ueno is the mixture of *Haré* and *Ké* generated by the Japanese tendency of using sacred space. These have their origin in the spatial structure that the temple area (Kaneiji Temple) and in the surroundings (Monzenmachi). They have been united, differentiated and diversified in relation to urban development since the Meiji period.

Thus we are able to suggest that it is effective to generate activity in a city in the stage of *Haré* that the people are able to choose by scattering them in an area to create a mixture of various activities having no relation with the time.

Notes

¹Monzenmachi is the town that has been created in front of the gate of the temple or the shrine since the end of the middle age.

²The number of all the literature is 50.

³Fusui is the Chinese scheme to decide the location of the city, the residence and the grave taking the situation of the mountain and the river into consideration.

⁴The primitive style of the department store. It was created to sell out unsold stocks that were sold in the exhibitions.

⁵In the Meiji Period the beef restaurants were in fashion as the representation of the cultural civilization.

⁶The old-established store since the Edo period. It became the pioneer of the style of the department store in Japan.

⁷The world of geisha.

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