Issues in modern history

—— Discussion of Dokdo (known as Takeshima Island in Japan)

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Abstract

It is well known that the unfortunate history between Korea and Japan has not been settled yet. However, these unadjusted problems are sometimes used as a factor of diplomatic friction depending on social and political situation. These circumstances stir up national sentiments and encourage parochial nationalism.

The issues of enshrining Japanese Class-A war criminals in Yasukuni Shrine, laborers who were carted off during war and wartime comfort women are some of the examples of these circumstances.

In this study, We will discuss Dokdo(Takeshima) which is a symbol of remaining unsettled history. This island has always been a looming issue between Korea and Japan as a problem that should be generalized between them.

As a result, this island is not as difficult a problem as it is thought to be. If both governments were to work on this issue with sincere effort, it would be solved without any problems. However, in reality, governments approach this issue with vague attitudes trying to avoid antagonism between two countries. As has already been pointed out, governments elongate the existence of these issues with the overuse of lukewarm diplomatic intercourse.

Key words: Dokudo, Takeshima, Japanese text books regarding history, geography and cartography before the war