

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE REVIVING OF SHRINE RITUAL SEEN FROM THE  
MOVEMENT OF GROUPS THAT PERFORM IN "OHSUGI SHRINE FESTIVAL" AND  
THE REBUILDING OF TOWN

- In the case of Yamada-town in Shimohei-gun, Iwate-prefecture after the Great East Japan earthquake -

Ryoya MORITA

Research Associate in Department of Architecture, Waseda University

The aim of this paper is to clarify the reality of the reviving of shrine ritual in order to think post-earthquake rebuilding of town in future tsunami-prone areas.

We consider that disaster victims could feel that Reconstruction is going along if annual events were held with the traditional content without suspension. In that sense, it can be said important to hold annual festivals with the possibly same content as before the earthquake since the early stage of rebuilding of town.

We also argue the importance of the role played by the chief priest of shrine in rebuilding and sustaining of town to contribute to sustaining the groups of folk performing artists, the group of mikoshi bearers and therefore the community based on above-referenced groups.

Interestingly, the reviving of shrine ritual reached major milestones to coincide with the shifts of dwelling environment from shelter to temporary housing, or from temporary housing to disaster public housing.

Not only in Yamada-town but in general reconstruction, it is hoped that as well as being a memorial for victims of the disaster, shrine ritual would be revived while linking it organically to rebuilding of dwelling environment and industrial recovery to which it is indivisibly related.