

Japanese Administrators in Colonial Taiwan

ABSTRACT

Japanese colonialism in Taiwan was characterized by assimilation policies compared with the British indirect rule in Africa. K.Iwaki and K.Hirasawa, colonial government administrators, enthusiastically promoted the policies towards aborigines by reforming rural economic structures; they implemented immigration policies that forced aborigines to move to the lowlands from the mountain areas. They also tried to brainwash aborigines in order to make them into good Japanese. I consider that these policies were successful to a certain extent because aborigines adopted a Japanese way of life on their own initiative. However, the officials' discriminatory attitudes towards aborigines, or the Japanese style of Orientalism, was inconsistent with their projects initiated for modernization. This paper explores the logic of Japanese colonial policies in Taiwan.

key words: Taiwan's aborigines, colonialism, administrators, assimilation policies.