

Presentation Title/发言题目:

A comparative study of the positions of three major Japanese business associations to Sino-Japan relations:
The Case of Yasukuni Shrine and Diaoyu/Senkaku Islands (2005-2012)

Presentation Abstract/发言概要

Historically speaking, business associations in Japan have played an active and important role in promoting Sino-Japan political and economic relations and cooperation. And also, they have strong influence in both the economic and political realms in Japan, especially KEIDANREN, DOYUKAI, and NISSHO.

Following the turn of the 21st century, China's economic development model shifted from an export and investment led model to a consumption and import/export led model. Meanwhile, due to the Japanese Prime Minister's visit to the Yasukuni Shrine and the Diaoyu/Senkaku Islands dispute, Sino-Japanese relations deteriorated ever since. Regarding these two issues, different business associations in Japan displayed different opinions and positions.

This research analyzes the reasons why Japanese business associations held different opinions on these two political issues. This research analyzed with focus on the development model of the Chinese economy and the difference of the main members of each association, namely large firms, small and medium-sized firms and entrepreneurs, and explores their preferences.

This research concludes that different firm sizes have different perceptions for Sino-Japan economic relations, being either competitive or cooperative, and the models of New New Trade Theory also show the difference of economic preference. Therefore, different business associations display different positions.

(198 words)

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