

MURAMATSU & HAYASHI LAB.

[City and Human Society on the Move: Two Hundred Thousand Years of History and Future]

Department of Human and Social Systems

Urban Heritage / Resource Development, History of Urban Residential Landscape

Department of Architecture

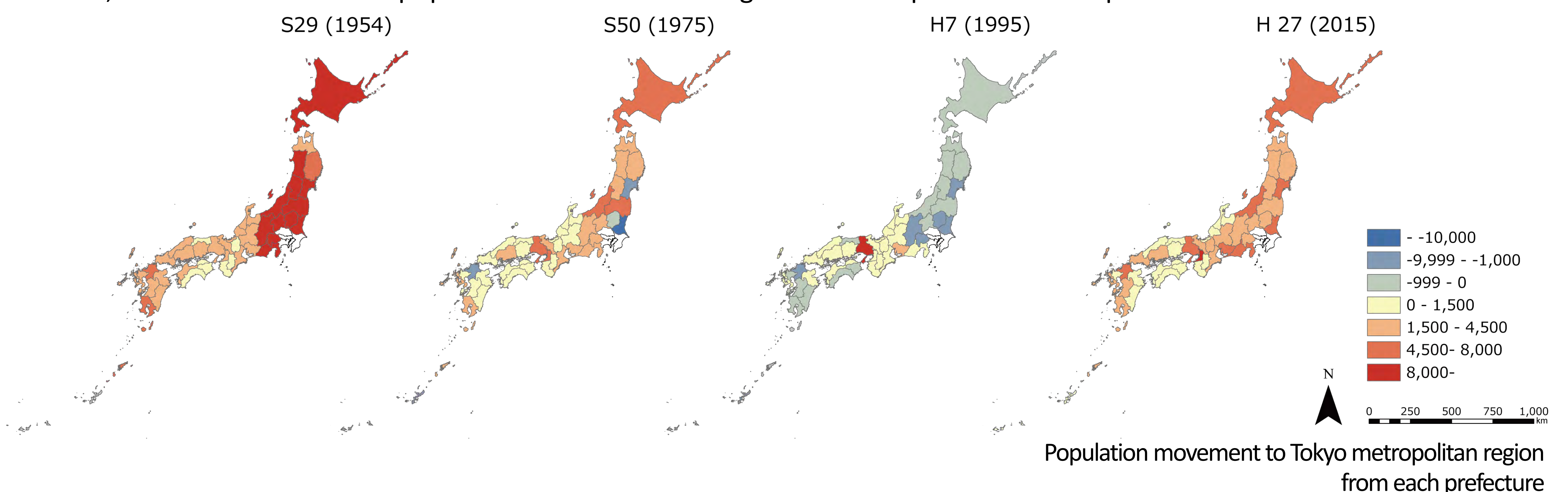
<http://www.shinlab.iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp>

The role of history

Our laboratory's field of study is urban and architectural history. Throughout history, the human race has been accumulating various experiences. Our role is to offer deep insights into the past by excavating those experiences, and through that, to consider characteristics of contemporary society where we live. Every year, our exhibition during the open campus has been looking back the history of the human race to relativize our contemporary entrenched perspectives and to conceptualize a new form of our society. The topic of this year's exhibition is "movement". By analyzing the past from the viewpoint of the population movement, we reconsider contemporary society.

Why movement?

In 2007, urban population has exceeded the half of total world population. The 21st century is called as the "age of cities". However, this is the result of population movement from villages to cities during the last two hundred years. While population movement certainly brought economic development, it also resulted in critical environmental and social problems including increase of environmental burden and depopulation in the countryside. As such, to survive the "age of cities", we need to reconsider population movement during the modern period until the present.



Movement as human knowledge

Homo sapiens spread from the African continent to all over the world around 150,000 to 200,000 years before. For the human race, movement to different environments is a kind of knowledge to expand the survival. By practicing various kinds of movement, the human race has been adapting to natural environment and achieving economic and social development.

In this exhibition, we will show the characteristics of population movement in the modern to contemporary society and excavate the forgotten knowledge of movement and its positive effect to the global environment and our society. Through that, we aim at providing clues to conceptualize a new form of society on the move in the 21st century.



Hunting and gathering



Nomadism



Seasonal Labor



Moving to the capital



Pilgrimage



Out-of-Africa migration

Everyday movement

Seasonal movement

Movement once in decades

Movement through generations

Different patterns of population movement based on the frequency of movement

