

The Control and Integration of Eastern Taiwan Fishery under the Wartime Economic System: The Formation of the *Eastern Taiwan Fishery Company*

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ABSTRACT

In the late 1930s, the formation of the Eastern Taiwan Fishery Company (kabushiki kaisha, 株式會社 incorporated company) was in order to solve the long-term problems of Eastern Taiwan's fishery and exploit Eastern Taiwan's fishery resources under the Wartime Economic System. This new company was different from eastern Taiwan's fishery company with small capital in the past. The total capital investment of this company was one million Japanese dollars. On the one hand, the new company could go beyond the local benefits, connecting the fishery resources of Keelung harbor 基隆港, Suao harbor 蘇澳港, Hwalien harbor 花蓮港 and Sin harbor 新港 transversely. On the otherhand, the company integrated fishing production, manufacturing and export of catches.

The main capital of Eastern Taiwan Fishery Company came from Japan Fishery Company, which was persuaded and assisted by the Government-general who controlled the operation of new company. Additionally, the enterprise's contents and development of Eastern Taiwan Fishery Company demonstrated that the characteristic of a civil company with private capital was to pursue maximum profit, but the business activities totally matched up the policy of Japanese colonial government. Hence, the Eastern Taiwan's Fishery Company was not a private company or a national policy company but a would-be national policy company.

Finally, the formation of Eastern Taiwan Fishery Company reflected the capitalization process of colonial Eastern Taiwan fishery. The process was accomplished through the manipulation of the colonial government and the dependence on Japan's great businesses.

Keywords: Eastern Taiwan Fishery Company, Japan Fishery Company, Hwalien Harbor, National Policy Company, Fishery Immigrant, Modernization, Colonial Government, Capitalization

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