

## **Livelihood Mode and Social Transformation of Quimaurie Tribe in Northern Taiwan (1620-1900)**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This study examines the livelihood mode and social transformation of the Quimaurie tribe from the 17th to 19th centuries, and demonstrates how the tribe adapted to imperial governance through diverse livelihood modes, thus avoiding displacement under the reign of different regimes.

In the 17th century, the Quimaurie tribe depended on fishing, hunting, gathering and craftsmanship for their livelihood. They provided labor services and bartered goods between the Danshui River basin and the Liwu River mouth. Under Qing rule, they changed to rely on marine resources and trading activities for a living during the reign of Emperors Kangxi and Yongzheng. Then under the influence of land reclamation and tenancy practices of the Hans, monetary economy, and trade restrictions, their livelihood again was forced to change during Emperor Qianlong's reign. Thereafter, various factors, including Qing Empire's official policy toward aboriginal boundaries and protection of land rights for Taiwanese plains aborigines came into play, further deteriorating their living conditions. With the assistance of Han settlers, aboriginal communities reclaimed forest resources located relatively far away and through the "establishment of land ownership and tenancy relationship" collected aboriginal land rent as a survival strategy.

In the meantime, to maintain fishery and commerce operations, the Quimaurie tribe built temples jointly with Han fishermen in exchange for better deals in negotiating resource integration and resolving conflicts with the Hans. On the other hand, they retained traditional indigenous rituals and ceremonies, and adopted narratives of ancestral origins, thereby shaping a regional society in which indigenous and Han communities were both "integrated and separated" in Tuman (Sheliao Isle) during Qing rule.

**Keywords:** Quimaurie Tribe, Changes in Livelihood, Establishment of Land Ownership, Water Area of Quimaurie, Basay