



Title	北方領土問題をめぐる日本人元島民・後継者のアンケート調査
Author(s)	マムマドフ, アリベイ
Citation	境界研究, 6, 137-164
Issue Date	2016-03-30
DOI	10.14943/jbr.6.137
Doc URL	http://hdl.handle.net/2115/61122
Type	bulletin (article)
Additional Information	There are other files related to this item in HUSCAP. Check the above URL.
File Information	10Summary_06Alibay.pdf (英文要旨)



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by Turgut Özal in the early 1990s, and 3) Yeşiltaş and Altunışık explain the diplomacy of Davutoğlu in a positive manner; their explanation is not critical analysis but problem-solving analysis. There are also three problems in relation to practical geopolitical analysis: The first is the validity of using geopolitical analysis for explanations. For example, “Sever Syndrome” or threat perception from the USSR is more suitable for Turkish foreign policy analysis. They also disregard the impact of the end of the Cold War, which is a second problem; the end of the Cold War triggered a dramatic change in Turkish foreign policy. This phenomenon diminished the threat of the USSR and opened new diplomatic opportunities in Central Asia, the Balkan Peninsula, and the South Caucasus. The third problem is the stagnation of Davutoğlu’s diplomacy toward the Middle East, as highlighted by the Syrian Crisis.

This paper discusses two theories of aggressive acceptance of geopolitics in academism in Turkey. As mentioned above, the acceptance and the application of geopolitics in Turkey is still unfinished. At the very least, expanding the “cusp state” concept in state theory and critical geopolitical analysis is essential for developing a Turkey-specific IR.

Survey of Former Japanese Residents and Their Descendants on the Northern Territories Issue

Alibay MAMMADOV

Research conducted in the past 10 years on the Northern Territories Issue (the Kuril Islands dispute), a territorial problem between Japan and Russia, has not paid sufficient attention to the views of former Japanese residents and their descendants. Consequently, my research aims to fill this gap by gathering data from former Japanese residents and their descendants regarding the Northern Territories. Data was collected in September 2014 through a questionnaire survey conducted of 49 ex-islanders, with the collaboration of Chishima Renmei in Sapporo and Nemuro.

The results showed that the majority of ex-islanders and descendants (84%) think that the entirety of the disputed territory (Iturup, Kunashir, Shikotan, Habomai) are very important for them. Only 14% supported the Japanese government’s policy against Russia. 65% were opposed to it. Also, a majority (74%) of ex-islanders did not support Japan’s policy towards the Northern Territories.

Only 25% hopes that a solution to the territorial issue is possible. 24% believes that making the

most of the trust between the leaders of Japan and Russia could ensure an effective resolution of the dispute. And they see this as a key to a peace treaty between the two countries.

Only 39% supported the theory of returning the four islands to Japan. 47% did not support this theory. Less than 50% answered that they are ready to return to live on the islands making up the Northern Territories. A majority (78%) of these said that they are ready to live together with Russian residents.

These findings indicate that at the present time it is really difficult to solve this problem. There are differences between the positions of the Japanese government and ex-residents on the territorial dispute. It seems that the Japanese ex-residents' position on the issue is more realistic and clear than the government's. It can be concluded that there is no necessity of continuing to argue for the return of all four islands to Japan.