A Visualized History by Buratamori

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A lecturer is an urban and architectural historian researching history of development and origin of cities from geological, architectural, social and cultural point of view. Backgrounds and circumstances which have had brought the current situation of lands, our dwelling spaces or any other spaces and places related to our life, have being explored through out the research. Essential relationship between lands and human and its fundamental meanings are considered from these studies.

Buratamori sets a question about a location near around the beginning of the show. The question seems to be an easy question to answer so that television viewers and actors can casually imagine a plot of the show whether if he/she is for or against the question.

However, giving an appropriate answer to this “easy” question is actually not an easy thing even for experts. This is not just because the question was created by a production team referenced various fields of academic studies, but also it was intended to allow anyone who have heard the question would associate the phrase with the location. That is to say, the question is well-balanced between academic complexity and popular understandability.

After giving the question, a route of city/land walk is defined by the question. Several experts will describe the place in turn and turn about during the walk. This relay-style description gives plurality or gives diversified observation. Finding an answer to the question in such way is similar to method of field survey. In a field survey, an object that are huge scale things such as cities, mountains or civil engineered structures or a vast scale of time are physically comprehended through our hands, feet or eyes that are literally small human scaled subject.

Therefore, the route or the plot of the show tends to be something that is visually understandable due to its media, a TV show. For example, historical documents, pictures and photos or remains at the site will fulfill a role. On the other hand, things that are not clear at a glance or articles that are historically important requiring complicated description are omitted. Such topics will be examined in the symposium.

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