Invitation to Geography —Relationship Between Geography and Intellectual Curiosity in Daily Life–

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I received geography education in school, learned geography at university, and now I’m studying geography education in graduate school. In such a position, I’d like to mention the abilities and various perspectives obtained from that looking back on myself that has been studying geography. Specific details are as follows.

Why Am I fascinated to Geography?

I’ve been faced to the subject of geography, so what is the trigger that I was interested in geography? I’d like to mention about the opportunity that I was involved in geography through reconsidering myself.

Relations Between Everyday Life and the Viewpoint That Can Get by Learning Geography, Application to Geography

Academic geography is close to our everyday life. It is because geography is a discipline that deal with an actual proof, and especially, the contents we learn from junior high school or high school have many things applying to information and experience we see in our daily life. So, what is the competency that acquired from learning geography? The typical one is “geographic viewpoint and way of thinking.” Then, if we acquire that competency, what are the benefits in daily life? I hope to mention based on my experience and the idea of graduate students who have been on the same situation.

On the other hand, the core point of view of the new geography course in Japanese high school, such as “GIS,” “international Understanding,” “disaster prevention,” there is no doubt that these contents are related to our living area when thinking on the micro scale. For students to learn geography actively, it may be necessary to incorporate contents that make use of students’ knowledge and experiences into the introduction of lessons. I suppose that this is the same in earth science.

About Learning Geography at University and Graduate School

In this part, I would like to mention about two things. One is about university education. It is often said that “geography is memorized subject,” but I strongly feel that was the lecture I took in a university. In teaching subjects, it is desirable to have opportunities for teachers and students to exchange opinions on the contents and methods of classes making full use of the characteristics of geography.

The other is about university and graduate school education. There are few opportunities for learning collaborated in geography, history and civics. It is necessary to exchange opinions among these subjects because these are not independent subjects, and there are many parts that work mutually.

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