

Disaster Remains: How to Deal with these Intergenerational Common Patrimonies*

Kimitoshi Sato[†]
The Academic Consortium of Sendai

Abstract

This paper proposes an appraisal standard as to whether to preserve or demolish disaster remains which could be intergenerational common patrimonies. Doing so requires to use the theoretical framework referred to as the Attributes/Functionings Theory à la Gorman-Lancaster-Sen, that regards the disaster remains as a composition of attributes. Sentimental and altruistic marginal willingness-to-preserve are introduced, by which the preservation of each remain should be accepted or not. Residents including the bereaved family and dark tourists maximize their happiness function by utilizing their time and functionings. The conditions for an individually optimal composition of attributes embodied in disaster remains as well as goods are derived. Also deduced are the necessary conditions for producers to maximize their profits by providing Pareto optimal combination of attributes.

JEL Classification: H4

Key Words: attribute and characteristic, dark tourism, disaster remain, hazard function, intergenerational common patrimony, Sen's functionings, sentimental attribute and functioning, sentimental and altruistic marginal willingness-to-preserve, moral value or sentimental value, social common capital, survivor function

*Revised November 2015

[†]An earlier version of this paper was presented at the 20th anniversary meeting of the Society for Environmental Economics and Policy Studies, held at Kyoto University, September 20, 2015. The revised version was presented at the Departmental Seminar held at the School of Social Sciences, Waseda University, November 19, 2015. This paper is to be presented at the autumn meeting of the Japanese Economic Association, to be held at Waseda University, September 10-11, 2016.