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主 論 文 の 要 旨

論文題目

Agency and Everyday Politics of the Urban Poor: Development-induced
Displacement and Resettlement in Metro Manila, Philippines
(都市貧困層のエージェンシーと日常の政治——フィリピン・マニラ
首都圏における開発に伴う立ち退きと再定住)

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論 文 内 容 の 要 旨

This dissertation investigates the politics surrounding the development induced displacement and resettlement (DIDR) of the urban informal settlers in Metro Manila, Philippines. This presents the agency of the urban poor or their internal logic in the context of their everyday politics as a new approach in analyzing the impact and responses of the urban poor to DIDR. While the dominant literature has clarified the structural marginalization of the urban poor under neoliberalism and their organized struggle against the situation in the city, the internal logic of the urban poor has often been underemphasized as their power in dealing with their condition amid the threats of eviction and resettlement. The support from development organizations, non-government organizations, and civil society organizations are often highlighted in the success of the housing strategies and resettlement programs for the urban poor. However, these are insufficient to understand deeply the

flexible and inconsistent practices of the urban poor within one community on their housing strategies. By using the 'agency of the poor' as an analytical framework and locating it through their practices of everyday politics and notion of well-being, this study illuminated the urban poor's internal logic informal practices, such as the non-organizational, hidden, yet collective practices, are actually one of their instruments for their assertion of their power and well-being of their family. This is along with their organized resistance in bringing their issues in a formal arena (e.g., partnering with, negotiating with local and national government agencies). This study stresses that the urban poor negotiates both the formal and organized struggle and the informal yet collective practices to pursue their housing strategies amid the threats of eviction and relocation.

To illustrate the agency and everyday politics of the urban poor in their responses to DIDR, through an ethnographic study, the dissertation presents the experiences of the informal settler community along the east bank road of the Manggahan Floodway in Pasig City, Philippines. While the residents experienced the same threats of evictions, they pushed for different housing agenda and relocated to different relocation sites: (i) distant off-city resettlement sites in Calauan, Laguna and in Tanay, Rizal; (ii) near-site in-city resettlement in Pasig through 'People's Plan', and (iii) on-site development. Some families immediately accepted the distant off-city resettlement in Calauan, Laguna, and in Tanay, Rizal, while other families initially decided to form a local organization partnering with a civil society organization to advocate for on-site development. However, they dropped this advocacy two years later. Instead, they pushed for in-city resettlement under a vertical socialized housing through the 'People's Plan', a government's in-city resettlement program that highlights the housing proposal of the affected urban poor. Some families who initially opted for in-

city resettlement eventually changed their resettlement option to off-city resettlement in Tanay, Rizal. Later on, some families eventually decided to push for on-site development and partnered with progressive urban poor groups for their advocacy.

Despite the different responses to threats of eviction and resettlement options, the informal settler families generally maintained an amicable relationship and mutual help. Some residents availed of the off-city relocation because of the uncertainties of their situation and constant threats of eviction. Many of those who stayed in the community organized and fought for their in-city resettlement. Later on, some of these community members formed a new group to fight for on-site development. Despite these different and contrasting responses to threats of evictions, the residents provided mutual help. Those residents in the off-city resettlement who experienced hardship were allowed by their people's organization (PO) leaders to return with the condition that they would not build new homes and that their names would be excluded from the master list submitted to the housing authority. While there were tensions and issues among community leaders who pursued in-city resettlement and on-site development, they did not completely sever their ties.

While the government and the elected floor and building leaders installed and implemented strict rules and regulations premised on "civic morality" in the in-city resettlement site, the residents negotiated them and usually accommodated the minor violations and informally resolved them without imposing fine to the residents. At the same time, they ensured that these given favors

would not be abused and would not violate government-imposed rules and regulations. By accommodating these minor violations, the elected floor and building leaders can control heavier violations from the residents.

Based on the different ways of responses and experiences of the ISFs along the east bank road of the Manggahan Floodway, the study presents the following research questions: (1) Why did they have different responses to DIDR despite receiving the same threats of eviction? ; (2) Why did the community members' antagonism over different strategies and varied outcomes in housing not completely result in social disintegration? ; and (3) Why did the relocated informal settler families in the in-city housing install strict community rules and regulations that call for 'civic morality' but implement them flexibly?

Through the ethnographic study, I argue that the urban poor's internal logic and everyday politics resulted in their (1) heterogeneity over housing strategies, (2) their continuous amicable relationship beyond antagonism over housing strategies, and (3) their successful negotiation with the "civic morality" both in the informal settler community and in their resettlement community. Moreover, the key success factor of their people's organization in their housing strategy for in-city resettlement is their ability to respond and respect the various expressions of everyday politics or internal logic of the urban poor.

The dissertation is composed of seven chapters. Chapter 1 presents the general background of the study. It highlighted the overview of the problem, the objectives, research questions, the relevance of the study, research methodology and scopes, and limits of the study.

Chapter 2 presents the theoretical foundations of the dissertation. This presents the previous literature that discuss the well-being, heterogeneity and fragmentation of the urban poor in the context of the DIDR. These include international development agencies' approaches to impoverishment risks and policy frameworks to involuntary resettlement due to development projects; the previous studies' arguments that heterogeneity and neoliberal urban development as factors on the fragmentation of the urban poor; and social capital and locality as factors that lay the foundation for them to organize and seek the assistance of external groups to push their housing agenda. This study also presents the limitation and gaps of these arguments that could not answer the research questions presented in this study. To introduce the agency of the urban poor through everyday politics as an analytical framework.

Chapter 3 provides the context on the urban poverty and rise of the informal settlement in Metro Manila. This chapter presents the laws and policies related to involuntary resettlement in the Philippines. This also presents the different socialized housing programs, including the in-city resettlement through 'people's plan' as the government's attempt towards a participatory approach to resettlement and to address the issues of informal settlement.

Chapter 4 provides an overview of the case study. It builds the foundations of the internal logic with their housing strategies. It presents the everyday politics and well-being of the urban poor through experiences of poverty among the informal settler families along the east bank road along Manggahan Floodway. It also presents their experiences when Typhoon 'Ondoy' devastated Metro Manila in 2009, which influenced their resettlement options.

Chapter 5 presents the internal logic of the resettled ISFs as they confronted new challenges in the resettlement sites. It presents the material and non-material well-being as push factors that influence their decisions to relocate in either distant off-city relocation sites, or in-city relocation site; their strategies to survive in their respective relocation sites and how they build their bonding social capital in the new community. This also presents the importance of the bonding social capital with their former neighbors to find work in Metro Manila or to find a place to stay in their former community. The chapter also presents the factors that influenced some residents to push for their housing agenda for on-site development, and their strategies and partnership with an urban poor group to help them. This also presents how this resulted to conflict with the dominant community organization. Later on, how the residents mended broken trust after the unsuccessful attempt for the on-site development.

Chapter 6 presents how the relocated ISFs are able to negotiate the house rules in the relocation site to form new urban informality and rebuild their locality in their new community. This emphasizes the residents' experiences in the in-city resettlement, where the housing authority and

their elected floor and building leaders strictly enforces its estate management and how they negotiated these rules to facilitate the needs of the residents. Chapter 7 provides the summary and conclusion of the study.