

課題作文

Essay

氏名：

Name：

以下のテーマについて、500語程度のエッセーを英語で作成してください。

Write an essay of about 500 words in English that addresses the following topic:

「日本人は狭い島国に住んでいる単一農耕民族であり、西洋のような狩猟民族でないため、移動をあまりせず、和を尊び、まとまりがよい」と長い間言われてきました。だが、最近の日本史研究では「日本人は人種的にもいろんな血が混ざり合っていて多様であり、古代から中世に至るまで海、山をかなり自由活発に移動し、漁業、商業、手工業を発達させており、必ずしも農耕民族とは言えない。」ということが指摘されています。そうしたことを参考に「日本人とはどんな社会か」についてあなたの考えを述べなさい。

Japanese people have long been described as a single homogeneous race living on small islands, cultivating farms, and living together with peasants, which is far different from the way hunting races in Europe are usually described.

The “single, homogenous race” theory has been used to suggest why Japanese people seek and respect harmony to maintain a stable society. Recently, however, some historians claim that Japanese are of ethnically mixed blood from various parts of Asia and that, from ancient times through even the middle ages, Japanese people frequently sailed on the seas and moved over mountains, developing handicraft works and commercial trades. Some historians believe Japan was not simply a homogeneous farming society.

Using the above theories, explain your own ideas about Japanese people, society, and culture.