

## **Between Empire and Imperialism: The Role of the Internal Colony in Britain and Japan.**

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### **<Abstract>**

At the CIRN1 Waseda Conference in April 2019, I presented a paper *Comparing Imperialisms: Yanaihara Tadao's Colonial Studies revisited*. Here I drew attention to the terminology and framework of colonial studies by Yanaihara Tadao ; one of the most eminent scholar on colonialism and imperialism in pre-War Japan.

There are two issues I raised at the Conference. First, I argued that Yanaihara distinguished the terms Empire and Imperialisms. While Yanaihara criticized Imperialism he was positive about Empire, particularly he praised British Commonwealth. Secondly, I advocated a comparative approach to Ireland and Hokkaido (northern part of Japan) in terms of their development as internal, peripheral colonies of Britain and Japan. Yanaihara compared Ireland with Korea, but Ireland does not fit his colonial framework fully.

At CIRN2 in Belfast, I shall develop these viewpoints as part of a rethink on empire and also on the role of the internal, peripheral colony in imperialism.

In the process of the colonization of Ireland and Hokkaido, their integration into Britain and Japan showed nation building as a preliminary stage of empire building. In the discussion I shall try to show how the historical experience of two internal, peripheral colonies served British and Japanese overseas expansion and became exemplars of the imperial policy of both nations.