C170211 : MAJOR LAW 'KEY WORD: JAPAN/MIGRANT WORKERS

EIICHIRO KIMURA: THE PROTECTION OF MIGRANT WORKERS: A CASE STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND JAPANESE LAW. THESIS ADVISOR: ASSO.PROF. VITIT MUNTARBHORN. PP. ISBN 974-582-663-4

This research aims to study legal problems concerning the protection of migrant workers in Japan and to offer suggestions to solve them.

The research on international law has found that Japan is internationally obliged to respect the principle of equal treatment in formulating a policy toward migrant workers including illegal migrant workers. The study of Japanese law has also revealed that migrant workers in Japan, whether legal or illegal, should be protected in accordance with the labour protection law to the same extent as those of Japanese nationality.

However, after scrutinizing Japanese law in detail it has been found that there still exist legal problems concerning the protection of migrant workers. The problems are as follows: (1) problems concerning the mafia dealing with traffic in women. (2) problems which stem from the obligation of public officers to inform the Immigration Bureau about the existence of illegal migrant workers. (3) legal problems concerning trainees. (4) problems which arise from deporting illegal migrant workers.

In the opinion of the author, these problems are inconsistent with the aims of international law and Japanese law. Reforms are required in order to maintain legal justice in society.