

Jomon Period

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Many theses were published on fiscal 2012 artifact study, many of which were pottery. A symposium “Jomon Sousouki Shinpojiumu 2012: Kigenron wo Koete (Incipient Jomon Symposium 2012: Beyond Theory of the Origin)” was held on Incipient Jomon, and *Chiba Daigaku Bungakubu Kokogaku Kenkyushitsu 30 Shunen Kinen Kokogaku Ronko I (Commemorative Issue of the 30th Anniversary Archaeological Research at Chiba University: Archaeological Achievements I)* contained theses mainly on Early Jomon pottery. Other than these, outstanding were studies on Early Jomon pottery decorated with dowel impressed patterns (Oshigata-mon), Middle Jomon Otamadai style pottery and Kasori E style pottery. Also on Late Jomon, a Jomon seminar “Jomon Koki Doki Kenkyu no Genjo to Kadai (Present state and Problems of Late Jomon Pottery Study)” and a symposium in Tsunan Town, Niigata Prefecture, “Sanjuuinabashiki Doki Bunka no Sekai (World of the Sanjuinaba Style Pottery Culture)” were held. In the field of stone tool study, there is a movement to reevaluate stone tools with a larger viewpoint of “Jomon stone tools” (*Archaeology Quarterly* 119). As for clay figurines (dogu), there was publication of ABE Yoshiro ed. *Dogu to Jomon Shakai (Clay Figurine and Jomon Society)*, and the 9th convention of Dogu Kenkyukai was held. *Jomon Jidai no Ishigami: Ogata Sekibo ni Miru Saigi Koi (Stone God of the Jomon Period: Rituals Seen in Large Stone Rods)* was published on stone rods. KURISHIMA Yoshiaki ed. *Ishinzai kara Mita Jomon Shakai no Kosei to Koeki: Kenkyuseika Houkokusho: Jomon Jidai no Hisui Oodama wo Meguru Kenkyu (Research Report on “Formation and Trades of Jomon Society Seen from Prestige Goods:” Study on Large Jade Beads in the Jomon Period)* was published on jade. A study meeting of Kyushu Jomon Kenkyukai, “Jomon Jidai ni Okeru Kyushu no Seishin Bunka (Spiritual Culture of Kyushu in the Jomon Period)” was held in which spiritual artifacts were compiled. On weaving technique, *Archaeological Journal* 636 featured aspects of various places, and Amimono Kenkyukai (Woven artefacts study group: Delegate SUZUKI Mitsuo) held a symposium “Jomon Jidai no Henso Seihin Kenkyu no Toutatsuten: Chiikisei to Sozai ni Chumoku Shite (Achievement of Jomon Period Weaving Study: Focusing on Regional Characteristics and Materials).”

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TRENDS IN ARCHAEOLOGY IN JAPAN

Also, OZEKI Kiyoko *Jomon no Nuno: Nihon Retto Nuno Bunka no Kigen to Tokushitsu (Cloth of Jomon: the Origin and Characteristics of Cloth Culture in the Japanese Islands)* was published.

As for feature study, Ishikawaken Koko Gakkai focused on wooden pillar circles (kanjo mokuchuretsu) under the title 'Jomon Jidai Banki Tatemono "Kanjo Mokuchuretsu" (Final Jomon Structure "Wooden Pillar Circle")' [*Ishikawa Kokogaku Kenkyukai Kaisi (Bulletin of Ishikawa Prefecture Archaeological Association)*]. On the study of watering place features, KURISHIMA Yoshiaki and others shared their thoughts at a symposium "Jomon Jidai no Shigen Riyo: Minzokugaku to Kokogaku kara Mita Kenkarui no Riyo oyobi Mizuba Iko (Utilization of Resources in the Jomon Period: Utilization of Nuts and Watering Features Seen from Folklore and Archaeology)." On the pottery mound (dokizuka), there is ABE Yoshiro 'Jomon Koki no Shuraku to Dokizuka: "Tobedaigata Dokizuka" no Keisei to Kasori B Shikiki no Chiiki Shakai (Jomon Villages and Pottery Mounds: Formation of "Tobedai Style Pottery Mound" and Regional Society in Kasori B Style Phase)' [*Jinruishi to Jikan Joho: "Kako" no Keisei Katei to Senshi Kokogaku (Human History and Information of Time: Formation Process of "Past" and Prehistoric Archaeology)*]. On bank features, there were theses such as KOBAYASHI Masaru "Sannai-Maruyama Iseki Nado no Morido Iko no Kenkyu Sono 2 (Study on Bank Features at Sannai-Maruyama Site and Others 2)" *Tokubetsu Shiseki Sannai Maruyama Iseki Nenpo 15 (Annual Report on Special Historic Site, Sannai-Maruyama Site Vol. 15)*.

On settlement study, a "new horizon" group, Setsurumento (Settlement) Kenkyukai, formed by KOBAYASHI Ken'ichi, KUROO Kazuhisa, NAKAYAMA Shinji, USAMI Tetsuya and others, is quite enthusiastic, holding a study meeting "Jomon Kenkyu no Chihei 2012 (Horizon of Jomon Study 2012)" and workshops. While their positivism is highly evaluated, ISHII Hiroshi expects development in settlement theory and social organization theory ["Shurakuato Kenkyu to Jikan Shakudo (Study on Settlement Remains Time Scale)" *Kokogaku Kenkyu (Quarterly of Archaeological Studies)* 59-2]. Also, research results of "Higashi Ajia Senshi Jidai no Teijuuka Katei no Kenkyu (Study on the Process of Permanent Settlement in Prehistoric East Asia)" was published (*Bulletin of the National Museums of Japanese History* 174), and *Kansai Jomon Ronshu 3 (Jomon Theories in West Japan Vol. 3)* contained theses on settlement theories in western Japan. A symposium "Joumon Jidai Chuki Bunka no Han-ei wo Saguru (Study on Cultural Prosperity in Middle Jomon)" organized trends of Middle Jomon settlement study in Koshin areas [*Naganoken Kokogaku Kaishi (Bulletin of Nagano Prefecture Archaeological Society)* 143/144]. Also Early Jomon pottery and settlements in Hida region were organized at a symposium "Jomon/Mineichigo Isaki no Jidai no Saikento (Reexamination of Jomon/Mineichigo Site Phase)."

Archaeology Quarterly 118 and *Archaeological Journal* 630 and 633 had featured

articles on paleoanthropology and ancient human skeletons. Also, there were research presentations “Kokogaku to Jinruigaku no Koraboreeshon niyoru Iseki Kenkyu no Kokoromi (Site Study by Collaboration between Archaeology and Anthropology)” and “Kodomo no Hone Kokogaku: Chiisana Honega Kataru Rekishi (Archaeology of Child Bones: History Told by Small Bones)” at the 78th General Meeting of the Japanese Archaeological Association

On subsistence, SUZUKI Katsuhiko ed. *Siriizu Joumon Shuuraku no Tayousei III: Seikatsu Seigyō (Diversity of Jomon Village Series III: Life/Subsistence)* organized subsistence in various places of the country, and there were featured articles in *Archaeological Journal* 625, “Tokushu Jukotsu/Dobutsu Kokogaku (Animal Bones/Zooarchaeology)” and *Archaeological Journal* 627, “Jomon Jidai no Shigen Riyo to Chiiki Shakai (Utilization of Resources and Regional Society in the Jomon Period).” A symposium held by Naganoken Koko Gakkai, “Jomon Chuki Bunka Han-ei wo Saguru (Study on Cultural Prosperity in Middle Jomon)” gave examination from the aspect of subsistence. On plant utilization study, remarkable development and significant results were achieved in recent years on observation of grain such as rice, fox millet and millet, or bean marks by replica SEM method, mainly conducted by OBATA Hiroki, NAKAZAWA Michihiko, and NAKAYAMA Seiji. Also, Middle Jomon group of Naganoken Kokogakkai held a symposium “Jomon Jidai Chuki no Shokubutsu Riyo wo Saguru (Study on Plant Utilization in Middle Jomon).” Examples of folklore study on utilization of acorn and horse chestnuts, and paleoenvironmental study focused on utilization of horse chestnuts in transition from Middle to Late Jomon should be mentioned.

On natural scientific analysis, KUDO Yuichiro *Kyusekki/Jomon Jidai no Kankyo Bunkashi: Koseido Houshasei Tanso Nendai Sokutei to Kokogaku (Environmental Cultural History of Paleolithic/Jomon Period: Highly Accurate Radio Carbon Dating Measurement and Archaeology)*, and ANZAI Masato *Kiko Hendo no Kokogaku (Archaeology of Climate Change)* (Doseisha) were published. As radiocarbon dating has developed, the relationship between climate change and chronological division of the Jomon Period is getting clearer, and a viewpoint to understand various cultural phenomena from the perspective of climate and environmental changes is getting more favorable. There were two symposia by Anzai on the transitional phase: “Touhoku Chihou ni Okeru Chuki/Koki Hendoki: 4.3ka Ibento ni Kansuru Kokogaku Gensho 1 (Middle/Late Jomon Transitional Phase in Tohoku Region: Archaeological Phenomena on 4.3ka Event 1)” and “Sanjuuinabashiki Doki Bunka no Sekai: 4.3ka Ibento ni Kansuru Kokogaku Gensho 2 (World of Sanjuinaba Style Pottery Culture: Archaeological Phenomena on 4.3ka Event 2).” On dating measurement, many examples of analysis were compiled such as Tochibara-Iwakage site in Nagano Prefecture, a peat bed at Unoki site

in Niigata Prefecture and so on. Also KOBAYASHI Ken'ichi discussed the life cycle of pit dwellings based on dating measurement of dwellings destroyed by fire ["Jomon Jidai Tateana Jukyoato Maibotsu Katei no Kenkyu (Study on Burial Process of Jomon Pit Dwellings)" *Bulletin of National Museum of Japanese History* 172].

Results of research influenced by the Great East Japan Earthquake included a study meeting by Kansai Jomon Bunka Kenkyukai "Jomon Iseki ni Okeru Saigai no Konseki (Evidence of Disaster in Jomon Sites)," AIHARA Junichi "Jomon/Yayoi Jidai ni Okeru Chokyo dai Jisin Tsunami to Shakai/Bunka Hendo ni Kansuru Kosatsu: Higashi Nihon Daishinsai no Chihei kara (Thoughts on Mega Earthquake and Tsunami and Social/Cultural Change in Jomon/Yayoi Periods: From the Horizon of the Great East Japan Earthquake)" *Tohoku Rekishi Hakubutsukan Kenkyu Kiyo (Bulletin of Tohoku History Museum)* 13, SUZUKI Megumi "Kesen Chiho ni Okeru Jomon Iseki no Bunpu Keiko to Tokucho ni Tsuite (Distribution Tendency and Characteristics of Jomon Sites in Kesen Region) *Iwate Kokogaku (Iwate Archaeology)* 23 which referred to influence of tsunami on distribution of sites, and EBIHRARA Ikuo "Hibi Hoshu ga Aru Jomon Jukyo (Jomon Dwelling with Mended Cracks)" Karasawa Koko 31 which discussed dwellings with traces of earthquakes. This is a new study field that could be called "disaster archaeology."

Other than these mentioned above, outstanding excavation results were four large stone rods from the end of Middle Jomon excavated from a stone-paved dwelling in Midorikawa-higashi site in Kunitachi City, excavation of 11 human skeletons from Middle to Late Jomon at Shiyakagacho-2chome site in Shinjuku Ward, many Final Jomon Angyo-style phase pit graves found with funerary equipment from circular fill features at Nagatake site, Kazo City, Saitama Prefecture, as well as excavation of an Early Jomon circular settlement at Hiraoka site, Toyama City.

As for museum exhibitions, popular exhibitions were "Arukemetoria: Koko Ibutsu to Bijyutsu Kogeihin wo Kagaku no Me de Sukashi Miru (Archaeometria: Seeing Archaeological Artifacts and Arts/Crafts through Scientific Eyes)" (the University Museum, the University of Tokyo), "Dogu/Kosumosu (Clay Figurine/Cosmos)" (Miho Museum), "Igyo no Jomon Doki (Odd-shaped Jomon Pottery)" (Tokamachi Museum), and "Jomon no Sekaizo: Yatsugatake Sanroku no Megumi (World View of Jomon: Blessing at the Foot of Mt. Yatsugatake)" (Museum of Yayoi Culture).