

## Ancient

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Fiscal 2014 study trends on ancient archaeology were overviewed under eight categories: transportation, capital cities (tojo), sites related to local government offices, artifact and feature theories, temples and rituals, settlement, and artifacts inscribed with writing.

For transportation, there was a publication aimed to the public on the history of post roads from their formation to their abolition [OMI Toshihide, *Nihon no Kodai Doro; Doro ha Shakai wo Do Kaetanoka* (Japanese Ancient Roads: How They Changed Society) Kadokawa].

For capital city study, there was a thesis on Naniwanomiya/Naniwakyo which discussed excavation results after the 1990s and their problems [SEKIYAMA Hiroshi, “Kinnen no Naniwanomiya/Naniwakyo no Hakkutsu Chosa to Kadai (Recent Excavations of Naniwanomiya/Naniwakyo and Problems)” *Jorisei/Kodai Toshi Kenkyu* (Jori System/Ancient City Study) No. 30]. On Heijokyo, there was a study on an area called “Sakyo Nanben Tokushu Chiku” [INOUE Kazuto, “Heijokyo Sakyo Nanbe Tokushu Chiku Sairon (Reevaluation of Sakyo Nanbe Special District at Heijokyo)” *Jorisei/Kodai Toshi Kenkyu* (Jori System/Ancient City Study) No. 30]. For Asuka/Fujiwarakyo, there was a thesis on a garden (enchi) of Asukakyo remains [HIGASHIKAGE Yu, “Nara-ken Asukamura Shiseki/Meisho Asukakyo-ato Enchi (Historical Site/Scene Asukakyo-ato Enchi in Asuka Village, Nara Prefecture)” *Cultura Antiqua* Vol. 66 (1)].

For sites related to local government offices (kanga), excavation reports were published for Kamikonushi/Mobara Kanga site and Mirokuji Kanga site. Also, Sangenya site in Isesaki City, Gunma Prefecture, Otakano Kanga site in Kotoura Town, Tohoku County, Tottori Prefecture, and Tachibana Kanga site in Kawasaki City, Kanagawa Prefecture were designated as national historic sites. EGUCHI Kei Koko Chosa Handobukku 11 *Kodai Kanga* (Archaeological Research Handbook 11; Ancient Kanga) was published. It consists of research results of these government office sites nationally.

On artifact study, there were theses on roof tiles for temples and government offices which tried to interpret political backgrounds through examination of antefix designs and manufacturing techniques: (SAKAI Kiyoji “A Transition from Terayatu-Haiji

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to Suguro-Haiji: From the Simple Petal Round Eaves-End Roof-tiles to the Rod-like Cotyledon Eaves End Roof-tiles” Komazawa Shigaku No. 82, and SHINBO Masahiro “An Aspect of a Control Systems in Mutsu Province in the Formation Phase of the Centralized Nation Seen in Excavated Tiles” Nihon Kokogaku No. 37).

For pottery study, there was a thesis that organized various problems of 7<sup>th</sup> century pottery studies into three categories; typology, production and transportation (ATSUMI Kengo “Togoku ni Okeru 7 Seiki no Doki kara Mittsu no Dansho (Three Fragments from 7th Century Pottery in Togoku)” Kodai 134). As for metal tool study, there was a publication by TSUNO Jin, who tried to draw a picture of ancient military history through organizing ancient weapons and equipment according to time and location, reconstructing military lineages of each region, and revealing military policy of the government in the background and relationship with other powers [TSUNO Jin Nihon Kodai no Gunji Buso to Keifu (Army and Lineage in Ancient Japan) Yoshikawa-kobunkan].

On wooden tool study, there was a remarkable thesis by MOTOMURA Mitsuyasu who studied ancient wooden clogs excavated from the Kinki region [MOTOMURA Mitsuyasu “Aspects of Ancient Wooden Clogs in the Kinki Region” *Cultura Antiqua* 66 (4)].

For study meetings on feature study, the Archaeological Association of Kilns held the 12<sup>th</sup> regular meeting, “Kawaragama no Kozo Kenkyu: Tohoku no Yoso (Structural Study of Tile Kilns: Aspects of Tohoku),” [YOSHINO Takeshi “Hinodayama Kamaatogun no Toga Kobo (Ceramic and Tile Studios at Hinodayama Kiln Sites),” YAMAKAWA Junichi “Yoheinuma Kamaato no Kawaragama Kozo (Structure of Tile Kiln at Yoheinuma Kiln Site),” and others.]

For temple and ritual study, remains of building foundations that seem to belong to the main hall were newly discovered at the historic Kozuke Kokubunji site, south of another building foundation that was previously thought to be the main hall. *Archaeology Quarterly* No. 129 had a featured article on the latest results and problems of kokubunji (provincial temple) study [SUDA Tsutomu “Kokubunji Kenkyu no Seika to Kadai (Results and Problems of Kokubunji Study),” ARITOMI Yukiko “Konkomyo Shitenno Gokokunotera to Hokkemetsuzainotera (Konkomyo Shitenno Gokokunotera Temple and Hokkemetsuzainotera Temple),” and others]. As for temples around county seats (gunga), Shimoterao government office site in Chigasaki City, Kanagawa Prefecture was nominated as a national historic site on March 10, 2015.

On ritual study, TAKASHIMA Hideyuki argued that spindle whorls (bosuisha) carved with the year of manufacture were used as charms or for cults or rituals [Takashima Hideyuki “Kinenmei Kokusho Bosuisha no Kisoteki Kenkyu (Fundamental Study on Spindle Whorls Inscribed with the Year of Manufacture)” *Nihon Kodai no Kokka/*

Oken/Shakai (Ancient Japanese Nation/Sovereignty/Society) Hanawashobo], and *Cultura Antiqua* 66 (3) had a featured article on the transition of rituals from the Kofun period to the Ritsuryo period (ONISHI Akira “The Changes of the Ancient Rituals in the Noto Peninsula: Noto Province” and YAMAMASU Masayoshi/HAMA Ryuzo/IWAGAKI Mikoto “Ritsuryo Rituals in the Aoya Plain: Inaba Province” and others).

For settlement, the only outstanding work was MIYASHITA Koyu’s “Musashi Kokufu Kanren Iseki wo Chushin Toshita Kodai Shuraku no Kosei; Tateana Tatemono/Hottatebashira Tatemonoato no Bunpu kara (Structures of Ancient Settlement Mainly on Musashi Kokufu Related Sites: Distribution of Pit Dwellings and Pillared Buildings)” *Hosei Kokogaku* (Hosei Archaeology) No. 41, Hosei Archaeological Society.

For inscribed artifacts, there were studies on pottery with ink writing, carved spindle whorls, wooden tablets, and tiles with writing. Especially outstanding was a thesis that discussed spindle whorls with curved writings and pictures related to Buddhism. It proposed that lotus cultivation was conducted in the ancient Musashi region and that fabrics were produced from threads yielded from the lotus plant, and that this involved a group of people who migrated from the continental Asia. [MIYATAKI Koji “Kodai Musashi Chiiki ni Okeru Hasuito Orimono Seisan (Production of Lotus Thread in Ancient Musashi Area)” *Nihon Kodai no Kokka/Oken/Shakai* (Ancient Japanese Nation/Sovereignty/Society) Hanawashobo].

An outstanding thesis on wooden tablets discussed wooden tablets excavated from Hitaotsu site in Otsu City, and proposed that people who migrated from the continent were involved in preparation of administrative documents and management of distribution and trade using land and water transportation (OHASHI Nobuya “Outline of the Acceptance of Textual Culture and Immigrants in Omi” Collaborative Research: Comprehensive Research on the Formation Process of the Literate Culture in Ancient East Asia National Museum of Japanese History).

On inscribed tiles, there was a thesis that discussed the year construction commenced at Tagajo castle by analyzing tiles with writing that contained expenses for initial construction and records on grain transportation to Mutsu province reported by the Great Council of the State (daijo-kan) to the emperor in 6<sup>th</sup> year of Yoro [YAMAJI Naomitsu “Mutsunokuni heno Unkoku to Tagajo no Soken (Grain Transportation to Mutsu Province and Construction of Tagajo)” *Nihon Kodai no Kokka/Oken/Shakai* (Ancient Japanese Nation/Sovereignty/Society) Hanawashobo].

For resource utilization, there was a big feature article in *Archaeology Quarterly* No. 128 on use of fishery resources [TANIGUCHI Sakae/YAMAZAKI Takeshi/MARUYAMA Masashi “Rekisi Kokogaku ni Okeru Suisan Sigen no Kenkyu (Study on Fishery Resources in Historical Archaeology),” KENMOCHI Teruhisa “Suisan Sigen no Kakutoku to Seisan (Acquisition and Production of Fishery Resources),” and others].