

# Ancient

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Study trends of ancient study is overviewed by introducing outstanding excavation research, symposiums, excavation reports and theses related to the ancient in fiscal 2015.

On transportation, discussion from various viewpoints were carried out under the theme “umaya within multi-period sites” at the 18<sup>th</sup> convention of Kodai Kotsu Kenkyukai. [NEMOTO Yasushi “Saitamaken Tokorozawashi Azumanoue Iseki (Azumanoue Site in Tokorozawa City, Saitama Prefecture),” KINOSHITA Minoru “Tochigiken Nasukarasuyamashi Chojagataira Iseki to Sono Shuhen (Chojagadaira Site in Nasukarasuyama City, Tochigi Prefecture and its Surroundings),” KOMIYA Toshihisa “Kozukenokuni Nitta Gunga to Shuhens no Iseki (Nitta Gunga in Kozukenokuni and Surrounding Sites),” FUKUDA Hideo “Fukushimaken Hironomachi Sakurada IV Iseki (Sakurada IV Site, Hirono Town, Fukushima Prefecture),” KISHIMOTO Michiaki “Harimanokuni Shouyama to Kanren Isekigun (Uyama in Harimanokuni and Related Sites),” SUZUKI Toshinori “Ibaisekigun to Totomi no Kodai Kotsu (Iba Sites and Ancient Transportation of Totomi),” WATANABE Akihiro “Shutsudo Moji Shiryo kara Ibaisekigun wo Kangaeru (Thoughts on Iba Sites Based on Excavated Writings),” KANEGAE Hiroyuki “Chiho Kanga Kenkyu no Rekishi to Genjo (History and Present of Local Government Office Study)”).

On capital city study, Jorisei/Kodai Toshi Kenkyukai ed., *Kodai no Toshi to Jori (Ancient Cities and Jori)* (Yoshikawa Kobunkan) was published. It is divided into ancient cities and Jori, and in the ancient city part outlines were given on capital cities, regional cities represented by Dazaifu/Tagajo, and provincial centers in five Ki and seven Do based on the latest research results.

As for regional government offices, study was active on Kozukenokuni and results have been accumulated. A large warehouse that was considered hoso with a tiled roof was confirmed at the remains of Shoso in Tago County, Kozukenokuni. Ordinarily tile roofed store houses are seen in Shimotsuke and Hitachi and further north, and this is the first example from Kozukenokuni. The historical background for introducing tile roofed storage is very interesting. At Kozukenokuni Nittagunchoato, a part of Shosoin

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spreading around the county office was additionally designated as a historical site, and it was renamed “Kozukenkuni Nittagugeato.”

As for temple/ritual study, *Archaeological Journal* had a special featured article “Local Government Temples and the Ritsuryo Nation.” [SUDA Tsutomu “Soron Chiho Kanji no Seiritsu to Monmucho Daikandaiji (Formation of Local Government Temples and Great Government Temples in Emperor Monmu’s Era),” NISHITA Noriko “Kudaradaiji to Daikandaiji (Kudara Great Temple and the Great Government Temple),” YAMAGUCHI Koichi “Shimonoyakushiji,” FUJIKI Kai “Koriyama Hajji (Koriyama Discarded Temple),” KAJIWARA Yoshimitsu “Kokubunji Seiritsu no Yoso (Aspects of the Formation of Kokubunji).” *Archaeological Journal* No. 680, New Science Co.] In his article, Suda argued that Dazai Kannon Temple and Shimotsuke Yakkushiji Temple were planned as the first regional government temples, but it was not realized. He concluded that what promoted realization of the plan was regional Buddhism policy linked with construction of Daikandaiji which were promoted with compilation of Taiho Ritsuryo and so on.

Special mention should be made on artifact/features study to a special featured article in *Archaeology Quarterly* Vol. 131 on pit structures. The contents varied from various facilities of pit structures, hearths, roles, and related study. In the article, KIRYU Naohiko discussed the importance of a term tateana tatemono (pit structure) and disputed use of tateana jukyo (pit dwelling) that had been used in the past [“‘Tateana Tatemono’ Kenkyu no Kanosei (Possibilities of ‘Tateana Tatemono’ Study),” *Archaeology Quarterly* Vol. 131, Yuzankaku]. Excavated examples of pit structure is the most abundant in number in Japanese excavation research, and in eastern Japan, it often yielded in the hundreds. However, few studies specialize in pit structures among features study, and the role of this article seems significant.

As for excavated writing data, TAKASHIMA Hideyuki organized characteristics of pottery with ink writing or engravings and its nature as study material, the relationship with other artifacts with writing (wooden tablets, branded letters, and copper seals) that was excavated with the pottery, as well as shapes of writing [Takashima, Hideyuki. “Nihon Kodaison Shutsudo no Sumigaki/Kokusho Doki no Kihonteki Seikaku wo Megutte (Thoughts on the Basic Nature of Pottery with Ink Writing or Engravings Excavated from Ancient Villages in Japan)” *Nihon Kodai Kokogaku Ronshu* (Japanese Ancient Archaeology), Doseisha]. Takashima concluded that it is not enough to interpret the writing itself in analysis of pottery with ink writing and engravings, but information within the writing data could be withdrawn to the maximum by systematic examination of characteristics of each artifact, excavated situation, and other artifacts excavated at the same time, and by consistently interpreting and understanding discrepancies such artifacts mutually hold.