

## Medieval

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Study trends of fiscal 2019 medieval archaeology were discussed in the fields of city/village sites, castles, history of burial systems/religion related sites, pottery/ceramics, and production/distribution. Please pardon if important studies/theses/excavations were missed due to the authors' narrow insight and interest.

As in other years, fiscal 2019 saw a large sum of pottery/ceramic study. There were many theses that discussed “*yakimono* (pottery)” from multiple perspectives referring to production sites. It may be a proof that archaeology is an academic field to study artifacts.

Outstanding in recent years is a castle boom. This field was quite active in excavation research, study meetings, and publication of excavation reports and books. On the other hand, there were many cases of castle being damaged in a disaster. It is a responsibility of the administrative municipality to properly protect castles as historic sites/archaeological sites and pass them to the future, and to strenuously carry out research and management. There is a large stream of publicly utilizing castles as a local resource to express the origin of the area, and as a tourism resource to spread local history, and many efforts are being taken.

As for city/village site study, there were successive publications of collected theses by veteran researchers. As for study on history of burial systems/religion related sites, theses based on an earnest collection of fundamental data were published. Important excavation research was conducted in the field of production/distribution study, and there were many publications of compiled theses and so on.

Overlooking fiscal 2019, it feels that excavation research and study were interlocked with social movements. Fiscal 2020 saw drastic changes in social situations, and the world is covered by the so called new normal. The author wonders what kind of excavation research and study are going to be conducted in the future and what will be written in research trends of the fiscal 2020 annual report. Perhaps the words “more than ever” will not be used and the “new normal” imposed on us will be our everyday life.

A way of life with a “growth mindset” seems necessary.

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