

Medieval

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As for trends of fiscal 2017 medieval archaeology, this article discussed city/village sites, castle cities and medieval graves as site studies, and pottery/ceramics, production/distribution, and synthetic study as artifact studies.

For city/village study, Chusei Toshi Kenkyukai held a conference “Hakata as a Port City.” It expanded the viewpoint to East Asia and focused on aspects of the city as a base for domestic and international distribution and introduction of technology, as well as functions as a military base. For publications, there was Chusei Toshi Kenkyukai ed. “*Shukyotoshi*” *Nara wo Kangaeru (Thoughts on “Religious City” Nara)*. It contained theses from various angles on developmental processes of the medieval city Nara, and city functions in transition to the modern city Nara.

As for castle study, Shokuhoki Jokaku Kenkyukai held its fiscal 2017 conference “New Viewpoint on Shokuho Period Castle Tile Study,” and discussed the relationship of artifacts excavated with tiles and problems regarding tile making such as kobiki. Also, they held a conference with Sawayamajo Kenkyukai titled “Sawayama Castle Seen from Toyotomi Castle.” Chugoku/Shikoku Chiku Jokan Chosa Kentokai held a conference titled “Early Modern Castles Seen from Matsuyama Castle of Iyo,” and tried to compare castles in Japan and wajo including Matsuyama Castle of Iyo, and discussed noboriishigaki stone walls. KAKEN “Chusei/Kinsei Ikoki ni Okeru Shugosho/Jokamachi no Sogo Kenkyu (Integrated Research on Shugosho /Castle Towns in the Transitional Period of Medieval and Early Modern)” held a conference “Osaka and Sekkasen in the Toyotomi Era,” and presentations/discussions were held as a culmination of the long research on shugosho and castle towns.

As for the study on medieval graves, a conference was held on the end of medieval graves, progressed by Chusei Sosobosei Kenkyukai. The final phase of medieval graves was also discussed in the Kyushu region by Oitashi Kenkyukai and in the Shikoku region by Takamatsushi Kenkyukai. It is inferred from these discussions that there was an end of the burial system in Kyushu from the end of medieval to the Edo period, but there was the

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possibility of continuation in Shikoku as in Kinai.

As for pottery/ceramic study, Chusei Doki Kenkyukai held a conference under the theme “Lineage and Dating of Domestic Ceramics,” and discussions were held on excavated examples from each consumption area and the relationship between chronological views and historical dating. Boeki Toji Kenkyukai held a conference titled “Disparity of Imported Ceramics. There were discussions that reorganized disparity held within imported ceramics as differences between the product itself and values within products.

As for production/distribution study, results regarding “Collaborative Research: General Study on Technology and Craftspersons in Medieval Times” which studied medieval technology comprehensively was published in *Bulletin of the National Museum of Japanese History* No. 210. It examined relationships between people, products, and technology focusing on “technology that created the era” and “technology that supported everyday life.” As medieval history study, ONO Masatoshi, GOMI Fumihiko, HAGIWARA Mitsuo ed. *Iseki ni Yomu Chuseishi (Medieval History Read in Sites)* (Toyama: Koshi Shoin) was published. It proposed cooperation with document history and other fields in medieval history as it promotes interpretation of features and artifacts recognized in archaeology. Also, Chuseigaku Kenkyukai held the first symposium under a theme “Illusionary Kyoto Model,” and it discussed a definition of a culture that should be shared universally as the traditional order of medieval is disappearing while the normative of Kyoto is still recognized.