

Editorial

We are pleased to present Volume 8, Issue 1 of the *Japanese Journal of Archaeology*, the official English language journal of the Japanese Archaeological Association. With this issue I have taken over the chief editorship from Koji Mizoguchi. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Professor Mizoguchi for his exceptional contribution in establishing the Journal, and am delighted that he will continue to be closely involved in its development in his role as trustee of the Japanese Archaeological Association.

As Professor Mizoguchi stated in the Editorial to Vol. 7, Issue 1, one of the objectives of this journal is the internationalization of Japanese archaeology. This issue features two articles that are the products of another new initiative that is designed to further that objective. These two are English summaries of books awarded Japanese Archaeological Association Prizes.

The article by HIROSE Satoru, entitled ‘The Production of *Haniwa* and State Formation in Japan’ is a translated summary of his book, *Kodai Ōken no Keisei to Haniwa Seisan*. Dōsei-sha, Tokyo (2015). Hirose’s work demonstrates that detailed observation of minute features of artifacts allows him to approach craft organization of the Kofun period during which Japanese society evolved toward statehood. He ties his discussion on change in craft organization to aspects of state formation in early Japan.

The article by NAKAKUBO Tatsuo, entitled ‘Interregional Interaction Strategies in the Early State Formation of Ancient Japan’ is a translated summary of his book, *Nihon Kodai Kokka no Keisei Katei to Taigai Kōryū*. Osaka University Press, Osaka (2017). He successfully argues that various patterns of interaction with China and the Korean peninsula contributed to early state formation in Japan. His work is distinguished from works of other native Japanese archaeologists specializing in Japanese archaeology by his citing many English language sources.

Publication of the article by TAKASE Katsunori, ‘Time period determination of the Kuril Ainu’s major withdrawal from Kamchatka’ is timely because his article contributes to the archaeology of the indigenous people of northern Japan. Takase’s scholarship is also distinguished in Japanese archaeology because he is successful in the application of natural scientific methods. In Japan, there is little or no overlap between high school and university curricula in natural sciences and social sciences, which often makes it difficult for Japanese archaeologists to take an interdisciplinary approach.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted on the work of the Japanese Archaeological Association, stopping most of the work at the Japanese Archaeological Association Office in April and May, 2020, which resulted in the delay in the publication of the *Archaeologia Japonica*. For the reason, this issue does not include the reproduction of the English summaries of the current issue of *Archaeologia Japonica*, which will instead appear in

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Issue 2 of this volume.

It is my hope that this journal will continue to contribute to the internationalization of Japanese archaeology.

Ken'ichi SASAKI

Chief Editor

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