

Jomon Period

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Due to the full-blown spread of COVID-19, fiscal 2020 saw cancel/postponement of academic conferences and study meetings, as well as events like special exhibitions. Many events on the Jomon period were influenced in the same manner, and face-to-face discussions were extremely limited by the behavioral restrictions. On the other hand, dispatch of research results continued on papers and online, and several hundred research results were accumulated including periodicals and books, data reports, and so on.

For artifact study, especially many theses were on lithics. The most prominent example was DAIKUHARA Yutaka, OSADA Tomonari, TATEISHI Toru ed., *Jomon Sekki Teiyō* (Jomon Lithic Overview), (New Science), that comprehensively covered the whole of Jomon lithic study. Also, as for lithics in a transitional phase from the Paleolithic to Jomon, characteristics and cultural aspects of lithics, mainly of Mikoshiba lineage, and the relationship with the emergence of pottery in the Japanese archipelago were discussed from various viewpoints (TSUTSUMI Takashi ed. *Archaeology Quarterly* 153).

Interlocking with the above, features study saw a study featuring cave and rock shelter sites which characterizes initial settlement styles of the Jomon period (MIZUNOE Kazutomo ed. *Archaeology Quarterly* 151). Regarding settlement styles in the pottery emergence phase, results were shared for research conducted in an extensive range including East Asia (HARUNARI Hideaki ed. Kamikuroiwa Iwakage to Jomon Sosoki [Kamikuroiwa Rock Shelter and Incipient Jomon], Separate Issue of *Archaeology Quarterly* 32).

Other than the above, outstanding discussions were a study that indicated a relationship between climate change and change in material culture in the latter half of the Jomon period (ANZAI Masahito, *Jomon Jidaishi Ge: Seikatsu Sekai no Gekihen* [Jomon Period History Second Volume; Drastic Change in Living World], Keibunsha), a study that approached cultural difference between eastern and western Japan divided mainly by pottery (FUKUNAGA Masahiro, *Higashi to Nishi no Jomon Shakai: Jomon Koki Shakai Kozo no Kenkyu* [Jomon Society in the East and West: Study on Social Structures of Late Jomon], Yuzankaku), and a study that indicated regional adaptation in the Jomon/Yayoi transitional phase (NEGISHI Yo, *Tohoku Chiho Hokubu ni Okeru Jomon/Yayoi Ikokiron* [Theory on Jomon/Yayoi Transitional Phase in Northern Tohoku], Yuzankaku). As for

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staple isotope analysis and DNA analysis on excavated human bones, examples have been accumulated actively with careful examination of methodologies, and new discoveries have been yielded on eating habits and grave systems of the Jomon people.