The Lineage of *Mabisashi-tsuki* Helmets, with a Focus on the *Mabisashi-tsuki* Helmets of the *Marozuka* Tomb

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The *mabisashi-tsuki* (visored) helmets unearthed from the *Marozuka* Tomb held by the National Museum of Japanese History are extremely well preserved. A range of information can be learned from them that cannot be identified in other excavated, but rusted, iron artifacts.

In this study a typological analysis was first performed for the two *mabisashi-tsuki* helmets found in the *Marozuka* Tomb. It showed that both helmets were manufactured at the same time and are of the TK216 type stage, but in their various attributes (the several factors comprising the helmets) these helmets are of widely differing types. In addition, I examined the lineage of the various representative attributes characterizing these helmets with reference to excavated examples from the Korean Peninsula and China.

Regarding the manufacturing technology of the *mabisashi-tsuki* helmets, there are views I and other writers have discussed in the past, and views critical of them. In this study the manufacturing technology is discussed once again. I point out that *mabisashi-tsuki* helmets are a consolidation of indigenous Wa (ancient Japan) armor designs of the *obigane-shiki* (laminar) type, metalworking technology imported to the Japanese archipelago from the Chinese mainland via the Korean Peninsula for producing armor, crowns, laminar furniture, and the like, and newly created factors. Even though the condition of the examples varies, the opinion that *mabisashi-tsuki* helmets were produced through a combination of technologies of different lineages and origins remains valid.

I confirmed that *mabisashi-tsuki* helmets have formal characteristics originating in San-Yan in northeastern China, show the participation of immigrant artisans to Japan via Goguryeo and Silla, and have added design features shared with (similar to) San-Yan and Baekje. Based on this opinion, the *mabisashi-tsuki* helmets were regarded to strongly reflect the circumstances of East Asia surrounding fifth-century Wa, and to have been created as symbols of royal authority.

Keywords: middle Kofun Period, *mabisashi-tsuki* (visored) helmets, technological lineage of armor, armor manufacturing guilds, East Asian armor lineage