The Factor and Background of Characteristic of Jomon Society in Kansai District

SEGUCHI Shinji

This paper discusses the factor and background of characteristic of Jomon society in Kansai district. The points of the discussion are “Length of the harvest time”, and “Direction of the subsistence system and the degree of the reinforcement”. Therefore I analyzed the variety of nuts which were excavated, the amount of the tool, and the amount to be stored of the nut. As a result, I got the following conclusions.

In the Kansai district, harvest season is considered to be was longer, because kinds of nuts of the remains exhumation are various than East Japan. The Jomon society of the Kansai district avoided the active reinforcement of the environmental development, and they held down the degree of the reinforcement of the use of resources. The scale of the Kansai-Jomon society is very small, and never made centripetal social structure. It was not because resources environment was poor. It was because “underproduction style” was maintained. They continued to give priority to autonomy of the household, and to hold the mechanism to apply a brake to the concentration of social hierarchy and goods and power. Since forest vegetation in the Kansai region had a long harvest season, it was difficult born the need for intensive labor organization. Such a resource environment maintained the character of the Kansai Jomon society.

Key words: environmental development, social structure, labor organization, character of the Jomon society