

2024
4.17

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12:10
12:50

12:10-12:15

◆ Introduction

12:15-12:40

◆ Seminar
(Presentation)

12:40-12:50

◆ Q&A

Online
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Ancient state formation in Japan: as seen from bronze mirrors

Chair: Assoc. Prof. Kun QIAN (Research Futures Coordinator of Q-AOS)

**Key Words**

Archaeology

Ancient Japan

Yayoi and Kofun Period

Bronze mirrors

Keyhole-shaped tumuli

State formation

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Jun'ichiro Tsujita is an Associate Professor at Faculty of Humanities, Kyushu University. He received a BA and MA at Kyushu University and Ph.D. at Kyushu University in 2003. He worked at Fukuoka Prefectural board of Education for cultural properties protection in 2001-2003 and works at Faculties of Humanities, Kyushu University from 2003. His research interests include ancient state formation in the Japanese archipelago and its comparative study from an archaeological perspective.

Prehistory in the Japanese archipelago, especially Yayoi and Kofun Period, is characterized by interaction with Chinese dynasties and Korean Peninsula. Archaeological finds, e.g. bronze mirrors, show such interaction and history in the ancient East Asia. In the Japanese archipelago, after 1st century BC, Chinese bronze mirrors were imported and they caused social integration and social complexity in each region of the archipelago. During the Kofun Period (c.250-600 AD), gigantic keyhole-shaped tumuli appeared in the Kinki region and these tumuli were constructed over wide area of the archipelago. During the early Kofun Period, many bronze mirrors were imported from Chinese dynasty and imitated mirrors, modelled after Chinese ones, were produced in the archipelago. The distribution of these bronze mirrors centered on Kinki region made the basis of center and periphery relationship and state formation in the archipelago. In this seminar, the author will introduce new archaeological research and discovery of the Kofun Period.