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## Ancient Jomon of Japan

Junko Habu illustrates recent developments in the archaeology of the Jomon period (circa 14,500–300 BC) of Japan and presents new analyses. Unlike most prehistoric pottery-using peoples, the Jomon people are thought to have been hunter-gatherers. Evidence of plant cultivation does exist, but none of the cultigens recovered from Jomon sites seems to have been used as a staple food resource. High site density, food storage, and long-distance trade also characterize the Jomon period. Using ecological models of hunter-gatherer culture and behavior, Habu examines various aspects of Jomon culture including subsistence–settlement, rituals, crafts and trade, and presents a model of long-term change in hunter-gatherer cultural complexity. In this comprehensive analysis, Junko Habu helps to bridge the gap between largely Japanese discourse on this 10,000-year period of Japanese prehistory and the modern scientific debate on later hunter-gatherer societies. It will prove invaluable to students and researchers alike.

JUNKO HABU is Associate Professor at the Department of Anthropology, University of California at Berkeley. She has conducted fieldwork both in Japan and in North America. Her publications include *Subsistence–Settlement Systems and Intersite Variability in the Moroiso Phase of the Early Jomon Period of Japan*, International Monographs in Prehistory (2001).

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To Professor Kimio Suzuki, who first taught me the  
importance of active interaction between Japanese  
and world archaeology

## Contents

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<i>List of figures</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>List of tables</i>	xiv
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xv

### **Part I: Overview**

1 Introduction	3
Goals and scope of this book	3
Theoretical approaches	7
Summary	25
2 Background to the study: overview of the Jomon period	26
Origins of the Jomon culture	26
Chronological framework	37
Environment and climate	42
Population estimates	46
Physical anthropological studies	50

### **Part II: Subsistence and settlement**

3 Subsistence strategies	57
History of the analysis of Jomon faunal and floral remains	57
“Salmon hypothesis” and “plant cultivation hypothesis”	60
The “Jomon calendar”	61
Jomon collectors	62
Food storage and nut collecting	64
Other plant foods as possible staples	70
Maritime adaptation and development of shell-middens	72
Regional variability and changes through time	77
4 Settlement archaeology	79
History of Jomon settlement studies	79
Questions about Jomon settlement size and the degree of sedentism	85
Case Study 1: Analysis of Early Jomon settlement data from central Japan	87

viii	Contents	
	Case Study 2: The Sannai Maruyama site and its place in regional settlement systems	108
	Discussion	132
	<b>Part III: Rituals, crafts, and trade</b>	
5	Mortuary and ceremonial practices	137
	History of the study of Jomon mortuary and ceremonial practices	138
	Types of ritual artifacts	142
	Types of burial	159
	Burials and social inequality	176
	Mortuary practices and cultural landscapes	179
	Construction of ceremonial and monumental features	182
	Discussion	195
6	Crafts and exchange networks	200
	Studies of Jomon pottery	201
	Technological achievements reflected in perishables: wood-working, lacquerware, basketry, and textiles	214
	Exchange networks of exotic and nonexotic goods	221
	Transportation	236
	Discussion	237
	<b>Part IV: Discussion and conclusion</b>	
7	Discussion and conclusion	243
	Development of Jomon cultural complexity	245
	Concluding remarks	261
	<i>References</i>	263
	<i>Index</i>	318

## Figures

---

1.1 Excavation of the Early and Middle Jomon Sannai Maruyama site, Aomori Prefecture	<i>page</i> 4
1.2 Prefectures and regions of Japan	6
1.3 Characterization of a forager system	8
1.4 Schematic representation of a forager settlement pattern	9
1.5 Characterization of a collector system	10
1.6 Schematic representation of a collector settlement pattern	11
1.7 Schematic representation of a settlement pattern of fully sedentary hunter-gatherers	13
1.8 Changes over time in the number of rescue and academic excavations	19
1.9 Annual spending on rescue excavations in Japan	20
2.1 Linear-relief pottery excavated from Fukui Cave	28
2.2 Potsherds and arrowheads from the Odai Yamamoto I site	31
2.3 Russian Far East sites with pottery dated to older than 10,000 bp	34
2.4 Radiocarbon dates associated with Jomon and Yayoi pottery obtained during the 1960s and early 1970s	38
2.5 Chronological table of Jomon pottery	39
2.6 Comparison of radiocarbon dates from seven regions	41
2.7 Calibration of the oldest <sup>14</sup> C date from the Odai Yamamoto I site, and temperature fluctuations as reflected in annual ice accumulation rates	43
2.8 Summary of environmental changes suggested by Tsukada (1986), and estimated sea-level changes	44
2.9 Dual structure model for the population history of the Japanese	51
3.1 “The Jomon calendar” showing the seasonal hunting- gathering cycle	61
3.2 Field photographs of wet storage pits and features associated with wooden frames at the Kuribayashi site, Nagano Prefecture	65
	ix



x	List of figures	
3.3	Schematic profiles of storage pits	66
3.4	Profile of a storage pit excavated at the Nashinokizuka site, Akita Prefecture	67
3.5	Reconstruction of “raised-floor” storehouses at the Sannai Maruyama site, Aomori Prefecture	68
3.6	Plan and schematic profile of a fire pit with smoke tunnel excavated at the Kakoinohara site, Kagoshima Prefecture	69
3.7	Distribution of Middle Jomon sites having a large number of chipped stone axes and sites with a large number of storage pits in the Kanto and Chubu regions	71
3.8	Result of a simulation study by Minagawa and Akazawa (1992) based on carbon and nitrogen isotope analysis	74
3.9	Field photograph of the Nakazato shell-midden, Tokyo	76
4.1	Feature distribution at the Nanbori shell-midden site, Kanagawa Prefecture	82
4.2	Excavation of the Early Jomon Nakanoya Matsubara site, Gunma Prefecture	87
4.3	Examples of Moroiso-style pottery	90
4.4	Map of Japan showing research area	91
4.5	Location of Areas I to IV	92
4.6	Data structure	93
4.7	Lithic tools from Moroiso-phase sites	94
4.8	Five site types based on the highest artifact category frequency in assemblage composition	95
4.9	Single peak sites and multiple peak sites for three categories of lithic tools	97
4.10	Distribution of ninety-five LTE sites	98
4.11	Site concentrations in Area I	99
4.12	Site concentrations in Area II	100
4.13	Site concentrations in Area IIIa	101
4.14	Distribution of Moroiso-c subphase sites in Area II	103
4.15	Comparison of site size variability between phases	108
4.16	Locations of Aomori Prefecture and the Sannai Maruyama site	109
4.17	Excavation areas at the Sannai Maruyama site	111
4.18	Distribution of features at the Stadium Area, the Sannai Maruyama site	112
4.19	Features associated with six large posts	113
4.20	Uncalibrated <sup>14</sup> C dates from the Sannai Maruyama site	115
4.21	Probability distribution of calibrated dates for each phase	116

List of figures	xi
4.22 Changes in the number of pit-dwellings at Sannai Maruyama	122
4.23 Changes in the long-axis length of pit-dwellings at Sannai Maruyama	124
4.24 Relative frequencies of lithic tools for each category for each phase at Sannai Maruyama	126
5.1 Schematic drawing of various types of clay figurines from Incipient to Final Jomon periods	143
5.2 Clay figurines	145
5.3 Middle Jomon slab-shaped clay figurines from the Sannai Maruyama site	146
5.4 Ritual artifacts from the Kunenbashi site	150
5.5 Stone figurines from Early Jomon and Final Jomon sites	152
5.6 Large stone rod recovered from a Middle Jomon pit-dwelling at the Sori site, Nagano Prefecture	153
5.7 Stone rods and “swords”	154
5.8 Examples of various types of clay masks and their distribution	156
5.9 Various ritual artifacts	158
5.10 Ornaments	162
5.11 Early Jomon flask-shaped pit burial recovered from the Furuyashiki site, Aomori Prefecture	163
5.12 Feature distribution at the Middle Jomon Nishida site, Iwate Prefecture	164
5.13 Two rows of Middle Jomon pit burials recovered from the Sannai Maruyama site, Aomori Prefecture	166
5.14 Circular Stone Burial no. 11 at Sannai Maruyama, Aomori Prefecture	167
5.15 Late Jomon stone coffin burials at the Horiai site, Aomori Prefecture	168
5.16 Middle Jomon jar burial for an infant at Sannai Maruyama, Aomori Prefecture	169
5.17 Collective secondary burial at the Late Jomon Nakazuma shell-midden, Ibaraki Prefecture	170
5.18 Late Jomon jar burials at the Yakushimae site, Aomori Prefecture	172
5.19 Square-shaped bone-pile burial at the Final Jomon Motokariya shell-midden, Aichi Prefecture	173
5.20 Shallow bowls recovered from burial pits at the Hazama-higashi site, Chiba Prefecture	180

xii	List of figures	
5.21	Reconstruction of the Early Jomon circular stone feature at the Wappara site, Nagano Prefecture	183
5.22	“Sundial” type of stone cluster at Nonakado of the Oyu site, Akita Prefecture	184
5.23	Late Jomon stone circle at the Komakino site, Aomori Prefecture	186
5.24	Arrow-shaped stone feature from the Late Jomon period at the Monzen site, Iwate Prefecture	187
5.25	Schematic plan of <i>kanjo dori</i>	188
5.26	Distribution of <i>kanjo dori</i>	189
5.27	<i>Kanjo dori</i> at the Kiusu site, Hokkaido	190
5.28	Ring-shaped earthen mound (Late and Final Jomon) at the Terano-higashi site, Tochigi Prefecture	192
5.29	Number of pit-dwellings in each phase and the construction period of the earthen mound at Terano-higashi	194
5.30	Circular feature associated with large wooden posts recovered from the Chikamori site, Ishikawa Prefecture	195
5.31	Circular feature associated with large wooden posts recovered from the Mawaki site	196
6.1	Four basic forms of Jomon pottery	204
6.2	Lamp-shaped pottery from the Middle Jomon Sori site, Nagano Prefecture	205
6.3	Various forms of pottery excavated from the Final Jomon Kunenbashi site, Iwate Prefecture	206
6.4	Pottery assemblage at the Ishigami site	207
6.5	Influence of Mumun pottery from the Korean peninsula and the disappearance of pottery decoration in western Japan in the Late and Final Jomon periods	209
6.6	Changes in regional zones based on variability in pottery	211
6.7	Lacquered artifacts excavated from the Korekawa Nakai site	216
6.8	Schematic models showing (1) the general structure of Jomon fabric made of twisted warp, and (2) the structure of plain woven fabric excavated from the Torihama shell-midden, Fukui Prefecture (Early Jomon)	217
6.9	Three fragments of fabric made of twisted warp, the Sanno-gakoi site, Miyagi Prefecture	217
6.10	Baskets excavated from the Sakuramachi site	219
6.11	Locations of major obsidian sources	222
6.12	Two alternative models of prehistoric trade networks	224
6.13	Large jade beads recovered from the Sannai Maruyama site	225

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0521776708 - Ancient Jomon of Japan  
Junko Habu  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

List of figures	xiii
6.14 Distribution of Jomon sites associated with jade artifacts	226
6.15 Jomon artifacts incorporating asphalt as glue and as eye pieces of figurine	228
6.16 Locations of petroleum deposit areas, asphalt sources, an asphalt quarry, and Jomon sites from which artifacts with asphalt have been reported	229
6.17 Evaporation pots excavated from the Satohama shell-midden, Miyagi Prefecture	231
6.18 Early Jomon dugout canoe recovered from the Nakazato site, Tokyo	237

## Tables

---

1.1 Changes over time in the number of rescue and academic excavations	<i>page</i> 21
1.2 Annual spending on rescue excavations in Japan	22
2.1 Representative radiocarbon dates associated with linear-relief and nail-impressed pottery	29
2.2 Radiocarbon dates from the Odai Yamamoto I site	30
2.3 Radiocarbon dates from six sites in the Amur River Basin and the Transbikal region associated with pottery	33
2.4 Radiocarbon dates for Hokkaido, Tohoku, Kanto, and Kyushu suggested by Keally and Muto (1982)	42
2.5 Population estimates by Koyama (1984)	48
4.1 Expected patterns of residentially used sites	88
4.2 Frequencies of shell-midden sites in southwestern Kanto	104
4.3 Changes in the average length of the long axis of pit-dwellings from each phase	124
5.1 Numbers of Jomon sites associated with clay figurines	148
5.2 Numbers of clay figurines recovered from Jomon sites	149
5.3 Period and distribution of ritual artifacts and ornaments	160
5.4 Period and distribution of different types of burial	175
5.5 Percentages of child burials associated with grave goods	178

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