

Spread of Proto Japanese from Korean Peninsula to Japanese Archipelago influenced by natural environment change

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It is believed that there were four stages of spread of early agriculture in North-East Asia (Miyamoto 2014, 2015). The first stage involved the spread of millet agriculture to the Korean Peninsula and to the southern Russian Far East in the middle of the fourth millennium BC. The second stage was the spread of rice agriculture from the Shandong Peninsula to the Liaodong Peninsula at c. 2400 BC. The third stage, in the middle of the second millennium BC, consisted of irrigated agriculture and spread from the Shandong Peninsula via Liaodong Peninsula to the Korean Peninsula. Finally, the fourth stage involved the spread of irrigated agriculture from the southern Korean Peninsula to Northern Kyushu, Japan, beginning about 9th century BC. These four stages were triggered by immigrants due to cooler climate conditions and the development of farming society.

The fourth spread of early agriculture from 9th to 8th century BC is spread of irrigated rice agriculture with rice paddy field from southern Korean Peninsula to Northern Kyushu. This spread was triggered by the immigration from Southern Korea to Northern Kyushu to get new lands for cereal agriculture due to cooler climate conditions (Miyamoto 2016, 2019). The spread direction of irrigated rice agriculture from Korean Peninsula to Northern Kyushu was divided into two phases. The former phase is immigration from Namgang River basin to Karatsu and Itoshima Plains at 9th to 8th century BC. The latter phase is immigration from lower Nagdong River basin to Fukuoka Plains at 7th century BC. Those dual phases accorded to cooler climate conditions (Miyamoto 2016, 2019).

These dual immigrations speaking Proto Japanese in Korean Peninsula spread to Northern Kyushu mixed with Jomon people speaking Jomon Languages. They invented Yayoi culture in Fukuoka Plains based on Mumun culture in southern Korean Peninsula at 6th to 5th century BC. In this time, Yayoi culture people in Fukuoka Plain replaced Proto Japanese from Jomon languages (Miyamoto 2016, 2022).

Yayoi culture originated from Fukuoka plain spread immediately to the whole of western Japan at 6th to 5th century BC. This spread of Yayoi culture is also spread of Proto Japanese replaced from Jomon Languages in the Western Japan. The spread of Yayoi culture with irrigated agriculture was promoted by demographic pressure due to the stable weather conditions.

References

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