

The 1819 disastrous Bunsei Ohmi earthquake that occurred within the Philippine Sea slab beneath central Japan

Katsuhiko Ishibashi [1]

[1] RCUSS, Kobe Univ.

The 1819 Bunsei Ohmi, central Japan, earthquake of M more than 7 caused severe damage to rather scattered areas around Lake Biwa and north of Ise Bay. On the other hand, the area of the JMA seismic intensity 5 and more was relatively wide and almost circular. These isoseismal pattern is similar to that of the 1994 May earthquake of M 5.2 which occurred at a depth of 44 km within the Philippine Sea slab beneath the Lake Biwa region. The 1819 earthquake was accompanied with very few aftershocks. Among 206 historical documents on this event, only two recorded two tiny earthquakes 10 days and 15 days after the main shock. Therefore, the 1819 Bunsei Ohmi earthquake is interpreted as a large slab event within the Philippine Sea plate subducted beneath central Japan.