

Is Akagi an Active Volcano?

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By the Japan Meteorological Agency, Akagi is listed on Catalog of Active Volcanoes, based on a document, Azuma Kagami, written in 1251. The description is composed of only four characters of kanji as "Mt. Akagi fire". However, no deposit by an eruption is found above the 6th-century pumice bed, which erupted from nearby Haruna and covers the entire Akagi volcano. The date of the "fire" is May 11; this is among the driest season. At present in the district, mountain fires are frequently reported during the season. There is no reason to deny an interpretation of the document as mountain fire. If the 1251 event was not an eruption, the youngest eruption of Akagi can be dated 24,000 years ago, which formed a lava dome, a tuff-ring, and a small explosion crater in the summit crater.

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