

10th century eruption of Baitoushan volcano depicted in folktales

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The 10th century eruption of Baitoushan (Changbaishan) volcano, situated on the border between China and North Korea, has been one of the largest volcanisms in the world. In spite of causing the disaster against the surrounding areas, this eruptive episode is not at all recorded in historical documents. Some nations, however, have many folktales about Baitoushan volcano. Based on the relationships between the description of eruptive phenomena and geological observations, we report whether there is a folktale depicting 10th century eruption or not. As a result, one folktale talks about this huge eruption to use a simile. This legend is constituted of two episodes occurring at different period. But it well preserves both the time relations and volcanic phenomena of two eruptions.