

## Volcanic Geology of Kuchinoerabu-jima

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Kuchinoerabu-jima is a volcanic island located at about 100 km south of Kyushu Island, southwest Japan. It consists of 13 volcanoes. Based on the investigation of tephra formation, the volcanism in this Island can be divided into 5 stages. The volcanism has a tendency to change from plinian to vulcanian in eruption style. Using the loess chronometry, the periods of dormancy between each stage were estimated to range from 2000 to 7000 years. The regional stress field was also discussed. The stress field around the island deduced from the seismicity (Shiono et al., 1980) showed the E-W tension in shallow level. The WNW-ESE arrangement of volcanoes, however, may imply the existence of the E-W compression in depth although the stress field in depth is not known yet by the seismicity.