

Stratigraphy and chronology of middle Pleistocene tephtras in and around Aizu area, Northeast Japan

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<http://www.sci.metro-u.ac.jp/geog/gmorph/>

This study shows the revised stratigraphy and correlations of the Middle Pleistocene tephtras in and around Aizu area, Northeast Japan. Significant marker tephtras in this area are as follows, in descending order of stratigraphy; Nm-SB and TG originated from Numazawa and/or Sunagohara caldera, Hu-TK and Kn-KD from volcanoes adjacent to Oze, Sn-MT and Sn-SK from Numazawa and/or Sunagohara caldera, So-OT from Shiobara caldera, and APm from volcano in Hida Mountains. It is clarified that TG (125-135 ka) recognized in Aizu basin is the same as Sunagohara-Kubota tephtra previously identified as a tephtra below TG. Sn-MT, a part of Sunagohara-Kubota tephtra, is correlated to Sunagohara-Kachikata tephtra which was identified as a tephtra below Sunagohara-Kubota tephtra in Aizu basin. In distant area, Sn-MT is correlated to Okayaji tephtra distributed on the eastern foot of Adataro volcano. Sn-SK, previously described in Aizu basin, is newly correlated to Minowa tephtra distributed on the eastern foot of Adataro volcano. So-OT tephtra (300 ka) is composed of an ignimbrite and a fall-out tephtra. This ignimbrite is well-known as Otahara pyroclastic flow deposit, on the other hand, fall-out tephtra of So-OT is newly found. This study corrects a correlation of APm (330-400 ka) in this area, which was shown by Suzuki (1993). Tephtras identified as APm in this study are Nemoto 13, 14, 16 tephtras below So-OT.