The widespread tephra layers in the Kurehayama Hills, Toyama Prefecture.

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Authors establish the stratigraphy and lithological description of tephra layers, which are intercalated in the upper Otogawa Formation, Chokeiji sand member and Kurehayama gravel bed, distributed in the Kurehayama Hills. Three tephra layers in the Kurehayama Hills are correlated with the tephra layers of the other Plio-Pleisotcene Groups in central Japan by lithologic and petrographic properties. They are Ohta-Znp ash(4Ma), Taniguchi tephra(2.2Ma) and Kamitakara tephra(0.6Ma) layers. Accordingly, the age of upper Otogawa Formation is estimated to be 4Ma at the period of the Gilbert chron. The age of Kurehayama gravel bed at the Kurehayama Hills is Middle Pleistocene. On the other hand, the Kurehayama gravel bed at eastern edge of Toyama Plain, which is correlated with the Omma Formation which Taniguchi tephra is intercalated by. Therefore, it is clear that the Hida Mountains began to upleave before 2.2Ma.