

Revaluation of the damage by the landslides at Kataura Village in Kanagawa Prefecture from the 1923 Kanto Earthquake

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The damage by landslides triggered by the 1923 Kanto Earthquake is most severe after the Meiji period from 1868. More than half of the death toll by the landslides of the Kanto Earthquake happened at Komekami and Nebukawa areas of Kataura Village in Kanagawa Prefecture. Number of the dead person and the buried house were re-examined from materials for the Kanto earthquake and a field survey. Four events occurred at this area in relation to the landslides. The first one was the distress of No.109 down train at Nebukawa station by the landslide. The second one was the distress of No.116 up train at the Nebukawa side exit of Kannome-yama tunnel. They occurred immediately after the main shock. The third and the fourth ones were that houses at Nebukawa and Komekami areas were buried by the debris flows going down the rivers from the crumbling of mountainsides. They occurred several minutes after the main shock. It is found in spite of large uncertainty that the numbers of the dead person by the first and the second events were 131 and 8, respectively. The numbers of the dead person and the buried house at Nebukawa area by the third event were estimated 289 and 64(or 67), and those at Komekami area by the fourth event were 66 and 21, respectively. The total dead person of Komekami and Nebukawa areas by the landslides is 494, in which 352 is the number of inhabitants. This is about 90% of the dead inhabitants of 406 in Kataura Village.