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Magnetostratigraphy of the Plio-Pleistocene Uonuma Group in the Chuestu area of Niigata Prefecture, central Japan

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The Uonuma Group is a Plio-Pleistocene shallow marine and fluvial sediments that crops out in the Higashi-kubiki and Uonuma Hills of the Chuetsu area, Niigata Prefecture, central Japan.

Facies and sequence-stratigraphy analyses, and tephrochronology have been accumulated to the Uonuma Group for last two decades, while paleomagnetic research lacks then.

Paleomagnetic measurements were performed to core samples from silt, sand and tephra beds at 8 horizons in the Uonuma Group. Progressive alternation field and thermal demagnetization experiments resulted in normal, reversed, normal, reversed, normal, reversed, normal, reversed paleomagnetic polarity, in descending sequence, suggesting that normal polarity corresponds to the Brunhes Chronozone, Jaramillo Subchronozone, Olduvai Subchronozone, Reunion Subchronozone. The Uonuma Group prevailed deposition from 2.2 to 0.7 Ma. This magnetostratigraphy contributes to reconstruct plant-fossil and pollen biostratigraphy, and Plio-Pleistocene floral change in the Niigata area.

Keywords: Uonuma Group, Magnetostratigraphy, Plio-Pleistocene, Niigata