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Room:Convention Hall

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Black particles falled in Kanagawa Prefecture on December 15, 2010

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Black particles falled in Kanagawa Prefecture on December 15, 2010. People thought that it may be the artificial material and worried about the hazardous property. Black particles are brought in to the Kanagawa environmental research center and analyzed. But neither the poisonous substance nor the radioactivity were contained in black particles. On the other hand, the blowing dust was observed on the southeast flank of Mt. Fuji and strong westerly of 40m/s was measured above Kawaguchiko-machi, 3000m in height, on December 15. These particles were thought to be the natural product, brought in to the Kanagawa prefectural museum and Kanagawa prefectural hot spring research, and analyzed. Black particles were dispersed east of Mt. Fuji. Dispersed area was sector which top was Mt. Fuji and its center was toward east. The Most distant dispersal point was Ichihara, Chiba prefecture, about 132km from summit of Mt. Fuji. Almost of particles were brown to black glass shards which were not weathered. Its size were about 0.1 to 0.01mm and became smaller toward east. The result of the chemical analysis using EPMA showed similarity to Fuji-Hoei tephra erupted 1707, especially high content of TiO₂ and K₂O. Black particles were thought to be reworked Fuji-Hoei tephra brought by strong westerly.

Keywords: Fuji-Hoei tephra, Black particles, reworked tephra, glass shard