

## Quest of the first Japanese glacier in Mts. Tateyama and Mt. Tsurugi, the northern Japanese Alps

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In order to find the first Japanese glacier, we have researched surface flow velocity and ice thickness of the Gozenzawa perennial snow patch in Mts. Tateyama (3015 m asl), the Sannomado and the Komado perennial snow patches in Mt. Tsurugi (2999 m asl) in the northern Japanese Alps, central Japan since 2009.

The Sannomado and the Komado perennial snow patches have large ice masses (>30 m in thickness). We measured that the both ice masses had flowed over 30 cm month<sup>-1</sup> in the autumn of 2011. Thus, we regard the both snow patches as active glaciers.

The Gozenzawa perennial snow patch has also a large ice mass (27 m in thickness). We identified that the ice mass had slightly flowed (less than 10 cm month<sup>-1</sup>) in the autumns of 2010 and 2011. Thus, we also regard the snow patch as active glacier.

Keywords: glacier, perennial snow patch, Mts. Tateyama, Mt. Tsurugi, glacier flow