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Aso Caldera- Influence of huge eruptions and relation with living of people

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Aso volcano was born approximately 270,000 years ago and repeated four times of huge eruption afterward. The large-scale caldera which we can see was formed by the huge eruption approximately 90,000 years ago.

The theme of Aso geopark is mainly the topography around the caldera,

volcanic activity of Mt. Naka-dake, the living of people coexisting with a volcano. Above all, even if the caldera looks worldwide scale, and the huge eruption with the caldera formation brings big environment change in the whole not only the Japanese Islands but also earth, and affected the big thing that imagined to the then animals and plants. The times 90,000 years ago are the Old Stone Age worldwide, and the existence of the human after 40,000 years ago is almost confirmed in Japan, but is uncertain before it. Therefore it is not sure whether Aso-4 eruption affected the human being living in then Japan. However, various matters including the influence on animals and plants by sunlight being cut off as for the drop of the temperature on the earth scale from the start are thought about when the influence of the eruption watches examples such as the Toba eruption approximately 74,000 years ago, the Krakatou eruption of 536, the Tambora eruption of 1815. On the other hand, approximately 70,000 people live around the caldera formed by Aso-4 eruption that I had an influence on worldwide and the outskirts. The association with the people and the caldera, the flowing wind connected by the wind to come from the unique collapse feature bringing about a large quantity of precipitation and cause rich springs. However, it's related to natural disaster such as the steep slope collapse of the caldera wall, the flooding of the river in the flatland in the caldera. In this way, global remarkable influence with the formation of the Aso caldera is thought about in the Aso Geopark, and the existence of the caldera brings the relation that is strong in the present generation unconsciously with it. This is one of the big characteristics as the Aso Geopark and thinks that you should strongly appeal. We think that it is necessary for us to carry a central role enlightening for the huge eruption that will happen somewhere of the Earth.

Keywords: Geopark, Aso, Caldera

¹Aso Geopark Promotion Council