

The Hunting and Fishing Activities of the Jōmon and the Epi-Jōmon Culture  
—An Analysis on the Faunal Remains—

NISHIMOTO, Toyohiro

The purpose of this paper is to clarify the characteristics of hunting and fishing in the Jomon culture and the Epi-Jomon culture in Hokkaido. Faunal remains from excavations were examined, and the results can be summarized as follows.

First, a wide variety of shellfish are excavated according to region and period. Japanese Corbicula (*Corbicula japonica* Prime) are only found as the main shellfish in the shell mounds of the early Jomon period located in the lowlands of Tomakomai. In other districts, Japanese oyster, Ezo mussel, and Japanese littleneck were the main shellfish. Purplish Washington Clam are also found in many shell mounds. A considerable number of sea urchins have also been found. The main fish characteristic of the subfrigid zones were mostly herring, scorpion fish, Pacific cod and flat fish. From the shell mounds of South Hokkaido, warm current seabass and mullet have been excavated. Also some turtles are found. Though the amount of salmon excavated from the shell mounds near the coast of Hokkaido is small, it seems that it was utilized in the inland rivers. Birds such as albatross, shag and duck are found but in small amounts. In the case of mammals, land animals such as Ezo Deer are excavated; near the coastal area many sea animals such as fur seal, steller sea lion and dolphins are found. Though it is generally maintained that salmon and Ezo Deer were the main animals of subsistence in Hokkaido, this only applies to the inland areas. The main means of subsistence in the coastal area were sea animals such as fur seal and dolphins, and fish such as herring, Pacific cod and flatfish.