

# Jomon culture we should let the world know

## ◆ Jomon Culture, Japan's pride, is here

Jomon Culture began on Japanese Islands about 15,000 years ago when glacial period ended. People led a settlement life by hunting, fishing and gathering harmoniously in nature, adjusting themselves to various environmental changes. It's an extraordinary culture lasting for more than 10,000 years.

Jomon archaeological sites composed of 17 assets including Sannai-Maruyama Site in Hokkaido, Aomori, Akita, and Iwate Prefecture aim at the entry to World Cultural Heritage list as ruins with distinguished universal value to transmit the splendor of Jomon Culture.



Special Historical Sannai-Maruyama Site  
(Aomori City)

## ◆ World Heritage is a treasure common to all human beings

World Heritage is a treasure common to all human beings. It includes historical sites, buildings, and precious nature transmitting human history which we must pass to posterity. UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) decided World Heritage Convention (Official name "Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage") in 1972 to protect the precious treasures in the world which we inherited from the past. Based on the convention some object registered in the list is to become World Heritage.

There is a rigorous screening in order to be registered in World Heritage list. We must meet the requirement, for example, to prove that the candidate has distinguished universal value, the system to protect it over the future has been arranged, and so on. Even after it is registered the country or region is required to protect the heritage and inherit it to the future.



## ◆ The kind of World Heritage

### Cultural Criteria

Valuable historical sites, buildings, cultural landscape and so on.

#### <World>

- Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites (England)
- Lines and Geoglyphs of Naska and Palpa (Peru)
- The Great Wall (China) etc

#### <Japan>

- Buddhist Monuments in the Horyu-ji Area (Nara Prefecture)
- Fujisan, Sacred Place and Source of Artistic Inspiration (Yamanashi, Shizuoka Prefecture) etc



Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites (England)

### Natural Criteria

Especially valuable geographical features, natural landscape, ecological system and the place where endangered species inhabit.

#### <World>

- Grand Canyon National Park (United States)
- Great Barrier Reef (Australia)
- Lake Baikal (Russia) etc

#### <Japan>

- Shirakami-Sanchi (Aomori, Akita Prefecture)
- Yakushima (Kagoshima Prefecture)
- Shiretoko (Hokkaido) etc



Grand Canyon National Park (United States)

### Legal status of designated sites

Heritages with the value of both cultural heritage and natural heritage

#### <World>

- Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu (Peru)
- Goreme National Park and Rock Sites of Cappadocia (Turkey)
- Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park "Ayers Rock" (Australia) etc

#### <Japan>

No registration



Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu (Peru)