

What's JOMON?

The beginning of Jomon Culture

Abundant deciduous broad-leaved forest including acorns, chestnuts, and walnuts spread out by rapid warming 15,000 years ago on Japanese Islands where sea level rise and rainfall carried piles of earth and sand to form good configuration of the ground and environment in which lots of fish and shellfish could inhabit.

A stone arrowhead on the tip of the bow
(Sannai-Maruyama Site·Aomori City)



A bow and arrow

People became able to take aim at game safely from distant place.

Appearance of hamlet

A pit dwellin

People dug down the ground to make the floor and set up pillars to support the roof of the building. The beginning of real houses.



A restored pit dwelling covered with soil roof (Sannai-Maruyama Site·Aomori City)

The invention of useful tools

Doki (Pottery)

The invention of Doki (pottery) made it possible to cook and store foods, bringing about a big stability to eating habits.

A fish-hook

Fishing tools including fish-hook and harpoon were developed.



A fish-hook
(Higashi-Michinokami 3 Site
·Tohoku Town)



A pottery of Kamegaoka Style
/About 3,000 years ago
(Kamegaoka Site·Tsugaru City)

A hamlet

People's life changed on a large scale from relocating life to chase game to stable settlement life.

In due time a hamlet, living point, appeared. Dwellings, graves, shell midden and so on were created in a planned way.

The state of affairs in a hamlet of Sannai-Maruyama Site at that time (Presumption and restoration)



A pottery fragment of the oldest class in Japan
/About 15,000 years ago
(Odai-Yamamoto Site·Sotogahama Town)

Ento-Kaso-Style-Doki (Cylindrical clay pottery)
/About 5,600 years ago
(Sannai-Maruyama Site·Aomori City)