

What's JOMON?

Rich spiritual world

Numerous tools supposed to have been used for religious rites and praying have been unearthed at Jomon sites. It's considered that they were used for bumper crop, safe hunting, memorial service and religious rites.



A national treasure·A clay figure
(Gassho-Dogu=Praying clay figure)
(Kazahari 1 Site·Hachinohe City)



Important Cultural Property·A clay figure
(A large flat, plate-like clay figure)
(Sannai-Maruyama Site·Aomori City)

A clay figure

People formed a human shape out of clay to make a clay figure and in almost all cases unearthed figures were discovered in broken state. There are many opinions about them, for example, they were tools used for praying and religious rites, or they were used to act as a substitute for people to cure a disease.



Important Cultural Property·
A reproduced clay figure
(Shakoki-Dogu=A clay figure with sunglasses)
(Kamegaoka Site·Tsugaru City)

Jomon heart

A miniature clay pottery

A miniaturized clay pottery has been discovered.



A miniature clay pottery
(Sannai-Maruyama Site·Aomori City)

Hand·foot printed slate

The slate was made by pressing hand and foot of children on clay. It's considered it was used for celebration and charm.



A hand·foot printed slate
(Oishitai Site·Rokkasho Village)

Stone Circle

The place for praying

The stone circle is made by placing many stones in circle shape. There are various kinds of stone circles such as twofold stone circle, threefold stone circle, and a gathering of numerous small circles. It's considered that a stone circle was the grave and the place for religious rites.



Threefold stone circle (Komakino Site·Aomori City Diameter 55 meter)



A little elliptical stone circle (Ohmori-Katsuyama Site·Hirosaki City Major Axis 48,5 meter)