

考古學研究建構的原史時代台灣史

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台灣歷史學界通常以十七世紀初作為文字歷史的開始，考古學界也通常將十七世紀之前稱為史前時代，往往在二者之間形成斷裂的台灣人類活動史，甚至造成歷史解釋的錯亂與斷層。

本文從考古學的發現與研究討論 10-16 世紀台灣人類活動史。從考古學研究而言，此一階段的文化特徵，包括：

1. 澎湖開始漢人移民進入，形成小型聚落，並可能扮演貿易中繼站、休息點的角色。
2. 中國及鄰近地區製造的陶瓷器，局部輸入出現於東西兩岸沿海地帶。
3. 大量玻璃珠、瑪瑙珠進入此一階段原住民社會，而且部分聚落已有漢人進入定居。
4. 流行於台灣長達三千年以上的玉器，不論使用或製造都完全消失。
5. 平原或沿海地區聚落大型化，並出現防禦性聚落。

這些現象當與此一期間，東亞、東南亞貿易局勢改變有關，中國東南沿海商人開始大規模向外，台灣介於二條重要交通動線之間，卻只是小規模接觸，貿易，似乎說明歷代文獻所謂「地無奇貨」，還是有其他原因。不過此種情形，卻造成台灣一直維持原住民自主的型態，直到十七世紀才有所改變。

從目前的資料觀之，可以將此一階段稱為原史時代 (Proto-history)，做為連接史前與歷史階段的關鍵階段，以共同思考台灣人類活動史的連續性，避免斷裂的歷史觀。而且這個階段的研究，使得台灣考古學不免觸及 10-16 世紀東亞與東南亞的世界，擴張台灣史的時間與空間，共同思考當代台灣形成的基本關鍵階段。

Taiwanese Proto-history Constructed by Archaeology

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Taiwanese history has always been divided into two periods, the historic and prehistoric, based on the appearance of the first historic document in the 17th century. This division artificially breaks up Taiwanese history and even obstructs the production of proper historical interpretation.

This paper intends to discuss human activities in Taiwan from the 10th to 16th century based on archaeological research. The archaeological characteristics of this time period can be summarized below:

1. The Han Chinese began to migrate to Penghu and formed small settlements. It probably acted as a trading station or resting place.
2. Ceramic vessels from China and surrounding areas began to appear in the coastal areas of Taiwan.
3. Large amounts of glass beads and agate beads were imported into indigenous societies. The Han Chinese also began to settle in some villages.
4. The production and use of jade, which had been popular for more than three thousand years, completely vanished at this time.
5. Large-scale or defensive settlements began to form in plain or coastal areas.

The appearance of these characteristics is related to the change of the East and Southeast Asian trade activities, such as the coastal merchants from Southeast China beginning to expand their trading spheres. Although Taiwan is between these two important trading routes, the trading scale in Taiwan is much smaller. It seems to be compatible with the historical documents which described Taiwan as a place without precious goods worth trading. Therefore, indigenous peoples in Taiwan remained their autonomies until the 17th century. According to current discussion, we can treat this period as “proto-history” which is the key period connects the prehistory and history. This way we can think of human activities on this island as a continuous flow. The research of this specific time period unavoidably makes Taiwanese archaeology to take East and Southeast Asian world in the 10th -16th century into their discussion. Thus it will enrich the temporal and spatial dimension of Taiwanese history and will make us to consider this important time period together.