

Meteorites in Japan

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List of meteorite in Japan (stone 1)

Name	Date	Location	lat.(N)	lon.(E)	kg	(piece)	
1 Noogata	861.May.19	Fukuoka	33 44'	130 45'	0.472	(1)	W&F
2 Minamino	1632.Sep.27	Nagoya	35 05	136 56	1.04	(1)	W&F
3 Sasagase	1688.Feb.13	Shizuoka	34 43	137 47	0.695	(1)	W&F
4 Ogi	1741.Jul.08	Saga	33 18	130 12	14.36	(4)	W&F
5 Hachi-ohji	1817.Dec.29	Tokyo	35 39	139 20	?	(many)	W&F
6 Yonouzu	1837.Jul.13	Niigata	37 41	138 54	31.65	(1)	W&F
7 Kesen	1850.Jun.12	Iwate	38 59	141 37	135	(1)	W&F
8 Sone	1866.Jun.07	Kyoto	35 10	135 20	17.1	(1)	W&F
9 Ohtomi	1867.May.24	Yamagata	38 24	140 21	6.51	(1)	W&F
10 Takeuchi	1880.Feb.18	Hyogo	35 23	134 54	0.72	(1)	W&F
11 Fukutomi	1882.Mch.19	Saga	33 11	130 12	16.75	(3)	W&F
12 Satsuma	1886.Oct.26	Kagoshima	32 05	130 34	>46.5	(>10)	W&F
13 Niho	1897.Aug.08	Yamaguchi	34 12	131 34	0.467	(3)	W&F
14 Higashikooen	1897.Aug.11	Fukuoka	33 36	130 26	0.75	(1)	W&F
15 Sen-hoku	before 1900	Akita	39 26	140 31	0.866	(1)	F
16 Kan-zaki	before 1905	Saga	33 18	130 22	0.124	(1)	F
17 Kijima	1906.Jun.15	Nagano	36 51	138 23	0.331	(2)	W&F
18 Mino	1909.Jul.24	Gifu	35 32	136 53	14.29	(29)	W&F
19 Hashima	ca. 1910	Gifu	35 18	136 62	1.11	(1)	F
20 Jindaimi	ca. 1915	Ibaragi	36 03	139 57	0.488	(1)	F

List of meteorite in Japan (stone 2)

Name	Date	Location	lat.(N)	lon.(E)	kg	(piece)	
21 Tomita	1916.Apr.13	Okayama	34 34'	133 40'	0.60	(1)	W&F
22 Tane	1918.Jan.25	Shiga	35 25	136 18	0.906	(2)	W&F
23 Kushi-ike	1920.Sep.16	Niigata	37 03	138 23	4.50	(1)	W&F
24 Shiraiwa	1920	Akita	39 35	140 37	0.95	(1)	F
25 Kami-oka	1921-1949	Akita	39 31	140 22	0.03	(1)	F
26 Nagai	1922.May.30	Yamagata	38 07	140 04	1.81	(1)	W&F
27 Numagai	1925.Sep.04	Hokkaido	43 17	141 51	0.363	(1)	W&F
28 Kasamatsu	1938.Mch.31	Gifu	35 22	136 46	0.71	(1)	W&F
29 Okabe	1958.Nov.26	Saitama	36 11	139 13	0.194	(1)	W&F
30 Shibayama	1969	Chiba	35 46	140 25	0.235	(1)	F
31 Aomori	1984.Jun.30	Aomori	40 49	140 47	>0.320	(1)	W&F
32 Tomiya	1984.Aug.22	Miyagi	38 22	140 52	0.0275	(2)	W&F
33 Sayama	1986.Apr.29?	Saitama	35 52	139 24	0.43	(1)	F
34 Kokubunji	1986.Jun.29	Kagawa	34 18	133 57	11.51	(13)	W&F
35 Tawara	1991.Mch.26	Aichi	34 43	137 18	>10	(1)	F
36 Mihonoseki	1992.Dec.20	Shimane	35 34	133 13	6.385	(1)	F
37 Neagari	1995.Feb.18	Ishikawa	36 27	136 28	> 0.42	(2)	W&F
38 Tsukuba	1996.Jan.07	Ibaragi	36 04	140 09	ca.0.8	(23)	W&F
39 Towada	1997	Aomori	40 33	141 14	0.0535	(1)	F
40 Kobe	1999.Sep.26	Hyogo	34 44	135 10	0.135	(1)	F
41 Hiroshima	2003.Feb.01~03	Hiroshima	34 27	132 23	0.414	(1)	F

List of meteorite in Japan (iron & stone-iron)

Name	Date	Location	lat.(N)	lon.(E)	kg	(piece)	
Iron							
1 Fukue	1849.Jan fall ?	Nagasaki	32 40'	128 50'	0.008	(1)	F
2 Tanakami	1885	Shiga	34 55	135 58	174	(1)	F
3 Shirahagi	1890	Toyama	36 40	137 26	33.61	(2)	F
4 Okano	1904.Apr.07	Hyogo	35 05	135 12	4.74	(1)	W&F
5 Tendoh	1910	Yamagata	38 21	140 24	>10.1	(1)	F
6 Sakauchi	1913	Gifu	35 38	136 23	4.18	(1)	F
7 Komagome	1926.Apr.18	Tokyo	35 44	139 45	0.238	(1)	F
8 Kuga	1938.Jan.10	Yamaguchi	34 06	132 02	5.6	(1)	F
Stone-iron							
1 Zaisho	1898.Feb.01	Kohchi	33 42	133 48	0.33	(1)	F

Noogata (Fall:861.May.9)

Type: Stone L6

Histry :

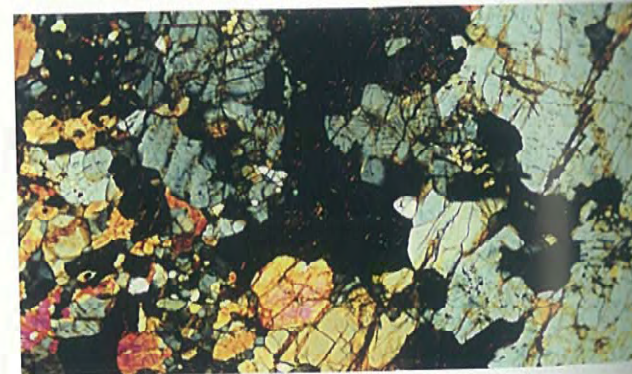
Found on the day after fall day,
It was put into a paulownia box
and have been stored in a
shinto shrine as a part of the
got.

1981 A radio talk about this legend
was a trigger of focusing on
this meteorite in public.
A meteor scientist proved it
the oldest witnessed and
found meteorite in the world.
Nowadays, every five years
autumn this meteorite parade
is held around this shrine.



直方隕石

隕石の大きさは、手のひらにのるくらい
の小型のもので、重さは472グラム
ほどあります。



直方隕石の顕微鏡写真

14ページの分類のL6に当たる球粒隕石で、球粒の
形のややはっきりしなくなっているタイプのものです。

Shirahagi (Fall: ? Found: 1890)

Type: Iron IVA

Histry :

1890 Found by a habitant of the area. The meteorite had been used as a weigh of a pickles' cask.

After several years, bought by Mr. Takeaki Enomoto, who was the agriculture and commerce minister at that time.

He made a skillful sword smith produce four swords by ca. 4 kg cut-off of the meteorite.*

The best one was presented to the prince of Japan.

*: The meteorite was too soft to make a Japanese sword.

1890 Another partial piece of this meteorite was found at km far from the fall site of earlier found body.

Shirahagi (Fall: ? Found: 1890)



流星刀と鞘

刀身に流星刀独特の環紋が見られる見事な刀で、鞘に刀匠岡吉園家の跡があります。園家によれば、水つきの鉄とほちがってやわらかすぎるため、鋼鉄89パーセント、鋼40パーセントを混ぜ合わせて成功したといわれます。最初は曲りが作られたため、太くに鋼紋の太きく鮮明な鋼刀（長さ64.5センチメートル、重量は8.9センチメートル）1振り、時の星太子に献上されました。



富山市天文台で展示中の流星刀

自然隕石は、遺物がおりの重しに使われていたが、地質研究所で鉄隕石と鑑定されたものです。鉄隕石の模型や流星刀のうちの1振り、富山市天文台でも見ることが出来ます。

松本隆亮さん所有の流星刀

松本武雄のひ孫にあたる隆亮さんは、流星刀の短刀を刺繍も美しい箱におさめ大切に保管されています。上の写真の短刀がそれです。



Mihogaseki (Fall: 1992. Dec. 20)

1992年12月10日の夜、鳥根県松江市美保関町に住む松本俊彦さん宅を襲った大音響に、松本さんはびっくり雷が落ちたのだらうと思ったといえます。それもそのはず、その夜は激しい雷雨でしたから当然のことだったでしょう。ところが翌日、天井を見上げてびっくり仰天、二階の屋根をぶち抜き、二階の床を突きぬけ、さらに八畳間の床下にころがる大石を見つけたからです。



床下から拾われた隕石

こんなに大きな隕石が飛びこんできたのですから、かけた天文ファンたちも驚きをかかせませんでした。



松本俊彦さん宅の惨状

二階の瓦屋根をつらぬき、一階の床下まで突き抜けたのですから、落下の衝撃のすさまじさがうかがえます。



美保関隕石

大きさ25センチメートル、重さ6キログラムの球粒隕石で、L6に属するものです。宇宙空間での隕石どうしの衝突体験も少ないものでした。

Kuga (Fall:?? Found:1938.Jan.10)

Type: Iron III B

Histry :

- 1938 Found at a rice field in a mountainside by farmers.
First they misunderstood it was a platinum nugget.
Soon it was identified an iron meteorite.
They hoped to sell it and to build a solid bridge by its money
on a only one way from their quite small village to the nearest
town.
- 1963 The National Science Museum bought it instead of mammoth
bones from late the Soviet Union.
Finally their dream came true after 25 years of meteorite
found.

Mihogaseki (Fall:1992.Dec.20 Found:Dec.21)

Type: Stone L6

Histry :

Fall : Hit a citizen's house to break roof and two floorings.

Next day: Found and analyzed mineralogically just after hours of its fall.

The local government utilized the meteorite for a valuable source of sightseeing of this region.

... Mascot, toys and sweets of the meteorite bland.

Dance and song of it, etc.

The value of this meteorite was calculated to ca. 3mil EUR!

Tsukuba (Fall:1996.Jan.07 Found:Dec.21)

Type: Stone H5~H6

Histry :

Fall : Many witnesses were reported over the Kanto area.

Next day: Found and analyzed mineralogically just after 9 hours of its fall. (Probably the fastest record of a hot sample.)

Many people rushed to searching pieces of the meteorite.

Conclusions

- Japanese tends to keep found meteorite as a sign /symbol of heavenly thing by animism culture.
Keep in a **paulownia box as a valuables**
- In the past, found (iron) meteorites sometimes handled violently.
- Keeping meteorite in a Shinto shrine or in a Buddhism temple makes a chance for it to be in a time capsule for hundreds of years.
- Nowadays, meteorite is **estimated much more expensive than the meteorite market price** because of utilization value as a local area's sightseeing source.