

鮎壺の滝：富士山の溶岩が作る滝と火山の恵み

Ayutsubo Falls: Volcanic Gifts and Waterfall created by Lava Flow from Fuji Volcano

北伊豆エリア：鮎壺の滝ジオサイト
鮎壺の滝

Kitaizu Area : Ayutsubo Geosite
Ayutsubo Falls



およそ 10 万年前、本州と伊豆との境界付近に富士山が誕生しました。約 1 万年前の噴火では大量の溶岩が黄瀬川に沿って流れ下り、柿田川（清水町）付近にまで到達しました。三島溶岩と呼ばれるこの溶岩の亀裂やすき間は、地下水の通り道になり、各地に豊富な湧水をもたらしています。

長い距離を流れてきた三島溶岩は、粘り気が弱く、薄く平たく広がりながら流れてきました。この溶岩の南西端にかかるここ鮎壺の滝では、薄い溶岩が何枚も重なっている様子や、流れる溶岩に巻き込まれた樹木が焼け落ちた痕跡「溶岩樹形」などを観察することができます。

Fuji volcano was created near the boundary between Honshu (The main island of Japan) and Izu peninsula about 100,000 years ago. Following its eruption about 10,000 years ago, a large quantity of lava flowed down along the Kiseigawa River and reached near the Kakitagawa River (in Shimizu town). This is called "Mishima lava flow". Fissures and gaps in the lava serve as passages for groundwater and you can find a lot of fresh-water springs in the surrounding areas.

The Mishima Lava Flow that descended from Fuji volcano was very fluid and as a result it flowed in thin layers across a wide breadth of land. Ayutsubo Falls is located at the Southwestern tip of this lava flow. You can see land-forms like multiple thin lava layers piled on top of each other, and lava tree molds — remnants of plants that were caught in the lava flow.

