

MIDDLE MIOCENE SEISMITES AND TSUNAMIITES, IN PALEO-BAY, CENTRAL JAPAN

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Earthquakes and tsunamis are recorded on the Middle Miocene bay, upper bathyal layers in Chita Peninsula, central Japan. Peculiar accumulation of the pebbles and boulders in some of the layers has been assigned by tsunami-induced ebb-current transportation and deposition.

Recent detailed studies of the successive layers revealed new evidences of the seismic activities and tsunamis. They are pebble-bearing sandstone dykes showing echelon pattern, fluidized structures in sandstone layers and related dykes, very large convolute lamination, giant lip up crusts, and diastasis cracks which occur beneath erosion surfaces. It is noted that the seismites and tsunamiites are the most useful keys to clarify paleotectonics in the convergent margin.