

## **RECENT PROGRESS OF ACTIVE FAULT STUDY IN JAPAN WITH REFERENCE TO PALEOSEISMOLOGY**

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This paper discusses recent progress of onshore active fault studies in Japan especially since the 1995 destructive Kobe earthquake. Remarkable changes have occurred in the systems on active fault study. The following three topics are discussed: 1) Main results from trenching studies: Number of trenching study, which is essential for the reconstruction of onshore paleoearthquakes, is rapidly increasing after the 1995 earthquake. Timing and repeat interval of paleoearthquakes are reviewed here, summarizing the results of recent trenching studies across active faults. Detailed discussion on paleoearthquakes and expected timing of future earthquakes are given from some areas, such as the Miura Peninsula, south of Tokyo, the Awaji Island and Kobe-Osaka area in central Japan, and some other areas where trenching survey carried out very intensively. 2) Morphological study on the fault scarp degradation: Repeated measurements of Nojima faults scarp which is the surface expression of seismogenetic fault for the 1995 Kobe earthquake provide an example of very rapid degradation of fault scarp due to reverse fault. 3) Close relationship between the location of earthquake fault and known active faults. Clear examples showing the coincidence of the location between active faults and earthquake faults in Japan, and Taiwn, including the case of the 999.9.21 earthquake, are demonstrated.