

Seismic Intensity Distribution of the 1889 Meiji Kumamoto Earthquake and Its Source Location

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The earthquake (M=6.3) occurred in Kumamoto area in Meiji Period (July 28th 1889), 127 years before the Heisei events. Seismic Intensity Distribution of the 1889 Meiji event is estimated from the damage data reported by Imamura(1920). The maximum intensity is 6- in JMA scale at the area of West Ward in the present Kumamoto city, while the most severe damage region from the Heisei event is Mashiki city next to East Ward in the Kumamoto city. This difference is caused by the locations of source regions between Meiji and Heisei events. Source region of the Meiji event may be along the west part of Futagawa Fault, while the source region of the foreshock (M6.5) of the Heisei event is corresponding to Hinagu Fault and that of the main shock(M=7.3) to the Eastern part of Futagawa Fault.

Keywords: Meiji Kumamoto Earthquake, Seismic Intensity Distribution, Source Region, Active Fault

