Literacy for Rumors of Earthquake Occurrence

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A rumor of earthquake occurrence has often emerged after the most of large earthquakes (EQs), such as the 2016 Kumamoto EQ (Magnitude: M7.3) and the 2018 Hokkaido Eastern Iburi EQ (M 6.7). In the Kumamoto EQ, one of the hotels in Kochi prefecture was temporally closed due to the rumor. After the large EQs, the other false rumors such as animal escaping from the zoo and stop the supply of public water also emerged. In addition, the rumor of EQ occurrence often emerges not only after the large EQs but also during the aseismic period. In this study, we introduce features of the rumors of EQ occurrences and discuss literacy for them to identify the false rumors.

Keywords: rumor of earthquake occurrence, literacy