

Activities related with the eruption at Kusatsu-Shiranesan (Motoshiranesan) volcano on 23 Jan,2018 - Focusing on JMA' s activities -

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Japan is one of the world's leading volcanic country with 111 active volcanoes, and so many volcanic disasters have been repeated. But after the early 20th century, no large eruptions occurred and volcanic activity in Japan has been quiet.

On the other hand, the eruption at Ontakesan volcano on 2014 sacrificed many mountaineers who were near the crater and caused the greatest volcanic disaster after the war. One of the features of eruptive disasters is that even a small eruption could lead to a great disaster if encountered near the crater. In the latest case, the eruption at Kusatsu-Shiranesan volcano on January 23, 2018 suddenly occurred at Motoshiranesan where there was no record of historical eruption and caused human damage at the ski resort near the eruption point.

The Volcanological Society of Japan was established as the world's first academic conference on volcanoes in 1932 and re-established as a specified nonprofit corporation in 2002 for the purpose of advance and disseminate volcanology and related science. The institution to which the member belongs is not only universities and research institutes, but also local municipalities, disaster prevention organizations, high schools and geological consultants. Recently, in order to lead to the reduction of volcanic disaster by volcanology research, we also focus on public awareness raising, such as opening lectures and symposiums targeting the general public.

In this presentation, we will introduce the activities related with the 2018 Motoshiranesan eruption by each institution, mainly on the correspondence of Japan Meteorological Agency.

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