Did Mitsuhide AKECHI change the channel of the River Yura?

*Kotaki Atsuo¹

1. Kyoto Prefectural University

Mitsuhide AKECHI, a commander in the period of civil war of medieval Japan, established the Fukuchiyama castle town in the northern region of Kyoto prefecture. Fukuchiyama people believe that Mitsuhide changed the flow channel of the River Yura that runs through Fukuchiyama city, when he constructed the Fukuchiyama castle town.

Is this story really fact? I have checked boring core data of the Fukuchiyama basin, especially around the castle town. As a result, at the fork of the old flow channel from the River Yura, more than 10 m thick pebbly sediments are distributed instead of such channel sediments as mud. The pebbly sediments are regarded as a natural levee, not artificial one. The evidence suggested that the Mitsuhide's story changing the flow channel seems not to be a fact, but he constructed the castle town on the sturdy pebbly mound of a natural levee.

Keywords: Mitsuhide AKECHI, Fukuchi castle, River Yura, natural levee