

# Rockslide phenomenon occurred on the southern face of Mount Myojin and the origin of Myojin-ike Ponds in the Kamikochi Valley of the northern Japanese Alps, Central Japan

\*Masayuki Morita<sup>1</sup>, Yoshihiko Kariya<sup>2</sup>

1. Under Graduate, Department of Environmental Geography, Senshu University, 2. Department of Environmental Geography, Senshu University

We describe the geological and geomorphological features (e.g., distribution, morphology, and lithofacies) of boulder lobes in the Myojin-ike Pond area in Kamikochi Valley of northern Japanese Alps. Then we discuss the origin and cause of those boulders and Myojin-ike Ponds. Our main results are as follows: a) Boulders consisting of the lobes were supplied from the southern rock face of Mount Myojin, just north of Myojin-ike Ponds; b) Estimated transporting process of the rock debris was rockslide or rock avalanche from the rock wall composed of tuff-welded tuff layer; c) Myojin-ike Ponds were formed by river course obstruction by accumulation of rock debris; d) the rockslide probably occurred before AD1693 based on the old document written by the Hotaka Shrine founded on the shore of Myojin-ike Ponds.

Keywords: Boulder, Rockslide, Maehotakadake welded tuff, Mountain landforms, Slope disaster