

Where did the gravel in the Nanki-Shirahama come from?

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The Miocene Tanabe Group is distributed in the southwestern part of the Kii Peninsula. Furthermore, the Toshima Conglomerate Bed overlies the Tanabe Group in unconformity in the Shirahama area (Tanabe Research Group, 1984). The purpose of this study is to clarify the gravel composition, the depositional environment, and the gravel sources of the Toshima Conglomerate Bed.

Most of the gravels in the Toshima Conglomerate Bed are sandstones, but some characteristic rocks such as crystalline schist and tuff are also present. These gravels originated from the Sambagawa Metamorphic Belt and the Shimanto Belt, which later became gravel and were deposited as the Tanabe Group. The Tanabe Group was further eroded and finally re-deposited as the Toshima Conglomerate Bed.

Reference

Tanabe Research Group (1984) Earth Science, 38, 249-263.