Title:

Creation of a database of the textile materials excavated from Egyptian monuments in the Kyoto University Museum

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Contents:

This report presents the radiocarbon dating results obtained for these Egyptian materials from the Kyoto University Museum, including Coptic textiles, mummy cloth and sandals. It also reports on the material database, the Kyoto University Research Information Repository, which includes radiocarbon dates and material analyses.

The Coptic Textile Collection of Egyptian Archaeological Materials at the Kyoto University Museum, with 28 items, is not large compared to other prominent collections. However, the Egyptian archaeological materials in the Kyoto University Museum were transferred and donated to the University by Dr Kosaku Hamada, the first professor of the Department of Archaeology at Kyoto University, after he left to study with Dr Petrie in England. The materials were selected because they cover a wide range of characteristics of the entire Coptic period. In addition, through interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary efforts, we have recently discovered that the collection contains a variety of dated materials, including the world's oldest shell-purple dyed Coptic textiles and Byzantine rack-dyed materials from the end of the Coptic period, and have identified a wide range of textile production periods, regions and techniques.

By providing radiocarbon dates, the collection is not only a globally valuable one, rich in variations of Coptic textile production dates, regions and methods, but also has the advantage of being the world's reference material for discussing the chronology of Coptic textile weaving.