

The Truth of Dokdo -10

-The Written Orders of

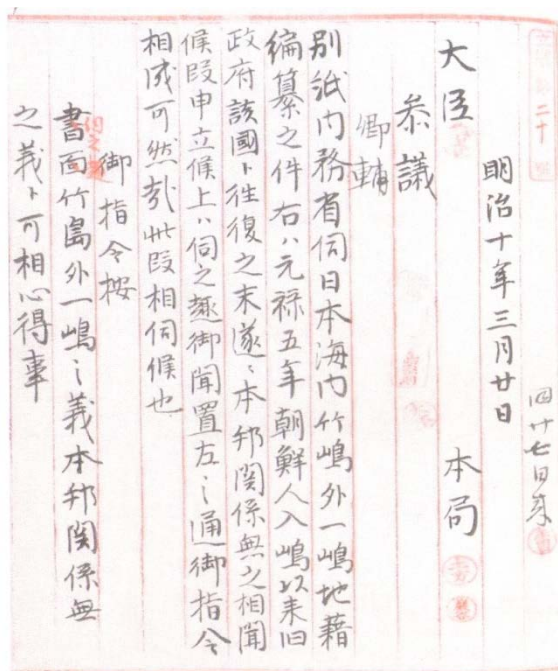
Dajokan-

Dokdo Research Institute of Sejong University

1. Japan's highest administrative body 'Dajokan' issued an official document specifying that Ulleungdo Island and Dokdo Island are not within the territory of Japan. (1877)

In 1877, Japan's highest administrative body 'Dajokan' (the former Cabinet of Japan) surveyed Ulleungdo Island and Dokdo Island again and issued a written order specifying that 'Remember that those two islands became irrelevant to Japan at the end of 17th century'.

Since then, the Japanese government has practically prohibited access to this document known as the 'Written Order of Dajokan', which is still legally valid. The 'Written Order of Dajokan' is housed in the National Archives of Japan located in Takebashi (竹橋), Tokyo.



In 1877, the Japanese government issued a written order specifying that Ulleungdo and Dokdo are officially excluded from Japanese territory in the 9th year of Genroku(1696) and conveyed this to the Home Ministry.

The Japanese government refuted that the 'Written Order of Dajokan' is actually stating that 'Ulleungdo and another island', that is to say, 'Takeshima and another island', specified on the document, are not relevant to Japan and 'another island' can't be concluded as Dokdo. However, an additional description for 'another island' is written in the 'Written Order of Dajokan' as below.

<There is another island called 'Matsushima'. Its circumference is approximately 30 *cho* (about 3.3 km). This island is situated on the same sea route as Takeshima and is 80 *ri* away from Oki Island. Trees and bamboo are rare and you can fish or hunt animals here.>

The Japanese source: 「次ニ一島アリ松島ト呼フ周圍三十町許竹島ト同一線路ニ在リ隱岐ヲ距ル八拾里許樹竹稀ナリ亦魚獸ヲ産ス」

This quotation confirmed that 'another island' is 'Matsushima (=Dokdo)' and mentioned its circumference of approximately 30 *cho* (町) and distance

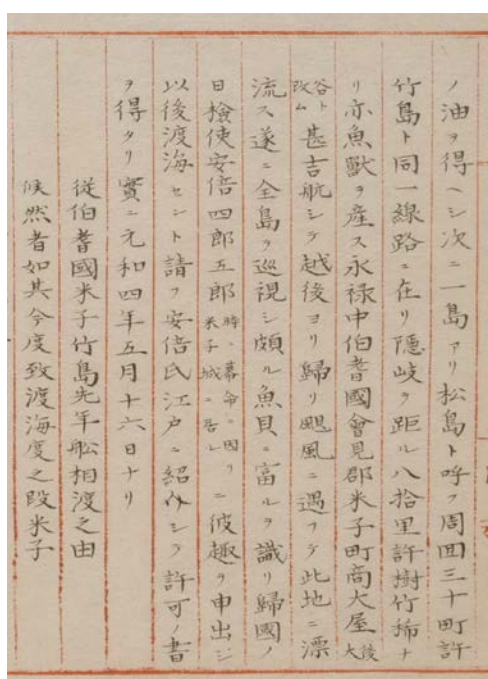
between Oki Island and Matsushima of about 80 *ri* (里).

Cho (町) is a Japanese unit of length and 1 *cho* corresponds to approximately 109 m. Therefore, 30 *cho* is about 3.3 km. Although the circumference of Dokdo is approximately 4km when separately measuring and totaling the circumferences of Dongdo and Seodo of Dokdo, the circumference calculated considering Dongdo and Seodo as one island is 3.3 km. Therefore, the circumference mentioned in this document refers to the circumference of Dokdo.

This document specified that the distance between Oki Island and Matsushima (=Dokdo) is approximately 80 *ri*. However, Japan has been using *ri* as the unit of length corresponding to *kairi* (=nautical mile) since the 17th century. Considering this unit as *kairi* corresponding to 1.852 km, '80 *ri* (*kairi*)' is about 149 km.

Thus, this value is very close to 157 km, the actual distance between Oki and Dokdo.

Thus, 'another island' mentioned in the 'Written Order of Dajokan' refers to Dokdo. Japan always distorts or hides the contents of this document because it could be a serious blow to its claim for the sovereignty over Dokdo Island.



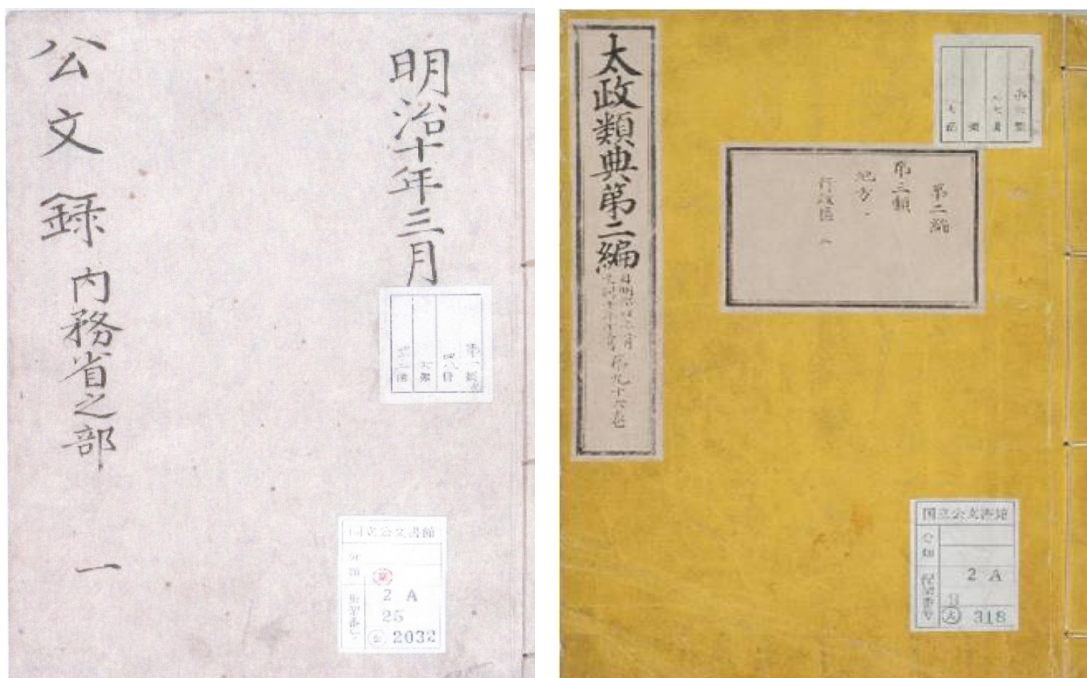
The first three lines of this page are the part specifying that 'another island' is Matsushima, that is to say, Dokdo.

2. The Map of Iso-Takeshima (磯竹島)

There are two variations of 'Written Orders of Dajokan' and both of them are housed in the National Archives of Japan.

One is the document we have reviewed above and the official name of the other one is the 'Registry of Land of Takeshima and Another Island in the Sea of Japan (日本海内竹島外一島地籍編纂方伺)'. This document is an order request sent by the Home Ministry to Dajokan and kept in the bundle of documents called 'Kobunroku (公文録)' of the Home Ministry.

The other document is the document called 'Takeshima and the other island in the Sea of Japan are excluded from the Japanese territory (日本海内竹島外一島ヲ版図外ト定ム)'. This document is the official written order issued by Dajokan to the Home Ministry and included in the bundle of documents called 'Dajoruiten (太政類典)'.



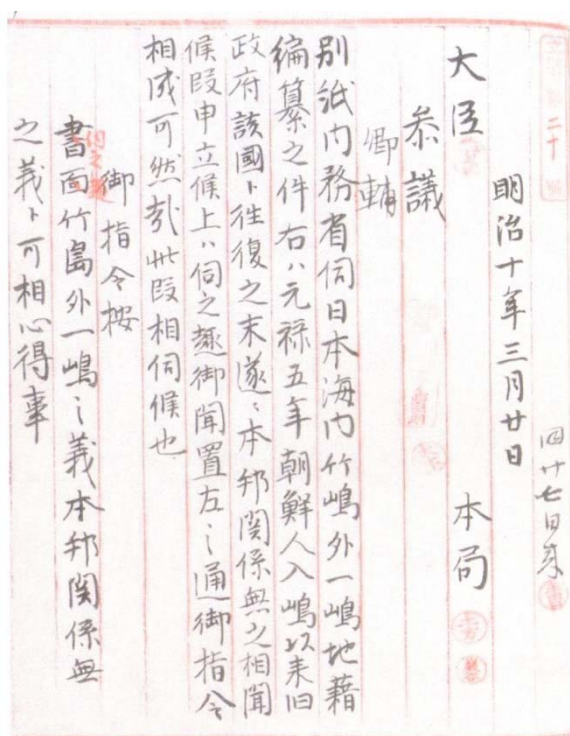
'Kobunroku' and 'Dajoruiten' including two different types of the Written Orders of Dajokan

If you request to read the 'Kobunroku', including the 'Written Order of Dajokan' in the National Archives of Japan, their staffs always bring you cursive script. Cursive script refers to documents written with calligraphic style that is difficult to read.

The reason why the Japanese government made the cursive script of 'Kobunroku' is due to there being a map in it that indicates that the two islands that Dajokan excluded from the Japanese territory are Ulleungdo and Dokdo.

This map called 'Iso-Takeshima Map (磯竹島略圖)' is indicating the location of Ulleungdo, Dokdo, and Oki Island and clearly specifying that 'another island' which is excluded from the Japanese territory is Dokdo.

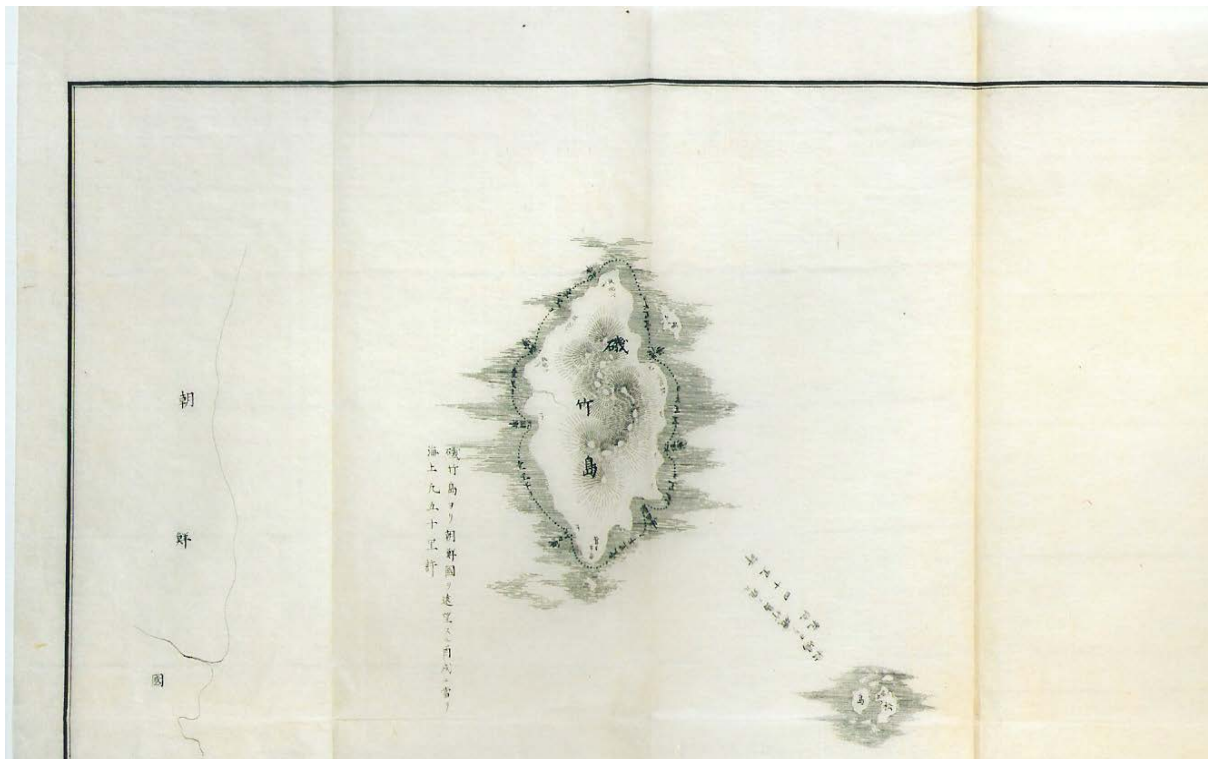
In this map, Matsushima, which is Dokdo, is drawn with two islands (Dongdo and Seodo) and a couple of cays and the name 'Matsushima' is clearly marked on those two islands. This map is clear evidence proving that the two islands 'excluded from Japanese territory' are Takeshima (Ulleungdo) and Matsushima (Dokdo). The Japanese government didn't add the map in cursive script to hide this fact. By doing so, the Japanese government is deceiving researchers.



The first page of the original copy of the Written Order of Dajokan (shown before): Access prohibited.

明治十年三月廿日 同地方官署
 大正六年 古蹟 大正
 柳 柳
 刻決内務省同日市役内市役所一給地籍
 籍籍一付古ハ元禄五年朝鮮人入島ハ本
 旧政廢絶由ト推測ハ未遂ハ市邦署係無
 ハ在史書爲申立書上ハ何ハ起決由至在
 ハ通リ 地籍令在籍可然却地籍爲在何皆也
 地籍令據
 事、面市役所一給ハ市邦署係無ハ係
 ト可不在公府事

Cursive script (fake original copy) of the first page of the Written Order of Dajokan: By making cursive script which is difficult to read and excluding the 'Iso-Takeshima Map' from it, the Japanese government is impeding relevant research and concealing the truth. Access available.



The 'Iso-Takeshima Map' (including Ulleungdo and Dokdo) attached in the Written Order of Dajokan: Not included in cursive script so as to deceive the public.



The enlarged part of Dokdo Island in the 'Iso-Takeshima Map'.

Clearly marked as Matsushima (松島=Dokdo).

3. Conclusion

With official documents, the Japanese government has confirmed, by itself, three times in 1696, 1870, and 1877 that Dokdo Island was excluded from Japanese territory in the late 17th century.

Thus, the documents of the Edo Shogunate and Meiji governments completely refute the current Japanese government's claim that Dokdo has been a territory of Japan for a long time and proves that Korea has sovereignty over Dokdo Island.

The current Japanese government is deceiving Japanese people and citizens of the world with unjustified means such as distortion and concealment of historical facts.