

Kurizuka Tomb (Kurizuka Kofun)

The square mound of the Kurizuka *kofun* is just to the east of the tomb of Emperor Ōjin (*ōjin-tennō-ryō kofun*). It is thought to be a subsidiary tomb of the Emperor Ōjin *kofun*. Many archeologists believe that the two mounds are related: they were constructed at the same time, are aligned on parallel axes, and at one time they shared a border marked out by terracotta figures called *haniwa*.

While the Imperial Household Agency has forbidden a full-scale excavation of the mound, archaeologists were permitted to conduct a small excavation on the south and west sides of the tomb in 1988. The excavation revealed that the original mound had two tiers with a level top and straight sloping sides. The sides were covered with fist-sized stones and the mound was surrounded by a ring of *haniwa*.

The Kurizuka tomb is 15 meters high and covers approximately 0.11 hectares.