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An analysis of mitochondrial DNA in Hokkaido, however, suggests a scenario in which that population was formed by a mixing of existing Jomon people with people of the Okhotsk culture.

On the Ryukyu archipelago, human bones dating back to the Paleolithic era have been excavated, but the relationship between that population and modern persons as yet is unclear. However, based on the fact that mitochondrial DNA that can be seen in the present-day Okinawan population was in ample evidence during the shell-mound period that coincides with the Yayoi to Heian periods on the Japanese mainland, it may be presumed that the genetic elements linking the present day back to that period were already in place. These results suggest that the three modern populations present in the Japanese archipelago are intimately connected to one another though their formative histories differ.