

# Return of the Ainu - cultural mobilization and the practice of ethnicity in Japan

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## The Return of the Ainu: Cultural Mobilization and the Practice of Ethnicity ...

In 2012, the Ainu formed the Ainu Party of Japan, the first official ethnic minority party in Japanese history. This challenges the pre-established social and cultural context of Japanese society.

## The Return of the Ainu: Cultural Mobilization and the Practice of Ethnicity ...

The Matsumae were granted a trade monopoly with Ezo, which possessed vast natural reserves and wealth.

## The Return of the Ainu

As of 2019, new legislation has passed to both recognize their position as an indigenous people and strengthen their rights accordingly. They brought agriculture and increased trade to the island and appear to be the most direct ancestors of the Ainu.

## The Return of Ainu: Cultural mobilization and the practice of ethnicity in Japan by Katarina Sjoberg, Paperback

Traces of Okhotsk culture are now more apparent among the Nivkh and Amur people.

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They won a major victory in 2008, when the Japanese government recognized their status as a separate, indigenous people.

## Ainu History

The Matsumae and later merchants needed the Ainu to gather valuable natural resources. . What began as a mutually beneficial relationship gradually devolved into exploitation.

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