

3. 大八島国の生成 “Births of Oho-yashima-guni”

After the event, the two deities had a meeting and concluded, “Our creations were not satisfactory. We should let the deities in heaven know what has happened.” They ascended to heaven, and asked the deities what they should do. The deities consulted together and exercised divination. They said to the two deities, “It is because the woman spoke first. This is the reason you did not succeed. Go down and do it over again.” So they descended and went round the pillar again. This time, however, Izanaki addressed her first, “How beautiful you are!” , and then Izanami addressed him back, “How handsome you are!” Thus they proceeded and finished successfully, and brought forth an island called Awaji-no-ho-no-sa-wake-no-shima (Awajishima). Next came Iyo-no-futa-na-no-shima. This island has four faces in one body and each face has its own name. Thus Iyo-no-kuni is called Ehime; Sanuki-no-kuni is called Ii-yori-hiko; Awa-no-kuni is called Oho-ge-tsu-hime; Tosa-no-kuni is called Take-yori-wake. Next came Oki-no-mitsu-go (the triplet islands of Oki), also named as Ame-no-oshi-koro-wake. Next came Tsukushi-no-shima. This island also has four faces, each with its own name. Tskushi-no-kuni is called Shira-hi-wake; Toyo-kuni is called Toyo-hi-wake; Hi-no-kuni is called Take-hi-mukahi-toyo-kuji-hi-ne-wake; Kumaso-no-kuni is called Take-hi-wake. Next came Iki-no-shima, also named as Ame-no-hitotsu-bashira. Next came Tsu-shima, also named as Ame-sade-yori-hime. Next came Sado-no-shima. Next came Oho-yamato-toyo-aki-du-shima, also named as Ama-tsu-mi-zora-toyo-aki-du-ne-wake. This group of eight islands were born first. Hence the name, Oho-yashima-guni.

Then, before they returned to the place where they started, they had Kibi-no-kojima, also named as Take-hi-kata-wake. Next came Aduki-jima, also named as Oho-no-de-hime. Next came Oo-shima, also named as Oho-tamaru-wake. Next came Hime-jima, also named as Ame-hitotsu-ne. Next came Chika-no-shima, also named as Ame-no-oshi-o. Next came Futa-go-no-shima, also named as Ame-futa-ya. From Kibi-no-kojima to Ame-no-futa-ya, a total of six islands were born.