

Hello!

We would like to invite you to explore Ibaraki.

Look at the map, please.

This is today's route.

Are you interested? OK,

let's go on a virtual trip.

The First is Ibaraki shrine.

Explore IBARAKI

- 1 Ibaraki shrine
(kuroi no shimizu)
- 2 Sasukehi ato
(Furuta Oribe)
- 3 Kawabata Yasunari
Literature Hall
- 4 Marumata, Fushimiya
- 5 Tanaka-cho Tenman-gu
- 6 Confluence of Aigawa,
Ibaraki rivers
- 7 Soji-ji temple



Ibaraki Shrine is located in the center of Ibaraki City.



Ibaraki shrine.

It worships Takehaya-susanou-no-mikoto .
He is one of the greatest gods.
His brave fights with Great Snake are often
performed in Bunraku and Kabuki.



Takehaya- Susanou-no-mikoto

He is one of the greatest
Gods.

His brave fights with the
Great Snake are often
performed in Bunraku
and Kabuki.



For annual events,
we visit the shrine to ask for our happiness.



For annual events,
we visit to ask for
our happiness.

Hatsumode or New year's visit
is to pray for prosperity and family health.

Hatsumode

Hatsumode from New Year's Eve to January 3rd is to pray for prosperity and family health.



Toka Ebisu is to wish for good business.



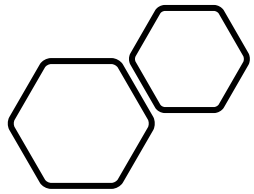
Toka Ebisu

Toka ebisu is held on January 10th every year.

We wish for good business.



Wakuguri sinnji, or Chinowa-kuguri.
When we pass through the ring,
we are free from pain and misfortune.



Wakuguri shinji

It is called Chinowa-kuguri
on the 30th June.

When we pass through the
ring, we are free from
pains and mis-fortune in
the first half of the year.



The Summer Festival is in July.
Mikoshi (portable shrines) go around the town.

Originally, the festival was held to pray
that epidemics would come to an end.

Summer Festival

Summer festival is on July 13th and 14th.

On the 14th, mikoshi (portable shrines) go around the town.

Originally, the festival was held to pray that epidemic would come to an end.



Shichigosan in November.

We celebrate when boys are 5 and girls are 3 and 7 years old.



Shichigosan

On the 15th November

Shichigosan is to pray for children's growth.

We celebrate when boys are 5 years old, and girls are 3 and 7 years old.



Omiyamairi is to pray for the baby's growth.

Yakubarai is to pray for a safe and peaceful life without disasters.

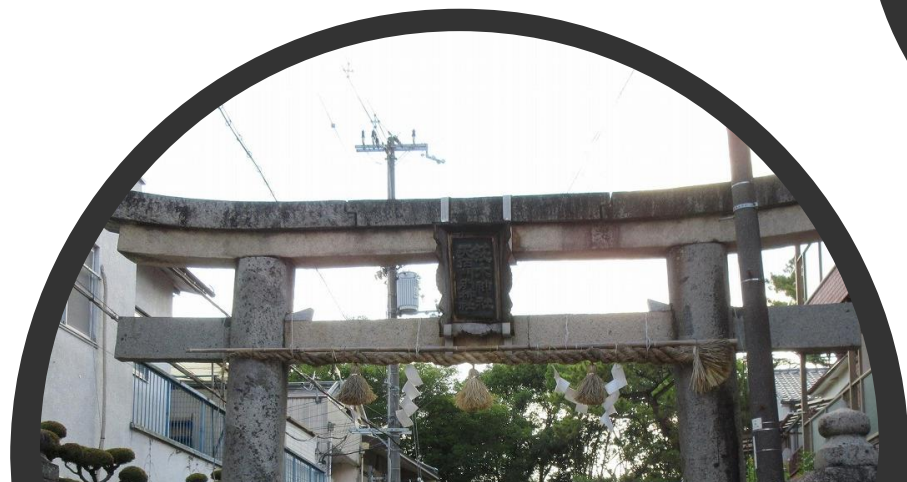


Omiyamairi Yakubarai

Omiyamairi is to pray for the baby's growth.

Yakubarai is to pray for a safe and peaceful future life without disasters.

I will show the highlights of Ibaraki Shrine.



The Ootorii, the giant gate and the east gate torii.

Otorii



It was built in 1890.

The East Gate Torii



It was built 330 years ago.

This was karamete-gate,
the back gate of former Ibaraki Castle.



● 茨木城搦手門 ●

茨木城は 建武年間(1334-1336)に楠正成が築。たと伝えられ 城主はしばしば変ったが特に有名な人物は 中川清房と片桐貞元である。城郭の位置は 現在の茨木小学校付近に本陣 堀り城郭の跡が残っている。すなわち茨木城の東門が茨木の 搦手門 を移築したものとして、

その他 大手門 殿町・本丸などの地名や町並みに残る「字」路が かつて下町であったことをあやうく

The East Gate

The east gate is Karamete-gate of former Ibaraki Castle.

Ibaraki, has long been famous for Kuroi no shimizu well water.

It is one of the three best waters in northern Osaka.

Hideyoshi Toyotomi,
the greatest warlord liked the water very much.

Whenever he held tea parties, he ordered fresh water from Kuroi.

Today, the Kuroi tea ceremony is held in October.

Kuroi-no-shimizu

Kuroi-no-shimizu was one of the three famous waters in northern part of Osaka.

Hideyoshi loved the water. in 16th century

Kuroi's tea ceremony is held in October.



Ibaraki Shrine is currently being rebuilt.

Next time you come to Ibaraki in the near future.

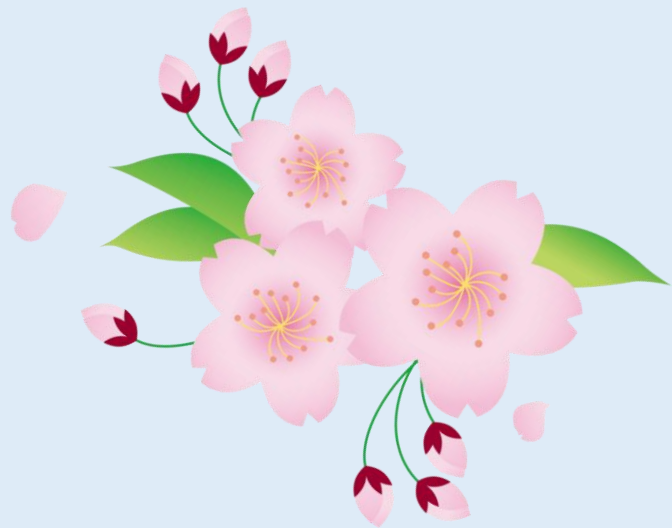
You can see the beautifully renewed shrine.



Please look at this photo!
How beautiful!!

Do you know this street?
Yes, it is “SAKURA DORI.”

Welcome to
ORIBE's world in IBARAKI



A stone monument stands on the corner of this street quietly.

It says there used to be the residence of a samurai around here.

These are just photos of his residence, of course, not real.

Let's travel back to the warring states period.



Stone Monument

Image Photo of his Residence



He is Oribe. About 500 years ago, during the warring states period, there were so many rival warlords in Japan. They fought to be the ruler of Japan. Meanwhile, Oribe was born as the son of a samurai to be a follower of a famous and strong warlord. In those days he lived in Ibaraki. SAMURAI spent most of their time fighting. In the battlefield, they rode horses in full armor with swords and headed for their enemies. Can you hear the samurai roaring or the horse neighing?



ORIBE

16th C.

One Scene in the Battlefield



Fully Outfitted SAMURAI



Many Rival Leaders



Oribe succeeded as a samurai. On the other hand, he is widely known as a tea ceremony master. During the warring states period, there were many samurai who had high spirituality to enjoy Japanese culture and they had excellent talents in the artistic fields. They needed to keep their minds calm and clear. Oribe was one of them. He hired a large number of craftsmen to have them create works of art. He became the founder of the Oribe style of earthenware, tea ceremony and gardening.



ORIBE-style Garden
NANSHU-JI Temple
in SAKAI City

An Image of Tea Ceremony

ORIBE-style Tea Room



ORIBE-style Tea Bowl



古田織部——
武将でありながら天下有数の茶人であり
「数寄者」として茶器の収集でも名高い

Ibaraki Municipal Kawabata Literature Hall

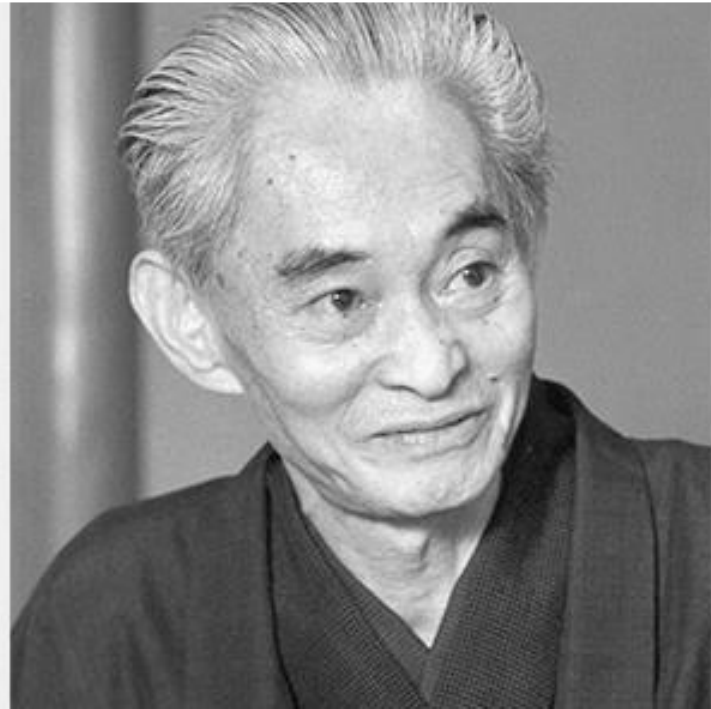
Yasunari Kawabata is the first Japanese to be awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1968.

Why would Kawabata be given the Nobel Prize?

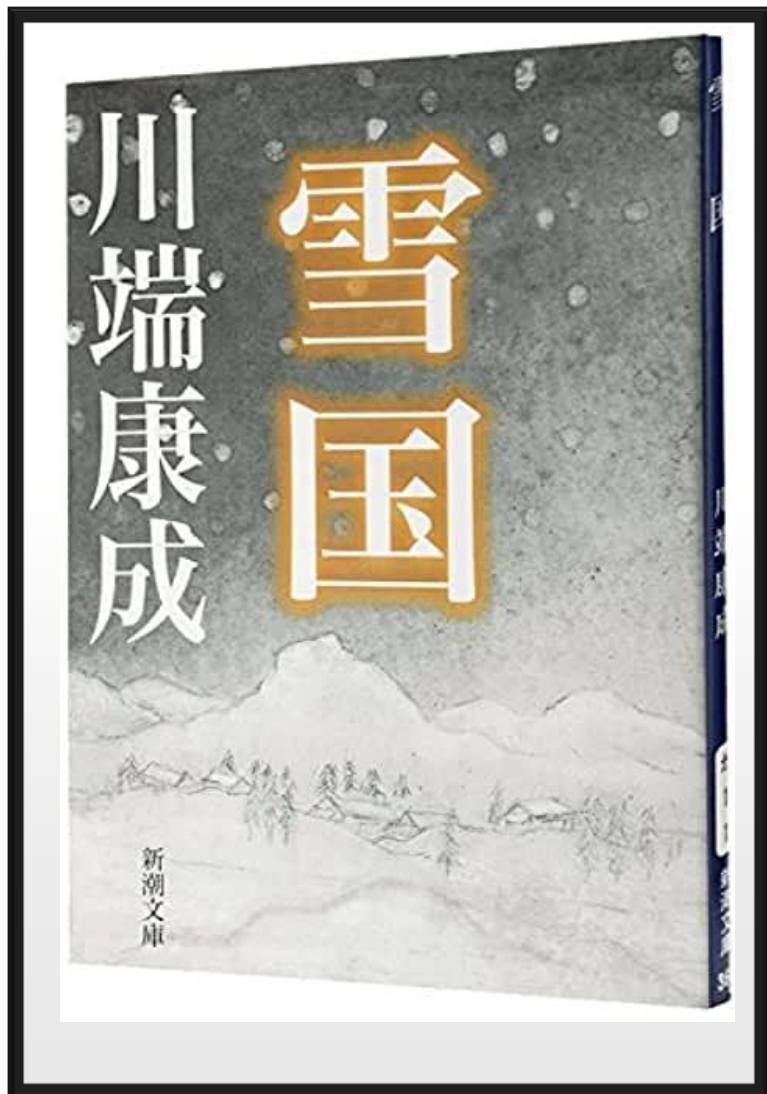
Kawabata Yasunari

(1899~1972)

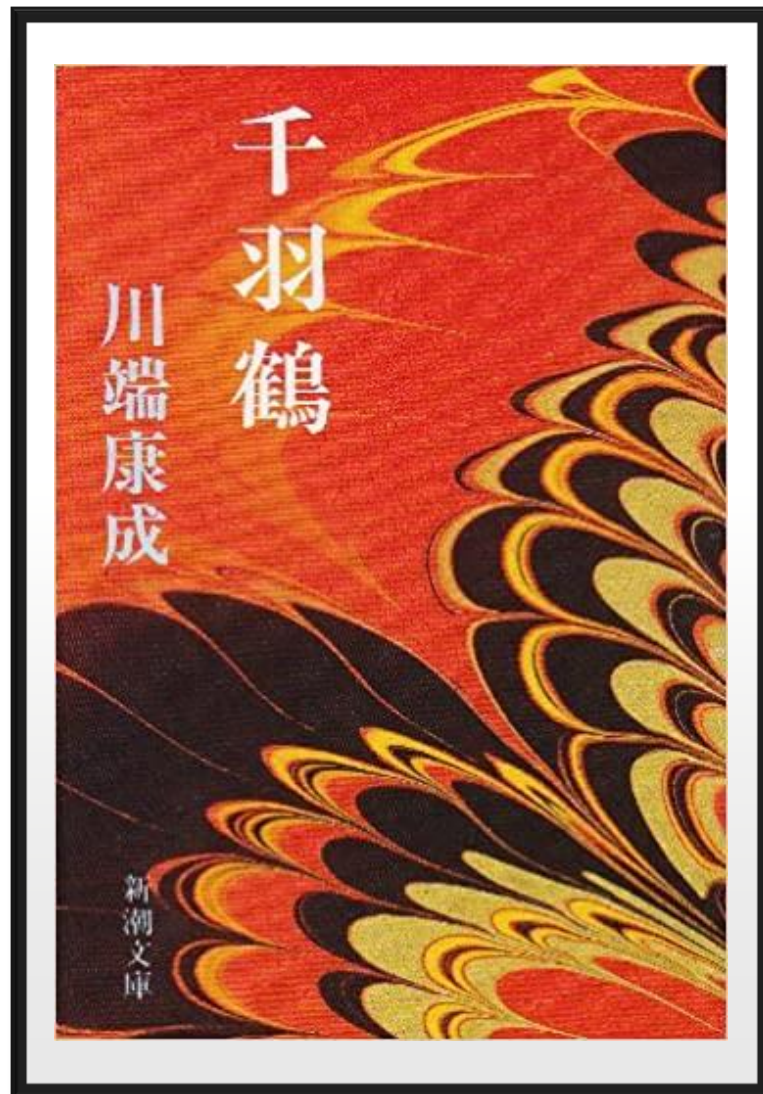
Nobel Prize Award Ceremony
in 1968



Kawabata is famous for his works such as
“Snow Country” (雪国),
“Thousand Cranes” (千羽鶴) and
“The Old Capital” (古都)
that expressed the Japanese mind with great
sensibility and deeply impressed people of the world.



Snow Country



Thousand Cranes



The Old Capital

Kawabata was born in Osaka City 1899, and lost his parents before he was three years old. He was brought up by his paternal grandparents who lived at Toyokawa in Ibaraki city.

From the days he was in elementary school, he would sit almost every day on the branch of an evergreen mukkoku tree in his grandfather's garden and read books.

Ibaraki is the place of his youth where Kawabata lived until he graduated from Ibaraki High School, solidified his literary aspirations, and took the first step.



The house of Kawabata Yasunari's Grandfather

Ibaraki city conferred the title of Honorary Citizen on Yasunari Kawabata and opened the Kawabata Yasunari Literary Museum and many citizens would become familiar with Kawabata and his literature. On display are about 400 items such as books authored by Kawabata, his letters, manuscripts and calligraphic works as well as the scale model of his childhood home, photographs and videos including the Nobel award ceremony in Stockholm in 1968.

Ibaraki citizens and visitors to Ibaraki, please visit the Kawabata Literature Hall

Kawabata Literature Hall



Yasunari Kawabata's study corner



Exhibits

MARUMATA is a brick tunnel, the oldest elevated railway in Japan. The Tokaido main line runs on it. It was built in the early Meiji era. This is a living road. Even now, many people pass through every day. The left side of the picture is the inside of this brick tunnel. These bricks are stacked at an angle to be strong. This construction method is called “nejiri manpo”. Marumata is popular among locals.

When we pass through Marumata ,
we come to Fusimiya)

MARUMATA

late 19th century

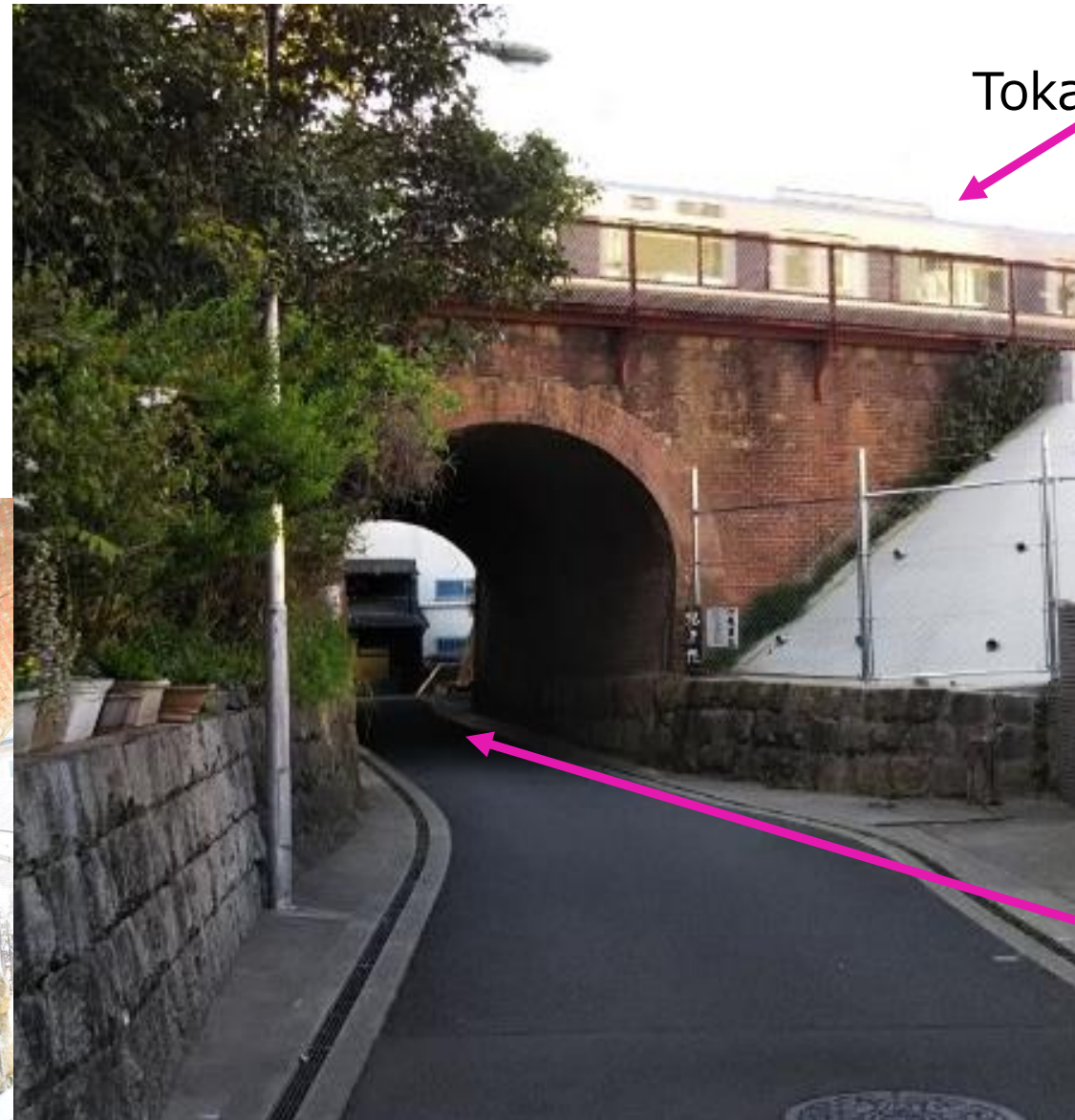
- the inside of tunnel -

bricks stacked at an angle to be strong
"Nejirimanpo"

Takatsuki castle's
stone wall



- a brick tunnel -



Tokaido Line

Living road

Fushimiya is the oldest konnyaku and tofu factory in Ibaraki city.

FUSHIMIYA - the oldest "Konnyaku" and "Tofu" Factory in Ibaraki -



This is a process of making tofu in Fushimiya. They protect and follow their traditional method. Fushimiya has used good water from this well for a long time.

So, even now, they draw up underground water from three hundred feet deep.

FUSHIMIYA - one process making "Tofu" -



old well



These are the main products in Fushimiya.
Can you believe these products are all made of tofu?

They even make sweets
Such as cheese cake and donuts.

In the pictures below, these are my home tofu dishes. Tofu can be used for many dishes.
Don't you think they look delicious?

Do you like Japanese tofu? Let's go on a tofu factory tour someday.

Products



"Yaki Tofu"

"Yuba"

"Tofu" Sweets



Donuts and cheesecake

My Dishes



"Zaru Tofu" with "Egomamiso"



"Shiraae"



"Yudoufu"

This is Tanakacho Tenmangu shrine.
It enshrines Sugawara Michizane,
a nobleman in the 9th century.

In Japan,
more than 12,000 shrines worship Michizane,
and they all have two musts,
his favorite plum trees and his life saver,
the statue of an ox. So, who is Michizane?
Why are there so many shrines for Michizane?
I will tell you.

Tanaka-cho Tenman-gu



Sugawara
Michizane



Long approach to Tenman-gu shrine



Tenma-gu's 2 musts:
Plum trees & Statue of ox

Michizane was a great aristocrat, a super scholar and a leading politician.

But out of jealousy, his political rival expelled him from the capital ,Kyoto, to remote Dazaifu.

On the way to Dazaifu,

Michizane stayed at Tanakacho, hoping to go back to the capital.

But the Tanakacho people were mean and drove him away.

Disappointed, he went down to Dazaifu. His life in Dazaifu was miserable and poor, and he died soon in despair.



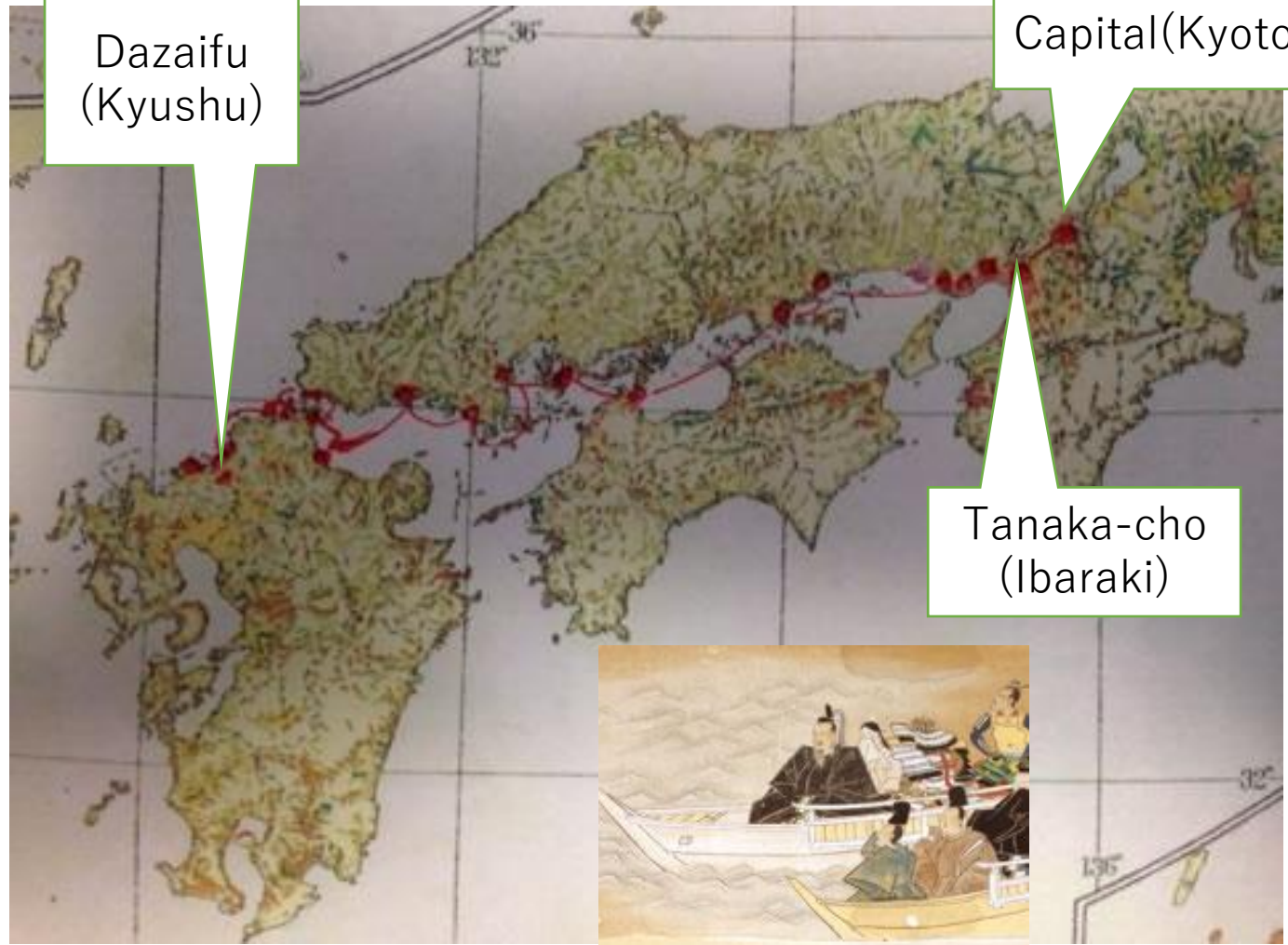
Michizane's Demotion Journey

late 9th century

In Dazaifu



Michizane was miserable and poor.



Dazaifu (Kyushu)

Capital (Kyoto)

Tanaka-cho (Ibaraki)



From Kyoto to Dazaifu: 400 miles (650km)

In Capital (Kyoto)



Michizane: great aristocrat super scholar leading politician

After his death, terrible disasters such as storms, fires, and epidemics hit Japan one after another. People thought these disasters were caused by Michizane's angry spirit.

To calm Michizane's anger, people enshrined him as a god and built shrines all over Japan.

The Tanakacho people also built a shrine because they treated him badly when he stayed there.

Now, Michizane is no more an angry god.

He is the god of learning. He helps us enjoy learning.

Michizane turned

Gods



From **Angry**



To **God of Learning**



Replacement of the Ibaraki River

Why Have the Monument Constructed
Confluence of the Two Rivers?

Please look at this photo.

Can you imagine where it is?

It's a main road between JR Ibaraki and Hankyu Ibaraki station.

Can you imagine it happened here in Ibaraki in
1935?

Severe damage of Ibaraki City was known nationwide in 1935.



State of Takahashi St.



The view unobstructed
Betsu-in san

The floods had happened over and over in the Ibaraki River. Because the river bed is higher than the surrounding area and the banks are very fragile. People lobbied local government and the home ministry to reform the two rivers. Finally, the replacement of the Ibaraki River was decided and the construction was conducted from 1939~1943.

Before and After the Construction 1939~1943

Before the
Construction



The Flow after
the construction



Then the Ibaraki River joined up with the Ai River. There were three reasons. Firstly, the Ibaraki River passed the city center. Secondly county government existed in the Ibaraki city center. Thirdly the amount of water of the Ibaraki River was one fifth of the Ai River.

Then the monument was constructed here at the confluence of the two rivers as a memory.

Why the Ibaraki River have joined together the Ai River?



- * The Ibaraki River passed center of the Ibaraki City.
- * The County Government existed center of the Ibaraki City.
- * The quantity of the Ibaraki River was one fifth of the Ai River.

Now what happened to the Ibaraki River?

The former Ibaraki River became a greenery area which is known as Sakura-dori . and a park where citizens relax nowadays.



Greenery area

Sakura-dori St.



Ibaraki river

Ai river



Former-Ibaraki River
Green Zone

Ai river

Our final destination is Soji-ji, the twenty second of the Thirty-three Pilgrimage Sites of Western Japan. It was founded in the late 9th century by Lord Fujiwara Yamakage.

The 22nd Saigoku Pilgrimage temple

Soji-ji 892~



pilgrim



Fujiwara Yamakage
 Founder of Sojiji
 Ministry of the State

This is the principal image, “the Thousand-armed,
Thousand-eyed Bodhisattva”

called ‘Kannon on a turtle’, a hidden treasure.

We can only see in special exhibitions.

The story of the turtle’s favor shows its roots.



turtle

Senjyu Kannon

“ Thousand-armed, Thousand-eyed Bodhisattva ”



① When Yamakage's father was on his way to Dazaifu. He saw fishermen catching a giant turtle. He released the turtle into the river in exchange for his kimono. That day was the eighteenth, a day commemorating Kannon.

② During that night, loving son Yamakage was thrown into the river. His father grieved and prayed to Kannon that he would like to see him again. Amazingly, the next morning, the giant turtle that he had saved yesterday appeared with Yamakage on its back!

His father was so delighted by the spiritual power of Kannon that he wished to build a temple.

9th century

Yamakage's father

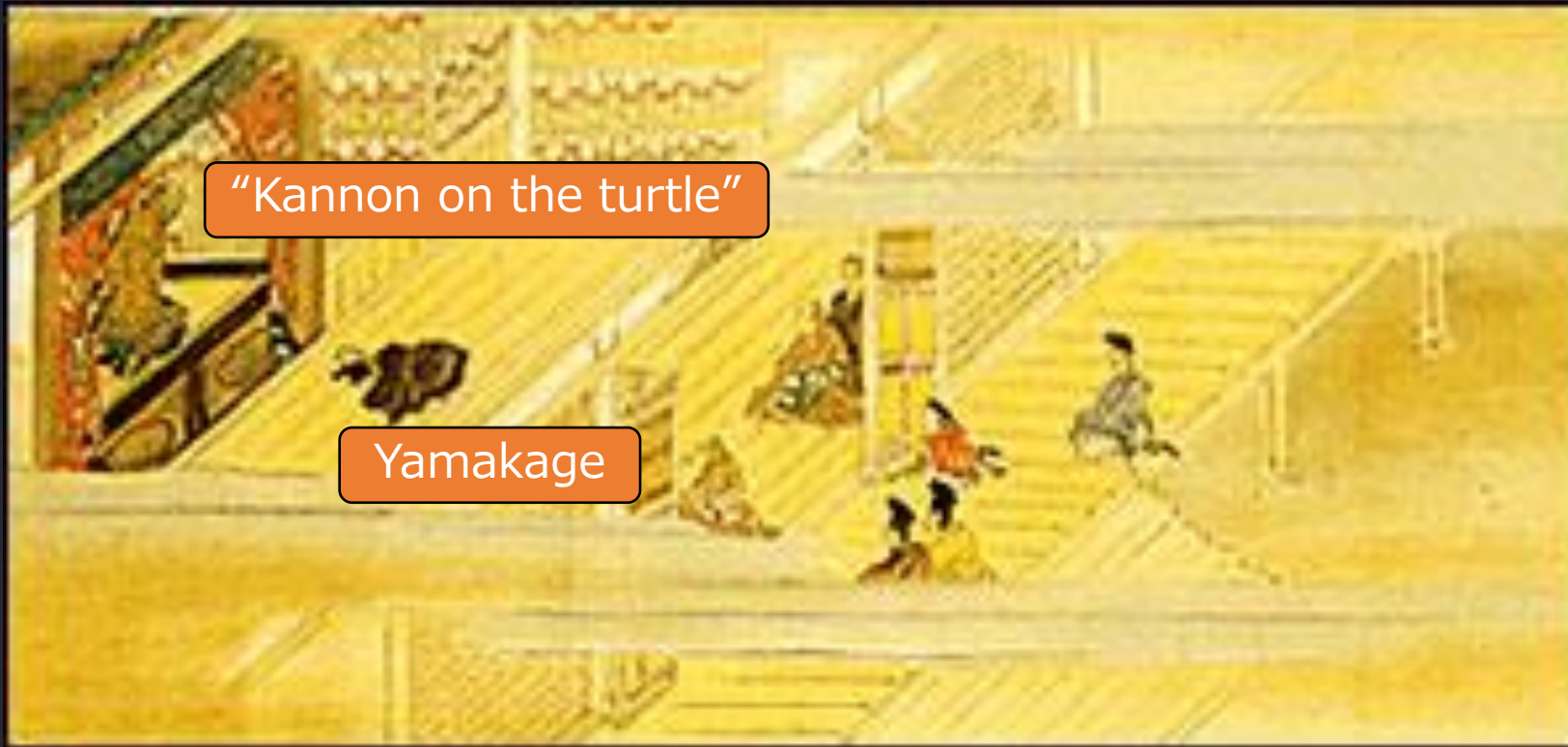
Yamakage

Giant turtle



③ Yamakage took over his father's will and ordered a Buddhist sculptor to make a statue. The sculptor said, "During the 1,000 days of carving, you must offer my meals by yourself." One morning, Yamakage found a Kannon statue on a turtle!

④ This is why the principle image is "Kannon on the turtle". Since then, Soji-ji has flourished as a praying site of Kannon worship.



"Kannon on the turtle"

Yamakage

10th century ~



a great pricincts in Heian period

In the warring states period, Soji-ji had a hard time during the Ibaraki Battle.

After a while, precincts have been reconstructed, flourished, and lasted until now.



Toyotomi

16th century



17th century



21st century



the Warring States Period

Oda

Edo Period



Tokugawa



During Yamakage's thousand days, he made his own way of using a kitchen knife. He contributed to the formation of Japanese cuisine and he is said to be "the Father of the Japanese Kitchen Knife". The traditional ceremony is performed in front of the deity every April 18th. This is how the Kannon worship has been handed down for over a thousand years.

The ceremony of Japanese kitchen knife “Yamakage method”



Annual event on April 18th

Thank you for
your attention!!

by IIN Working Group
on Outdoor Activities

