

石見国

The Province of Iwami

石見のや
高角山の
木の間より
我が振る袖を
妹見つらむか

(巻一・三三三)
柿本人麻呂

Iwaminoya Takatsunoyamano Konomayori
Wagafurusodewo Imomitsuramuka — Kakinomoto-no Hitomaro

The Province of Iwami and Kakinomoto-no Hitomaro



Takatsu Kakinomoto Shrine

The original Kakinomoto Shrine used to be on an island called Kamoshima, but it was sunk under the sea by a strong earthquake in 1026. The present shrine was rebuilt in a different place instead.



Ikan Shrine

The shrine is said to have been built at the site of the ancient provincial government office where Kakinomoto-no Hitomaro was sent to take office. There still remains an atmosphere of his days in the surroundings.



Mononobe Shrine

This shrine was the most important shrine in the Province of Iwami. The shrine building in Kasuga style is said to be the largest in Japan.



Ōsakibana

A beautiful stretch of beach that reminds us of Hitomaro's romantic poems.



Era-no Sato

It is said that this was the birthplace of a young girl, called Yosami-no-Otome, whom Hitomaro fell in love with and with whom he would live.



Kamoyama Memorial for Mokich Saito

Saito argued that Hitomaro spent his last days at Kamoyama. There are his enthusiastic writings displayed.

Kakinomoto-no Hitomaro (approx. 700~ Governor of the Province of Iwami)

Though he was respected as a genius of poetry, his whole life is wrapped in mystery. Many of his poems were made while he was accompanying the Emperor on trips. From this fact, he is thought to have worked as an official in the Imperial Court. He was nicknamed Hitomaro-san and lived in the Iwami Area.

The Province of Iwami



出雲国

The Province of Izumo

飢宇の海の
潮干の潟の
片思に
思ひや行かむ
道の長手を

(巻四・五三六)
門部 王

Ounoumino Shiohinokatano Katamoini
Omoiyayukamu Michinonagatowo — Kadobe-no Ōkimi

The Province of Izumo and Kadobe-no Ōkimi



Ruins of the Izumo Provincial Government Office

The area was the central part of the Province. There have been many historic artifacts excavated from there and displayed at the nearby Prefectural Museum called "Yakumo-tatsu Fudokino-oka Museum".



Izumo Grand Shrine

This shrine is one of the most important Shinto shrines in Japan. The ancient main shrine building is said to have been 48m high about 1100 years ago. Some parts of the huge wooden pillars that had supported the high-rise shrine building were discovered under the shrine grounds in 2000, making sensational news all over Japan.



Holding tsumo Grand Shrine
Photo Shimane Museum of Ancient Izumo



O-u-no Umi

It is an inlet located near the Izumo Provincial Government Office where Kadobe-no Ōkimi worked. The balmy scenery there may have been soothing to him. He wrote a poem beginning with "O-u-no Umi", longing for his home back in Nara.



Sada Shrine

The description of the shrine appears in the Izumo-no-kuni Fudoki, published in 733. World Heritage.



Nogi Shrine

The description of the shrine appears in the Izumo-no-kuni Fudoki. Deity of the Nogi Plain.



Suga Shrine

It is said that this place was where the God Susanō and his wife Kushinada started their life as newlyweds. He composed 'waka' poems here, which is said to have marked the origin of waka poetry.



Mt. Sentsuzan

The River Hiikawa rises in this mountain. On top of the mountain is a tiny shrine dedicated to the God Susanō who is said to have descended from the heavens. The mountain is closely related to Izumo Mythology.



Kadobe-no Ōkimi (720~ Governor of the Province of Izumo)

Great-grandson of the Emperor Tenmu. He was one of the high-ranking officials in the central government. At the time of compiling the Izumo Fudoki, he is said to have been sent to Izumo to govern the area.

The Province of Izumo

