



伊勢市立倉田山中学校

3年

金光葉子

Kawasaki is located in the center of Ise-city and it is along a big river the Seta-River. When we walk around Kawasaki, we feel nostalgic because we can see old-style buildings and warehouses along the river. A warehouse is called kura in Japanese. Kawasaki is now known for kura town. Why did the people need to build kura?

Kawasaki developed as a merchant town from the Edo era to the Meiji era. When they went into business with big cities, they had no gasoline and tracks for transportations. So they used boats to carry various things. A lot of boats from big cities like Osaka came by the Seta-River up to Kawasaki through Ise-Bay. They could put their loads into the kura directly, because the kura were facing the river. Sometimes they carried wood to rebuild the Ise-Grand-Shrines for Shikinen-Sengu every 20 years.

Many valuable and curious things gathered in Kawasaki, so people needed to protect them from theft and natural disasters with thick plaster walls.

Indeed even by the air attack in the war, the kura weren't destroyed.

Since the old days Ise-city has been crowded with people to visit the Ise-Grand-Shrines, or Oise-san. Until the middle of the Showa era, there were some boat stops along the Seta-River. People often say that the Ise-Grand-Shrines are a symbol of Shinto. To visit the Ise-Grand-Shrines has been called "Oise-Mairi" or "Oise-Moude" and Oise-san has been a longed-for place that people have wanted to visit. We have many old traditions around here about Oise-Mairi. We Ise citizens have welcomed such tourists for a long time.

Because of Kawasaki Sea transport we could also get many kinds of delicious food from all over Japan, so from long ago, Kawasaki has been called the kitchen of Ise-city.

After the war, land transport has developed, and sea transport in Kawasaki has declined. Most of the kura finished their roles, but we have protected them and have treated them with care. Now we put that kind of kura to practical use as a cafe, a restaurant or a gallery.

We have some charming festivals and events too. We enjoy seeing pretty fireworks at the local festival, and the fire of candles by the river at Tanabata or the star festival.

We also have a big cleaning event to keep the river clean. I take part in that kind of volunteer work as often as I can. I think we must protect our history and environment for the future. If you want to know much more about Kawasaki, I recommend you come to Kawasaki-Syonin-Kan, a kind of a museum. Also, you can enjoy sight-seeing boats during summer.



(テーマを選んだ理由)

昔、お伊勢さんの門前町として栄えた河崎を、2015年、新たな観光スポットとして紹介したいと思いこのテーマを選びました。細い世古を抜けた先に広がる景色をたくさんの人に見てもらいたいです。

※昭和の有名な映画も撮影されたそうです。