



Around Sakuragaoka

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Class 2

Towns Around Sakuragaoka High School



Photo by Sana Taguchi

The town of Sakura Josui is located to the south of Sakura Josui station on Keio line. On the contrary to the fact that the name, Sakura Josui sounds quaint to Japanese people, the town is said to have appeared quite recent in the Showa era. The place's name derives from the river called Tamagawa Josui, which flows through this area. Another part of the name, Sakura indicates the row of cherry blossom trees are lined along the embankment in the neighboring

ward. Probably due to such facts in the area, the locals had started to call the area Sakura Josui. In 1932, Sakura Josui station was established. Followingly, in 1966, the neighboring village, Kamikitazawa was divided and the eastern half has come to be called Sakura Josui.

If we unravel the history, Sakurajosui used to have been a part of the old Kamikitazawa village. Kamikitazawa developed during the Sengoku period, and after the battle between the

Takeda clan of Kai and the Hojo clan of Odawara, the Suzuki clan, who were military commanders of the Hojo clan, moved to Kamikitasawa and began to rule it as their fief. After the fall of the Hojo clan, the Takeda clan has returned to farming in this area and worked for the development of the area as a village headman for generations.

After merging with Matsubara Village, which includes current Setagaya ward, Sakura Josui was again separated from

Kamikitazawa in 1967.

When five general branch offices were established in Setagaya ward, Kamikitazawa was included in the Karasuyama area, while Sakura Josui was included in the Kitazawa area.

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Kamikitazawa

Do you know Kamikitazawa? Kamikitazawa is a very livable town. The Kitazawa river flows from north to south, and its upper reaches are Kamikitazawa and its lower reaches are Shimokitazawa, which is the reason why they are separated but still called Upper, Kami, and Lower, Shimo in Japanese. Kamikitazawa was named following the establishment of Shimokitazawa.

Kamikitazawa is said to have originated near the upper reaches of the Kitazawa River, a large river that runs from northwest to southeast through Setagaya Ward, and has long been a major transportation hub. With a population of approximately 17,000, the area has many quiet residential areas and is relatively safe, making it an easy place to live for those living alone or with children. In addition, public

facilities are well maintained, and the community is actively involved in beautification activities. Therefore, Kamikitazawa has developed into a livable area due to its long history and environment.

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Photo by Sana Taguchi

ENTERTAINER

History of Shimotakaido



photo by Sana Taguchi

Shimotakaido is a place name in Sugunami Ward, Tokyo, and is a livable city has a rich history.

During the opening of Tamagawa Josui, which began in 1653, several farmers were forced to be evicted their site. At that time, the land where the farmers were forced to move was named Nakatakaido village. It has been known that there had been three Takaido villages in the

upper, Kami(Upper in Japanese)-Takaido, Shimo(lower)-Takaido, and Naka (middle)-Takaido. In 1889, several villages, including three Takaido villages, were merged. Shimotakaido, Sugunami Ward, which is close to this station, used to have been the next post town station called Takaido-juku on the Koshu Kaido Road, and the name of Takaido was changed by the Fudosen Takaido of Sogen.

According to the Shimotakaido Shopping Street Promotion Association, the Shimotakaido Shopping Street began when many people moved to Shimotakaido after the Great Kanto Earthquake and a market for fresh products was built in front of the station. Today, Sugunami and Setagaya wards are neighbors to each other, and the market is bustling beyond the boundaries of the wards. The

Shimotakaido Ekimae Market is located about one minute from Shimotakaido Station, which attracts many people.

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Hachimanyama

Hachimanyama is located in Setagaya Ward. Its area is about 14 times the size of Tokyo Dome and its population is about 8,000 in

2019.

Hachimanyama is divided into 3 sections: 1-chome, 2-chome, and 3-chome. It consists of about 4,300 families. The rents are not

high, which is one of the reasons why it is a good place to live. Also, there is not much crime. So the area is known as a very safe place to live. Hachimanyama Station is served by the Keio Dentetsu Keio Line. It takes only 10 minutes to Shinjuku, so transportation is very convenient. Hachimanyama Station is elevated. Therefore, it is a highly convenient in the point of structure.

Keio Ritenard Hachimanyama was built utilizing the space under the elevated railway line. Conveniently located directly connected to the station are a supermarket and other food and daily necessities stores, as well as restaurants available for lunch and dinner. In addition, many restaurants, beauty salons, hospitals, gyms, and other essentials for daily life are located on the north side of the station. On the south side of the station, there is the Hachimanyama Shopping Street (Yaeikai).

There are no large stores around

the station or on Akazutsumi Street facing Matsuzawa Hospital, and the stores are located on the ground floor of apartments and condominiums. Izakaya (Japanese-style pubs), ramen shops, and Chinese restaurants have opened around the station.

In order to protect the living environment for children, a nearby university and the local community are working together to improve the environment, including parks, and to reduce the number of children waiting for schooling to zero. Yawatazan is also popular for the Yawatazan ropeway, one of the places planned by the NPO Community Revitalization Support Center, which is known as a holy place for lovers.

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ENTERTAINER

The Origin of Kyodo

photo by Sana Taguchi



Kyodo was originally called Kyodo Zaike-mura, Ebara-gun in the Edo period.

The origin of the name, Kyodo is said to have been derived from Dou, a hall for Kyo, which means sutra chanting in Japanese.

The area is 0.996 and it has a population of 20,000, which is very densely populated compared to other towns in Japan.

The price of the land is 714,599 yen per square meter, and if you were to build a house here, the cost of the land alone would be about 90 million yen.

Kyodo is said to be a safe town. Therefore, it is a comfortable place for women and families to live.

In addition, the area is rich in nature and the atmosphere is safe and comfortable. In addition, it is convenient because of its easy access to the city.

In order to make this town even better, the rent should be made cheaper. This would attract more

people and makes the city more student-friendly.

There are many famous ramen stores and famous restaurants in Kyodo.

Kyodo is easily accessible by train to places like Shinjuku and Shimokitazawa. There are many schools near Kyodo, a large number of students use Kyodo station. We believe that many people take a ride from Kyodo station to have lunch, and the competition is high, resulting in a concentration of famous restaurants.

Kyodo's challenge is that it has a large elderly population, from which problems such as dementia and the large number of digital refugees have arisen. In response, Kyodo is taking measures against dementia by launching the Dementia Action Team and holding ICT courses for the elderly.

Kyodo Suzuran Dori Shopping

Street is located near Kyodo Station, and is crowded with local residents and students who come shopping during the day, and office workers returning from work in the evening.

Kyodo Corti is a shopping mall that opened in 2011.

Many families visit on holidays because they hold events that families can enjoy together.

However, Kyodo's shopping street continues to be bustling with activity. What is the reason?

One of the reasons for this is that it is a place where people can easily gather.

The main reason for the demise of shopping streets is the aging of users and managers. However, Suzuran Shopping Street is close to the station and residential area, making it an attractive place that is popular among families.

I think another reason is to differentiate it from Corti.

There are many franchised stores around Corti. The focus is

entirely on convenience.

However, this is not the case with shopping streets. There are many privately owned cafes and general stores. In other words, there are many things that can only be experienced at that location.

There is a story about a certain shopping district that became obsolete due to the construction of a new, larger station building. However, the opposite is happening at Kyodo. In other words, a symbiotic relationship has been established.

Rather than reinventing everything, we make use of what already exists. This is what it should be.

Isn't this what urban development should be aiming for?

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ENTERTAINER

Chitose-Karasuyama

If you look at a map of Setagaya ward centered around Chitose-karasuyama Station on the Keio Line, you'll notice Chitose Street, which runs from east to west next to Ashikakoen Station. If you look further southeast, you will notice that along Loop Route 8 there are places named Chitosedai and Chitose Oka. If you continue south on Loop Route 8, you will eventually come to a place where it intersects with the Odakyu Line tracks, and you will find a station called Chitose-Funabashi in the Shinjuku direction. If you measure the distance in a straight line on an internet map, you will see that they are approximately 3 kilometers apart. Don't you find it strange that they have the same name, Chitose, even though they are so far apart, and even have different railway lines?

This can be seen by looking into history. This area was used to be called Karasuyama village or Funabashi village, and they

were merged with surrounding villages to form a single village called Chitose Village. Surprisingly, at the time, the area was once belonged to Kanagawa Prefecture. In the middle of the Meiji period, it was transferred to Tokyo Prefecture, and in 1936 it was incorporated into Setagaya Ward, Tokyo. Chitose-Karasuyama Station opened in 1913, and the station name at that time was Karasuyama Station. The station name changed to its current name in 1929. The reason why the station name is Chitose may have been an attempt to remember that this place used to be Chitose village.

Chitose Karasuyama is carrying out various community contribution activities so that people can live comfortably.

In addition, town developments are being promoted mainly around the station area, aiming to create an attractive and lively town where everyone can spend their time in peace.

The population of Chitose Karasuyama is about 12,000, with many elderly people and a low birthrate and ageing population.

Also, the number of families is increasing and there were more parks and children's facilities.

In 2022, it will become a limited express stop on the Keio Line, making its access to

Shinjuku even more convenient. It will probably become a city that will continue to develop.

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Around Sakuragaoka

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