

<b>Motoori Norinaga</b>		松阪市立殿町中学校
3年	Ito Arisa	

I live in Matsusaka. So, I'm going to talk about "Motoori Norinaga". He is a person Matsusaka is proud of. Do you know about him?

(1) Who is Norinaga?

He was born in Matsusaka in 1730. He was a famous Japanese classical scholar in Japan. I think that you have seen his face in a textbook and so on. His family is a merchant. But he became a doctor. Besides working as a doctor, he studied about "Genjimonogatari" and "Nihon-shoki".

In those days, he became a student of "Kamono Mabuchi", one of the four great scholars who studied Japanese classical literature and culture.

And he started studying "Kojiki" which was written 1200 years ago. He translated "Kojiki" written in old words into modern words. Its name is "Kojikiden". How long do you think it took him to do so? 35 years! He translated "Genjimonogatari" as well. Also, he wrote an essay. Its name is "Tamagatsuma". He had 487 students before he died. From this, we can understand that he was loved by everyone. And he is loved by us too.

(2) Norinaga's favorite



ph-1

He was called "Suzu-sensei" because he

loved a bell. He rang a bell to relax when he was tired of studying.

He always hang "Hashirakakesuzu" on the wall of his room. He named his workplace "Suzunoya" from the bell.

He had a lot of bells. There is a statue of a bell in front of Matsusaka Station(ph-1). The name originated from his bell given by his friend.

Also, there are things be involved in the bell. For example, manholes(ph-2), park's name and "Suzu-Odori".

Some people dances "Suzu-Odori" when the summer festival. I have danced it before. It was very interesting. His bell is a symbol of Matsusaka.



ph-2

(3) The place about Norinaga

There are many places about Norinaga in Matsusaka. They are a memorial hall, a former residence and a shrine(ph-3). In the memorial hall, there are a lot of items about him. 1949 items were registered as important cultural properties of Japan. In addition, 31 items were registered as tangible cultural properties of Mie.

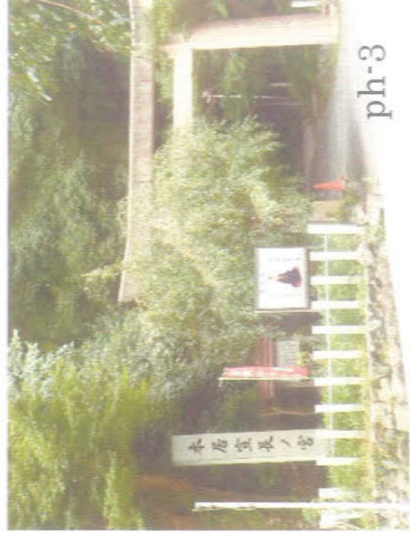
In the former residence, you can see "Misenoma", "Okunoma" and so on. Norinaga did medical practice in "Okunoma". And he held tanka poetry parties in "Okunoma". They were registered on special historical sites of Japan.

Norinaga is known as the god of study. So, a lot of people visit the shrine and pray for their success. I'd like to visit Norinaga's shrine with my sister to pray for passing a high school entrance exam.

I have been a memorial hall a few times. And I like there very much because I can understand his life that I can refer to Matsusaka's history.

If you visit the place about Norinaga, you will be impressed with his life.

Why don't you come to Matsusaka and learn about Norinaga? Thank you!



ph-3



"Kojikiden" has a lot of story. For example, "Inabano-shirousagi" and "Yamatano-orochi". I have read these stories. I think some people have read them too. I knew they were translated by Norinaga and I felt he is close. Now, we can understand the contents of "Kojiki" because he took a long time to translate it. I think he is great.

(テーマを選んだ理由)

松阪で生まれ育った私は、小学生の時に地域学習で本居宣長について知り、彼が35年という年月をかけ「古事記伝」を完成させた事に衝撃を受けました。彼の根気強さと、学問に対する姿勢に驚き、感動しました。

今回、このテーマを見て一番最初に浮かんだのが彼でした。彼の功績と「宣長」が「松阪」に残してくれたもの、また、「宣長」を思う「松阪の心」を、よりたくさんの人に知ってもらいたいと思い、テーマにしました。