

Tajiri-Auspicious Place

Tajiri Village, the predecessor of the town of Tajiri, was formed in 1889 with the merger of Yoshimi and Kashoji Villages. From the Meiji to Taisho era, Tajiri successfully grew Senshu onions, and became a prosperous town from the Taisho to Showa eras with a flourishing spinning industry.

Later, Kansai International Airport was built in the Heisei era, together with the creation of a “Rinku Port”, a new coastal area, which led to further growth for Tajiri and the airport.

This “Auspicious Place” is located at the intersection of Yoshimi and Kashoji, from which Rink Town and KIX, can be viewed, and where Fusazo Taniguchi, a Tajiri-born entrepreneur, played a leading in starting the town’s textile industry at what was originally his villa, and now is the Tajiri History Museum.

Known as the “King of Cotton from the Land of Cotton”, Fusazo Taniguchi was a businessman born in Yoshimi Village in 1861 (Man’en2, late Edo period). He was a key figure in the spinning industry by founding Osaka United Spinning Company (now Toyobo), which became an industry leader, innovated machines for spinning and laid the foundation for the current Toyota Motor Corporation and supporting Sakichi Toyoda.

In addition, Mr. Taniguchi established factories in the area as revitalization of his hometown, thereby contributing a significant increase in population and tax revenue. He also made efforts to develop Tajiri, such as attracting Yoshimi-no-Sato station and improving the roads, ports, and schools.

Later, based on his will, 1million yen (equivalent to 5 billion today) was donated to establish the Taniguchi Foundation, which greatly contributed to the promotion of various areas, such as science, physics, and math. Hideki Yukawa, a Nobel Prize winner, was one of those who received support from this foundation.

In this way, Fusazo Taniguchi not only led Japan’s economic growth through this area but also contributed to the economic development across East Asia and the world.

To honor the achievements of Fusazo Taniguchi and in the hope for good fortune and prosperity of all who visit here, we name this place “Kissho no Chi” (Auspicious Place).

March 2025 (Reiwa 7) in Tajiri Town