

Fukuroi City Designated Cultural Property: The Monument of Sakitaro Asaba

Background of erecting the stone monument

Sakitaro Asaba was born in HigashiAsaba village, the current Fukuroi City. He opened a hospital in Odawara as a medical practitioner and saw Phan Boi Chau, a leader of Vietnamese independence movement.

He supported their activities by providing rooms and financial help. However, the suppression by France was severe, and Phan left Japan in 1909. In the following year, Sakitaro passed away so the two could not see each other again.

In 1917, Phan visited Japan and learned of Sakitaro's death. In the following year, Phan visited HigashiAsaba village, where Sakitaro's family grave was, to build a stone monument. He completed building a monument in cooperation with the villagers who gathered in response to the village mayor's call.

Brief explanation of the inscription on the monument

We came to Japan to escape the turmoil of Vietnam. Mr.Sakitaro felt empathy for us and aided us gratuitously. He was an excellent person who was just and helped the weak. However, Mr.Sakitaro is not here anymore.

How and to whom we can appeal our feelings at this time ?