

## **Geographical and historical features of our city "Gifu"**

Gifu City is located in the middle of Japan with a population of 400,000. It is blessed with a warm climate and is famous for its beautiful scenery. It is 450 km west of Tokyo, 30 km of Nagoya, and 100 km east of Kyoto.

On the north side of the city, you can see a small mountain called Mt. Kinka. At the top, you can see a small castle, Gifu Castle, towering in the sky. The castle was built 400 years ago by the mighty samurai Dosan Saito and was conquered by another hero samurai, Nobunaga Oda, It has been burned down several times since then. The current castle has been rebuilt. You can easily climb the mountain from Gifu Park by ropeway. Historical materials related to Gifu City are displayed in the castle. The Nobunaga Festival and the Dosan Festival are held lively every year in honor of the two heroes.

Along the north side of Mt. Kinka, the Nagara River, where clear water gently flows, shines brightly. The river is home to cormorant fishing, an ancient romantic fishery that has been around for 1,300 years every summer night. This cormorant fishing is so widely known that many tourists come from not only Japan but also overseas, during its full season.

Our city of Gifu is known as the center of the apparel industry. The manufacturing industry is also thriving; there are many manufacturers of automobiles and machine tools in the suburbs. The road transportation network has been improved, and the commerce and industry in the suburbs have developed, which is very promising in the future.