

書評 『福岡かるた風土記』 岡部定一郎（著）

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Fukuoka is typical of Japanese former castle-towns in that local pride has inspired a postwar generation of passionate and prolific historians who are not necessarily employed by universities. Publications by these writers are therefore written for general, non-specialist audiences, extracts of their work often appear in regional newspapers and they occasionally speak about their work in popular events. (See, for a tea-related example, the Okabe Teiichirō lecture entitled 「つくしの茶話」 delivered at a recent Dazaifu Sadō Bunka Renmei symposium). Okabe Teiichirō (born 1930, on the Korean peninsula, and a former Chairman of the Dazaifu Municipal Board of Education) is one such writer who produces informative and accessible publications. His survey of *karuta* history and report on the depth of the 'poetry *karuta*' culture is based on a series of 19 articles published in the Fukuoka edition of the Nishinippon Shinbun from April 2017 to March 2018.

Fukuoka Karuta Fudoki has 135 pages, including one page dedicated to an author photograph and a photograph of his eighth *dan* certificate awarded by the All Japan Karuta Association. The 25 chapters expand on the theme of the power of the Kyushu *karuta* climate by addressing the role of the Fukuoka-Dazaifu area as an important centre for the development of *karuta* culture, including, for example, the Dazaifu Kokura Hyakunin Iseki Karuta tournament held on New Year's Day in Dazaifu City and the annual Hyakunin Iseki tournament in Asakura City. While explaining the origins of *karuta* and certain aspects of literary history (including representations of Chikushi scenery in *Genji Monogatari*), Okabe presents various *karuta* anecdotes, outlining the connection between Okura Hyakunin Isshu poetry and Fukuoka.

These 25 chapters are followed by 5 short sections that outline the charms of *karuta* culture, by placing

karuta in the wider context of card genres. Okabe introduces a technique for quickly remembering the initial sections of the *Kokura Hyakunin* (including 21 easy to read charts with *hiragana* that show what changes to expect), and extols the Ten Virtues of *karuta* for the mind, moral conduct, body, and social etiquette.

The inclusion of *Fudoki* in the title aligns this book with a specific lineage of literature that addresses of the geography and the material and spiritual culture of the northern Kyushu area. The eighth century *Chikuzen no Kuni Fudoki* was updated by Kaibara Ekiken (aka Kaibara Ekken, born in Fukuoka in 1630) in 筑前國續風土記附録 [*Chikuzen no Kuni Zoku Fudoki Furoku*] Sequel to the Gazetteer of Chikuzen Province (1709), and other documents.

The *fudoki* elements of local colour in the book include a generous number of photographs that document the achievements of local *karuta* practitioners, feature Hakata *ningyo* dolls that appear in the *Kokura Hyakunin*, and introduce historical sites relevant to *karuta* practice and its literary references. There is obvious pride in the attention given to the Kyushu women who have ruled as the so-called Queens of national *karuta*. The widespread success of the 『ちはやふる』 (*Chihayafuru*) manga written by Fukuoka resident Yuki Suetsugu, from its 2007 serialization in the Kodansha *Be Love* magazine to adaptations broadcast in three seasons of a 25-episode anime television series broadcast from October 2011 to March 2012, January to June 2013, and October 2019, and the three live action films released from 2016 to 2018, is concrete evidence of the expanding interest in this literary form of card play.

As an informative introduction to breadth and depth of *karuta* history, references and culture, this brief but accessibly informative book is highly recommended.