

江戸時代の終わりごろ、^{やべごう} 矢部郷(現在の山都町)に、水路のある石橋を造った男の人がいました。彼はなぜそのような偉業を成し遂げることができたのでしょうか。



ふたやすのすけ
▲布田保之助



つうじゅんきょう
▲通潤橋(山都町)



At the end of the *Edo* period, there was a man. His name was Futa Yasunosuke. He lived in Yabe. He tried to build roads and irrigation canals for the people. He wanted to help the life of the villagers. But he didn't know what to do to help them in Shiraitodaichi.

Shiraitodaichi, in the south of Yabe, was surrounded by a deep valley. There was a serious shortage of water, so he wanted to bring water to Shiraitodaichi.

One day, he came up with an idea to build a stone bridge with a waterway. So he began to study the way to lead the water from the river.

He experimented and failed many times. But he did not give up, and he kept trying to find a way to bring water to the village.



・period 時代

・irrigation canal 用水路

・Shiraitodaichi 白糸台地

・was surrounded 囲まれていた
・valley 谷
・serious 深刻な
・shortage 不足

・came up with ~ ~を思いついた
・waterway 水路
・way 方法
・lead 導く, 運ぶ

・experiment 実験する
・fail 失敗する
・kept ~ing ~し続けた

At last, he created a way to bring the water of the river to the waterway.

Then Yasunosuke talked about making a stone bridge with Taneyama masons. They agreed to help him.

After a year and eight months, they finished making the stone bridge. It carried water to the villagers in Shiraitodaichi. The bridge was built by Yasunosuke, the villagers and the masons.

After that, Shiraitodaichi never had a shortage of water again. The villagers made many new rice fields. Because of the bountiful rice harvest in the fall, the life of the villagers became better. Later, this bridge was named *Tsujunkyo*.



・create ~を造る

・Taneyama 種山(今の八代市東陽町)
・mason 石工

・bountiful 豊かな
・harvest 収穫



村人の生活の事を思い続ける布田保之助の心は、水路のある石橋を作り上げ、白糸台地だけでなく、人々の心も潤したのでした。



After Reading

- 自分の住んでいる地域のためにどんなことができるか、考えてみましょう。