



# Landscape of Kyoto

Kyoto City



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## Preface



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## Introduction

“Sanshi-Suimei” or “Purple Mountains and Clear Water” is a phrase portraying the natural beauty of Japan. This phrase which was born in Kyoto is believed to have been tailored by Sanyo RAI, a historian of Edo Period who loved the view of Kamo River near his house and named his study Sanshi-Suimei-sho”. The scene of Higashiyama Mountain illuminated by the purple hue of the twilight, and the river water glittering by the soft sunlight viewed in the evening from the banks of Kamo River is spectacular. This is a part of everlasting landscape of Kyoto that deeply touches our hearts and makes us sigh sub-consciously.

The profound landscape of Kyoto is composed of a blend of natural beauty, great number of historical temples, shrines and traditional town houses called Kyo-machiya.

This beautiful landscape is loved not only by Japanese, but also by other people throughout the world. This is something I would like to, or rather should protect. I would like to share the glory, responsibility and action with the citizens and enterprises so as to certainly pass down the precious landscape of Kyoto to the future.

This booklet introduces the policies and systems on the landscape of Kyoto. The history of landscape and city development plans which the city of Kyoto has implemented in the past are also added to serve as useful references. I hope this booklet will deepen the affection of people toward the landscape of Kyoto and encourage them to make their communities more attractive.

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