

## Foreword

When Fussa City celebrated its 10th year as a municipality, a declaration was issued:

We can be confident that Fussa City, scenic mountains to the west, the Tama River rushing by to the south, set on the Musashino Plateau where rich groves of mixed trees and fields of mulberry trees flourish, will continue to develop thanks to the on-going devotion of its citizens. Through our Citizen's Charter we declare our love for our city and hometown, our wish for lasting peace, and our striving for a vital citizen-led town.

This Charter serves as the foundation for the realization of a newly vital citizens' town and as a refuge for the citizens' hearts amid today's precipitous urbanization. In 2000, Fussa City will celebrate its 30th birthday. Through publication of this book, FUSSA REKISHI MONOGATARI, the four thousand year history of Fussa will become better known.

Fussa has developed dramatically as a suburb of western Metropolitan Tokyo, its population mushrooming from 10,000 to 60,000, and its municipal foundation firmly consolidating. However, it is a challenge to solve the various problems deriving from radical development. We hope this book will help foster a sense of fondness and be a contribution to a new generation by tracing the endeavors of our forebears and giving a deeper recognition of our shared hometown culture. We prepared this publication as a step forward toward the coming century.

Deepening recognition of our own place in history also fosters respect for our neighbors' cultures and histories, bringing the first step in establishing a society of mutual esteem. To realize this, each of us might need to find a new conceptualization through reference to our ancestors' wisdom.

This is the popular edition of THE HISTORY OF FUSSA CITY (First and Second volumes), which was formerly issued in two volumes. This single-volume version is published to further popularize THE HISTORY OF FUSSA CITY and for our readers to make more practical use of its content. We edited the content to increase its accessibility while maintaining academic acceptance and adding further to its compilation of historical material. We hope our readers will understand our hometown more deeply and consider the most desirable future for Fussa.

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