

Abstract

The Cherry Blossom has been closely linked to Japanese culture and lifestyle with a long-standing history from the culture of viewing cherry blossom of aristocrats in the Heian period. Due to the typical passion in nature of Japanese people, images of cherry blossom are portrayed in many novels and poems since ancient times, for example, Kojiki; records of ancient matters, and the Japanese poems of Kokinwaka Shuu and Man Youshuu. The Edo period was considered as an upper class cultural period that extended to the townspeople. The popularity of viewing cherry blossom was widespread among the Edo people. In addition, images of cherry blossom were composed in the literature of townspeople, for instance; Japanese poetry of Haiku.

Haiku was a very popular poetry during the Edo period that consists of short structures, and concise words that are hidden with symbolic language and words expressing seasons. The distinct features mentioned of Haiku are important fundamentals of poetry to be able to deliver experiences, nature, and emotion precisely. The renowned poet of Haiku in the Edo period is Matsuo Basho.

Cherry Blossom of Haiku poetry of Matsuo Basho's Work aims to study the literature of Matsuo Basho's Haiku and to study the meaning and images of cherry blossom of Matsuo Basho's Haiku. The relationship between cherry blossom and Japanese culture in the Edo period has been found in poetry.

According to the study, in Matsuo Basho's Haiku, the cherry blossom reflects the brightness which is the symbol of the beginning, uncertainty, feelings and passion in the beauty of cherry blossom. Moreover, the way of life in relation to the cherry blossom of Edo townspeople and the ancient warriors is indifferent to the present time.