



Introducing Meigetsu-in

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The Meigetsu-in is a small temple in the city of Kamakura, which is located close to Tokyo.

Kamakura was the political center during the Kamakura Period (1185-1333). It flourished at this time, and many temples were built that directly influenced the temples in Kyoto. Many of these temples still exist today!

Meigetsu-in belongs to the Kenchō-ji Rinzai Zen school, and the main object of worship is Shō Kannon.

The most important national treasure of Meigetsu-in is a statue of Uesugi Shigefusa from the 13th century.

HISTORY OF MEIGETSU-IN

With Meigetsu-in, as with many Japanese temples, even though we have hints in historical books, we don't know everything for sure. Especially since there were several temples established before the final Meigetsu-in was founded.

① Shō Kannon, also called Avalokiteśvara, is known as "The Lord Who Looks Down" (Lord of the World). In India, it is a male bodhisattva, but in East Asian Buddhism, it is depicted as a female deity of compassion.