

# Juro Soga Suzuri-Mizu-no-Ike (Ink Stone Water Pond)

According to the legend, the pond was created by water that gushed out from the ground when Goro aggressively stomped it looking for water to drink. Goro was the younger of the Soga brothers who were samurai in the early Kamakura period, known for the “Revenge of the Soga Brothers” incident.

Torajo, a courtesan at an Oiso inn, was born in Yamashita, Hiratsuka. She was famous as the most beautiful woman in town. She was the lover of Juro, the elder of the Soga brothers. It is said that Juro used the pond water on his ink stone for his writing brush when spelling out thoughts in his love letters to Torajo.

Juro was killed in the Soga brothers’ revenge. Torajo placed a Jizo Bodhisattva deity statue in Yamashita and spent the rest of her life praying for Juro’s soul to rest in peace.