

A STUDY ON THE LOCALITY AND THE IMAGES OF TSUNAMI AFFECTED AREAS
A CASE STUDY OF RIKUZENTAKATA, IWATE PREFECTURE

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[SYNOPSIS]

Eight years had passed since the big earthquake and Tsunami hit Rikuzentakata City, Iwate Prefecture. The City of Rikuzentakata suffered great damage from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami of March 11, 2011, with 1556 citizens declared dead and 203 missing, as well as immense damage to land and infrastructure.

Now Rikuzentakata has been planning a new town. Heavy equipment is being deployed to pave millions of tons of soil brought from higher ground to elevate the city's coastal area by as much as 12 meters.

On September 2018, city declared "Machibiraki Matsuri", it means opening a new town, and held an event such as ceremonies and festivals.

As the result of the literature survey of travel guides, Rikuzentakata had became a beautiful green resort town on 2002. Moreover, "Takata matsubara" is appering on almost all the guidebooks until the disaster. In response to the policies of Rikuzentakata City, it is clear that the highlight of the people is recreation centered on Matsubara in Takada, and that the restaurants around it were the best tourist attraction.

Currently, a new roadside station is under construction. It is featured that tourism will be divided from "town", where people live. Rikuzentakata used to be a quite compact town. It is important to draw a plan to aim at the connenction between living area and touristic area.