昭和47(1972)年12月21日指定 管理者 船橋市漁業協同組合

## 大仏追善供養

船橋の海は、江戸時代初めころから半ば近くにかけて幕府に魚介を献上 する、「御菜浦」とされた好漁場でした。

文政7(1824)年、船橋村と猫実村(現在の浦安市)との漁場の境界を巡る争いが続いていた時、船橋漁師の占有漁場に他村漁師の船が侵入してきました。その中に、一橋家の幟を立てた船があり、乗っていた侍を船橋の漁師が殴打し、幟を奪ってしまいました。大きな事件であったことから、船橋の漁師総代3名が入牢させられました。1名は牢死し、1名は牢を出て間もなく死亡しました。そのため、延享3(1746)年の津波による溺死者と、漁場を守り死んでいった漁師総代の供養をあわせて行うようになったのです。

大仏追善供養は事件の翌年の文政8(1825)年以来、毎年1月28日(明治 以降は2月28日)に行われるようになりました。本来この大仏は、津波によって 溺死した漁師や住民の供養のため、延享3年に建立された石造釈迦如来坐 像です。供養の日には、炊き上げた白米の飯を大仏に盛り上げるようにつけ ます。これは牢内で食が乏しかった苦労をなぐさめるためといわれています。 大仏の西側には漁師総代2名の供養碑が建てられています。

船橋市教育委員会

City-Designated Cultural Properties (Intangible / Folk-culture)

Date of Designation: December 21,1972 (Showa 47)

Administrator: Funahashi City Fisheries Organization

## The Requiem Mass at the Great Statue of Buddha

From the early to late Edo period, the fishing grounds of Funabashi were known as "Osaino-ura" which roughly translates to "Inlet of Food." Fish caught in this area (later in cash after 1703 (Genroku 16)) were articled to the Japanese Feudal Government during the Tokugawa (Edo) Shogunate Period. This area was the cause of many conflicts over the fishing rights among the neighboring villages like Horie, Nekozane, Yatsu and Saginuma.

In 1824 (Bunsei 7), when quarreling over the property line with Nekozane (now in Urayasu City) was taking place, fishing boats from the other villages invadad the fishing territory of Funabashi, and among them was a boat of samurai warriors hoisting the battle standard of the Hitotsubashi family of the Tokugawas. Fishermen from Funabashi beat samurai and even stole the official flag standard. Among the Funabashi fishermen involved, three representatives were imprisoned for fighting such a prestigious Shogunate family. Among those three, one died in prison and another followed shortly after that. The following year, 1825, local people started holding a requiem mass at the big seated stone Śākyamuni Buddha, originally installed in 1746 (Enkyō 3) in memory of the victims of tsunami, now to honor the three fishermen of the incident as well. The annually held mass continues even today. On the day of the memorial, now on February 28, cooked rice is pasted on the face and body of the big Buddha statue there, in compensation for the men who ate very poorly in prison. The tombstones of the two executed can be found on the west side of the Buddha.

Funabashi City Board of Education

