

At Shiba region of Sakamoto, Shiba tourism plantation committee and outside - village volunteers get together at the end and beginning of the year, and dedicate themselves to the work to peel off the skin of paper mulberry. Paper mulberry is the raw material of Hosokawa traditional Japanese paper, the production technique of which was registered as an intangible cultural heritage at Unesco in the year 2014. At Shiba region, the plantation was started with 2000 mulberry tree seedlings about 25 years ago. The paper mulberry was dispatched to Washi-no-Sato. At that time late Mr. Takano Teizo, managing director, proposed "Why don't you engage in peeling off mulberry, as I will provide you with the tools we used in Washi-no-Sato?" This work started 21 years ago. The big caldron, which boils the mulberry dispatched by Washi-no-Sato, is still in use. The predecessor's ambition is succeeded. "We dedicate ourselves to the production with our sense of mission not to distinguish the light of Hosokawa paper. We continue our helping activities to keep our traditon" : said Mr. Tanaka Hisashi our committee chief. The supporting power to protect Hosokawa paper of Higashi-Chichibumura is their affection to act to keep the tradition.