Weather in Japan \sim *Akibare* (autumn sunshine) \sim

Fair weather in autumn is called *Aki-bare* (autumn sunshine). In autumn, moving high pressure systems from continents brings cool dry air to areas near Japan, making the weather clear and breezy. However, these high pressure systems move so quickly that *Aki-bare* only lasts two or three days.

A custom that utilizes *Aki-bare* is *mushi-boshi*, meaning 'airing out clothes.' *Mushi-boshi* removes moisture from clothes, paintings, furniture and other items, and involves removing these things from their usual places and airing them out in order to prevent mold and insect damage. This custom is typical to Japan, a country with high humidity. In olden times, this was called *baku-ryo*, and temples would exhibit *baku-ryo-ten* each year during this time where they combined opening their normally private collection of treasures to the public and airing out of those treasures.

Aki-bare is also closely connected to Japanese sake. *Akibare suru* means sake that is extracted in spring and matures throughout the summer becomes mild-tasting and turns into a refreshing drink in autumn.

にほん きしょう **日本の気象** ^{あきば} ~ **『秋晴れ』** ~

すことが かま せいてん 文字通り秋の晴天のことを「秋ば 」と言います。秋は、大陸 文字通り秋の晴天のことを「秋晴れ」と言います。秋は、大陸 からの移動性高気圧が低温で乾燥した空気を日本付近に運んでくるため、澄み渡ったさわやかな天気となります。ただ、この こうきかっ うご はな かきば こので 秋晴れは2~3日しか続きません。

また、「秋晴れ」は日本酒とも深い関わりがあります。春に搾られたお酒が夏を越して熟成が進み、秋にまろやかな味わいとなり、すっきりとした飲み口に変わることを「秋晴れする」と言います。