

Standing Statue of Sho Kannon Bosatsu (Sacred Avalokitesvara)

This is Tanoue Kannon-do Hall's principal image.

Carved out of one piece of wood, the statue's overall height is 67.5 cm.

There is a legend about this Buddhist image.

"In the times when there circulated the superstition that any land will be blessed with prosperity and happiness if there is enshrined in it a Buddhist statue that has been sculpted by a noted monk, a certain person carrying a Buddhist statue from Hida Province came to the village of Tanoue, and asked for lodging for one night, but when about to set off the next morning, the statue suddenly became very heavy as though stuck fast to the ground. Reluctantly the traveler left the statue behind where it stood, but left a message saying that this statue of Kannon Bosatsu is 'a masterpiece sculpture of the Gyoki Bosatsu that was the principal image of a certain great temple in Hida Province,' so, it is said, the local people discussed the matter and decided to build a hall in the current location and safely enshrined the statue."

Source: *Kiso-mura no Bunkazai Meguri* ("A Tour of Cultural Properties in Kiso Village")

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