References in Modern Japanese Literature

The venerable shrines and temples of Kamakura have inspired Japanese writers. Dating back to the emergence of modern Japanese literature in the Meiji era (1868–1912), novelists and poets have used the area as a setting in their books, and some have chosen to live and work there.

Kotokuin and its Great Buddha (Daibutsu) are featured in fiction, poetry, diaries, and essays. As these literary works clearly demonstrate, the Great Buddha is not only an object of religious devotion and a National Treasure, but is also regarded with love and affection in Japan.