**Tsunemasa Jinja Shrine**

This secluded shrine, located at the foot of Mount Takamikura, is associated with the Taira (also known as Heike) family, one of the four powerful clans that dominated Japan during the Heian, Kamakura, and Muromachi periods (794–1573).

One figure of note related to the shrine is Taira no Kiyomori (1118–1181), a warrior-class leader who set up the country’s first samurai-dominated administrative government.

Kiyomori’s nephew, Taira no Norimasa (dates unknown), a court noble during the middle of the Heian period (754–1185), was a famous player of the *biwa* (Japanese lute). It is believed that he fled to the area after being defeated in battle and is enshrined at Tsunemasa Shrine.