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□ Fukushima sake wins intl award for 2018

LONDON (Jiji Press) — Okunomatsu Adataru Ginjo, sake produced in Fukushima Prefecture, has won the International Wine Challenge's Champion Sake award for 2018.

"We're in our 302nd year in business, and we've received such a big prize for the first time. We're deeply honored," said Joji Yusa, representative director of Okunomatsu Sake Brewery Co., the brewer of the sake.

"We suffer from bad rumors, but we'll produce good sake that will be enjoyed widely," Yusa said after an award ceremony in London on Tuesday night.

The prefecture still suffers from bad rumors about radiation seven years after the 2011 nuclear disaster at Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings Inc.'s Fukushima No. 1 power plant.

The International Wine Challenge in 2007 created the division of sake in its annual wine awards. This year, 1,639 brands entered the contest in the division.

The International Wine Challenge also gave Gekkeikan Tokusen the Great Value Champion Sake award and named Tohoku Meijo the Sake Brewer of the Year.

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