

## We say, 'Thank you very much!'

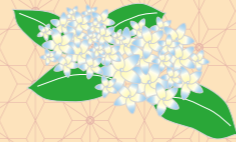
Concerning with the point-cards we sent together when we shipped items to our customers, we have got a lot of questions. So, we will explain about them. The benefits of point-cards

感謝

Three **3** cards = 10% off

Five **5** cards = free shipping

Seven **7** cards = Daimyo's original free-gift items



Let's collect them a lot. We are sorry to bother you, but please send back them to us by post.

Point-Cards Team

Daimyo Company Limited

Daiichi Katsuta Building 3F, 2-1, Kurihara-cho, Onomichi-City, Hiroshima,  
722-0022, Japan

When confirming point-cards which were returned to us, we will send a confirmation mail. We are going to present a privilege per an item to make a successful bid after the date when we sent the confirmation mail. We are seriously looking forward to sending back from all of our customers.

Notice: You can not get two privileges together per one item.  
: One benefit for one auction item that a bid is successful

## Our customers' feedback

### U.S.A J.P

I read top to bottom every word of page, I enjoy it all, and find it all very interesting, from history to the present adventures of your staff,

### U.S.A G.M

Thank you for the wonderful newsletter. They are always fun and educational. I like Tsuruhime story.

### New Zealand P.S

Also the prize I won from answering your quiz arrived, thank you it is fantastic, ema? I ask for good health and well being, and success in my adventures I also ask to remain humble and firm in my beliefs. The female armor of tsuruhime, is fantastic and the history of her life is very interesting indeed Also the history of horses and their place in ancient Japan, also very interesting, it is only a small change that can create a huge effect, as in warfare. Thank you again, excellent newsletter with interesting articles on history. In New Zealand are not so old as a country, so I find the history the most interesting. But also enjoy reading how these traditions and values are still practiced today. Thank you for the wonderful newsletter. They are always fun and educational. I like Tsuruhime story.

All of Daimyo staff,

We always appreciate for a lot of comments.

These two customers we published as above

We will deliver some picture cards and towels of Oyamazumi Shrine as presents.

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有限公司

大名

Homepage redesigned



We deliver

# 大和魂

Vol.6  
June 2015

### —The Philosophy of Daimyou Ltd.—

Under our slogan of 'We deliver the YAMATO DAMASHII', the Daimyo Ltd offers information about the Japanese history and antique goods and aims at guiding our customers to the old Japanese world by fulfilling our customers demands to antique gears.

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## I went rockfish fishing by fishing boat

Hello! This is Takako Shimatani. As usual, I went regular rockfish fishing by boat this year, too. I took 30-40 small rockfishes last year. But, I wanted to catch bigger ones a little. So, I asked a captain of fishing boat about this request.

Captain: 'This year, you need bigger fishes than last year. But, because today is windy, you might have some difficulties to get them. So, how about going to some neighbour fishing spots?'

All of us: 'Captain, Please!'

Same as the last year, it was Nakabori who had landed the first fish.

'Wow, wow! Is she the first angler to get a fish this year as well?'

Last year and again this year, she was the fastest fisherman.

I wanted to catch it especially this year and I was reluctant to drink beers and paid attention to fishing. But.....

'Frustrating!'. In this situation, I had no option except drinking a beer and began to grab it. In a moment, I had 'a strike' at the tip of the fishing rod. Yes, I got it! I got a fish!

I had a small long-awaited rockfish. After this bite, I had had several strikes and finally took five fishes in total. Between 9AM and 3PM, my group had been fishing. The person who fished most was Mrs. Nakabori this year, too.



'Yes, I got it finally!'



In the fishing boat to go back to the port,

Shimatani: 'Hi! Why do you engage in this job?'

Captain: 'The sea and fishes—I like both of them, and I also like to talk with anglers. What I like is my job. That is the very best.'

Shimatani: 'Sure, I can feel your attitudes to delight customers. For example, you bought this cup noodles for us because we might be starved. I feel it is the best. Thank you so much!'

My CEO surely looks vivid everyday because he treats the Japanese history and general armors, what he likes, as his job. This talk with the captain made me the feeling that I should share the happy atmosphere with our customers and create an enjoyable place to talk about the Japanese history and stock of knowledge with them.

At the port

Hanamoto: 'I would like to get more fishes.'

Captain: 'Yes, but because it is windy, I think you have got enough fishes. It is better. As I said last year, you can not get many fishes in this season. So, I advised you to go sillago fishing in summer.'

Hanamoto: 'I am completely unable to wait for the summer season. This sea calls me...'

Nakabori and Shimatani: 'We should wait absolutely until summer next year.'

In Shimatani's mind: 'Definitely, I wish to be the first angler with maximum fishes next year!'

After coming back

I cooked these fishes as Sashimi, sliced raw fishes, and Nitsuke, boiled with soy sauce. They tasted very good. The fishes caught by myself are very special.

Rockfish boiled with soy sauce. Very delicious.



[[cooked Sashimi, sliced raw fish.



The boat we were on board is Kazumaru Tourism

Kazumaru Tourism

Yoshiwa live fish center  
25-1, Shoutoku-cho, Onomichi-Shi, Hiroshima, Japan  
Mr. Shimatani in charge

Tel: 0848 23 4128





I am going to tell you about

# 大和魂

Yamatodamashii

I am Akemi Nakabori—the writer of this column. Thank you very much for reading this 'YAMATODASHI' constantly. As I have got much feedback from readers to talk about Japanese swords, I will tell you about the Gokaden (classification of Japanese swords) of Japanese swords as serialized columns since this article.



## The central regions of making Japanese swords

Japanese swords had been made before the Tumulus period in various areas. When we categorized old swords made until Azuchi-Momoyama period by styles and features, they were able to be divided to the five areas which were produced. Since these five areas also had plenty of material to produce swords, excellent sword makers had been appeared one by one and became central regions of making swords. It was generally called 'the Gokaden' Honamike, a Togi-shi (polisher) and judge of swords, named this Gokaden as 'the Rule'. Even in the Gokaden, Japanese swords are classified into periods, characteristics, used skills, etc and sorted out to various kinds of groups. Now, I am going to mention Bizenden, Okayama prefecture where is next to the prefecture I am now living.

Okayama	Bizenden
Nara	Yamatoden
Kyoto	Yamashiroden
Kanagawa	Soushuden
Gifu	Minoden



## The beginning of Bizenden

The swords at that time was: **Sharp swords** ➡ **hard** ➡ **easy to be broken**  
**Tough swords** ➡ **soft** ➡ **difficult to cut**

Okayama had a lot of essential material to make swords which was sharp and difficult to be broken—good quality iron sand, water, charcoal and so on. In these materials, swords made from Akome iron sand which contained many impurities and was hard to crumble had had some good reputation because they were hardly broken and very sharp. The Bizen area came to produce swords. There were many sword makers and they had flourished with accepting fashionable trends at that period. The swords between Heian period and the beginning of Kamakura period are called 'Kobizen Group'. Snenari (in the middle of Heian period), a sword maker, had a good skill and he was so famous. He often had been called with Tomonari, his son, by Emperor Ichijou, the 66th emperor, and got offers from the emperor to make his swords. That happening was the beginning of Bizen and this place was well-known. Many sword makers gathered here.

## Bizenden Osafune Group

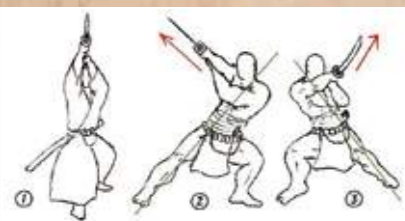
Mitsutada (in the middle of Kamakura period), a son of Chikatada (in Kamakura period) who joined Kobizen Group, had his workshop in Osabune, Oku-gun, Okayama.

That is the origin of Bizen Osafune Group. This group's products were very wonderful in appearance, shape and quality and had spectacular irregular patterns on swords. Nobunaga Oda allegedly liked Mitsutada's swords and had collected them. Nagamitsu (the end of Kamakura period), a son of Mitsutada, succeeded his father's superior technique and had produced a lot of well-known swords. In his swords, the works of Tachi-Daihannyanagamitsu was designated a national treasure. In Muromachi period, the price of sword created by a famous sword maker was about 100 kan. But this Daihannyanagamitsu was priced 600 kan (equivalent to 60,000,000 JPY at that time), which caused a big surprise. At the same period, Daihannya Kyo (the book of Sutra) had surprisingly 600 kan (volumes), which was also an astonished thing. Each sword and sutra had a shared feature: **600 kan=600 volumes**. So, this sword had the nickname of Daihannyanagamitsu. The owner of this sword had changed: Yoshimitsu Ashikaga (the 13th Shogun) → Nagayoshi Miyoshi → Nobunaga Oda → Ieyasu Tokugawa → Nobumasa Okudaira. Currently, Tokyo National Museum possesses it.



◆Daihannyanagamitsu

## The well-known Kojiro Sasaki also used a sword made by Osafune Group regularly

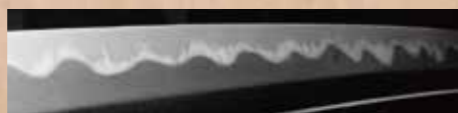


◆The picture of 'tsubamegaeshi'.

The Nodachi sword which Kojiro used in the duel at Ganryu-jima Island against Musashi Miyamoto was created by Nagamitsu. The length of this sword is said to over three shaku (about one meter) and it has a nickname of 'wash-line pole'. Though it was very long and even difficult to battle with, he was able to handle it. Moreover, he fought against Musashi Miyamoto with a swift method of using a sword, called 'tsubamegaeshi'.



◆Kojiro Sasaki



◆Bizen Sword

I suppose several sword makers who had produced a lot of excellent swords made desperate efforts. It was very honourable for a sword maker to get an offer from a man of high position to create a sword and he might have received a high reward. But if it had been a fragile, he might have had some possibilities to be killed. So he might have made massive efforts and training to make swords with his feeling like shortening his life. So, even now, these swords remain with beautiful figure. While they were weapons to kill someone before, they are currently recognized as works of art. I think that is the reason why there are many fans who love the Japanese swords in the world as well as in Japan. How about seeing the Japanese swords with thinking of sword makers' craftsmanship?

## Hanaemon's

# Make you Back in time

## Masamune Date



In this article, I will talk about Masamune Date, who was the origin of 'Date Otoko'. He was a fashionable and dynamic military commander called as Dokuganryu (one-eyed dragon).

※By the way, what is the meaning of 'Date Otoko'?

1. Especially showing manly spirit
2. Behaving flamboyantly like grabbing attention
3. A stylish man

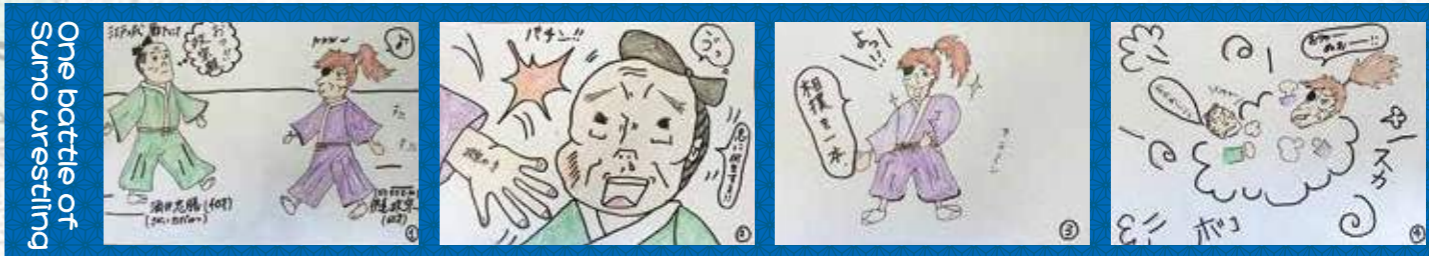
For example, the word of 'Date Megane' in the current era, glasses worn for show, comes from these meanings.

Masamune Date (1567-1636) was born in Yonezawa-Shi, Yamagata prefecture. All of his vassals recognized his talent and he succeeded to a house from his father, Terumune when he was 17 years old. Though he had a couple of defeats in wars, he got his territory to be able to raise nearly 1,500,000 koku of rice (1 koku = 150 kg or 330 lbs.) within only five years.

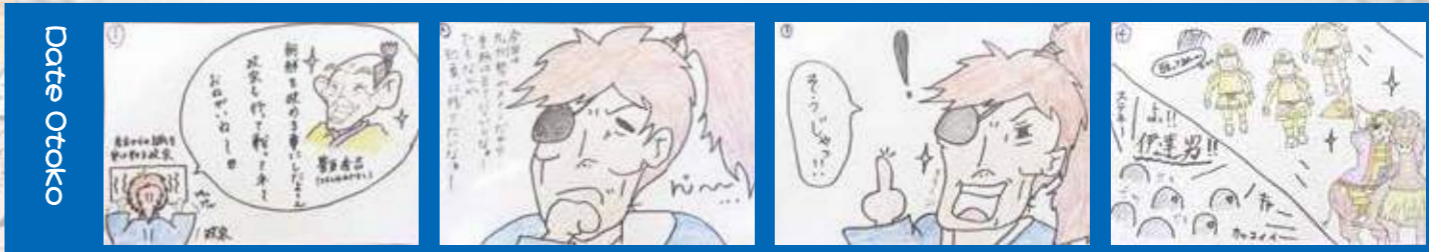


He ran into a stone wall when he was 23 years old. That was Hideyoshi Toyotomi who almost completed unification of the whole country. He received a request from Hideyoshi to join Hidesyohi's army because he would attack Houzyou, a big feudal lord in Kanto Region. But he declined with various kinds of excuses. He knew the number of Hideyoshi's soldiers and decided to take part in its army. He went to Hideyoshi's camp. When he visited there, he wore a general armor. He got a white coat worn over an armor, too. He had cut his hair. His appearance was like white clothing worn by the dead. In addition, he found that there was Sen No rikyuu, a master of the tea ceremony. He felt he might be killed and said, 'please give me some instructions about tea ceremony!'. Due to his desperate performance, Hideyoshi understood his interesting character and did not kill him. While his territory to grow rice was reduced to 720,000 koku, almost same as he succeeded to a house, he was given a general armor from Hidesyohi 😊.

Masamune left a lot of funny episodes. But we do not have enough space to introduce them. We make two four panel comics about his episodes. Please enjoy them.



Masamune, a Tozama daimyo (outside lords), was defeated by Tadakatsu Sakai, a Hereditary daimyo, in Sumo wrestling. But it is said that Masamune intentionally lost in this game because he wanted to entertain Sakai by Sakai's winning. But, in spite of the purpose to make Sakai happy, he slapped Sakai's face and tried to take Sumo wrestling. It really shows his unprecedented feature.



This story is the beginning of Date Otoko, a stylish man

## If Masamune Date had been born earlier than 15 years,

Masamune who had had vast territory in about five years since 17 years old would have invaded Tohoku Region without any problems. It is very easy to imagine.

After that expansion, Masamune might have fights against Kenshin Uesugi in Echigo, Shingen Takeda in Kai, Ujiyasu Hozyo in Sagami, Yoshishige Satake in Hitachi and so on. It is also interesting. Since Terumune, Masamune's father, had the alliance with Hozyo family, Masamune would have a joint military action with it and killed Satake. After this battle, he and Hozyo would have had fights together again and attacked Uesugi. Dokuganryu who was at odds with Shingen, the tiger in Kai Region, and interrupted Kenshin, the dragon in Echigo Region Uesugi as he was might have reached to the limit. But, the fact that Masamune's territory was too far away from Kyoto, the capital at that time, would have prevented him from unifying the whole country.

