

Do your stands on which you are decorating your important general armour and helmets have.

No wobble No wormhole?

The 'stands for general armour and helmets' which are available in our stores are not mass produced products made in foreign countries.

The 'stands for general armour and helmets' which are available in our stores are not mass produced products made in foreign countries.

Because our stands are made of cypress, which prevents from insects, germ and bad smell and deodorizes for the purpose of not giving damages by worm eating and so on to your important general armour and helmets.

Since cypress is not so rough on its surface, its touch is very smooth and gentle.

Moreover, we chamfer it. So, it is scratch-resistant. These products are created by craftsmen of Toiro Co., Ltd., who produces Fuchu furniture as well!!!



Limited to this time, we will give you \$20 discount if your say 'I have a look at your article of YAMATODAMASHII!' when you make an order of purchasing.

	fixed price	special offer
A stand for General armor	\$250	\$230
A stand for Helmets	\$150	\$130

(Tax and shipping fee included)



This special offer is till the end of February. Why don't you use this chance and exchange to new ones? I am looking forward to your order.

Mail : daimyou51@go6.enjoy.ne.jp
(Person in charge) Shimatani

The history of Fuchu furniture

In the Edo period, 'Enzo Uchiyama' got skills to produce wardrobes in Osaka, Japan and started to make them after coming back to his hometown. That is said to be the origin of Fuchu furniture.

After the World War II, he began to sell 'a furniture set for marriage' in Japan for the first time. Due to Japan's rapid economic growth, high-quality furniture was popular in Japan and 'a set of high-classed furniture for marriage' was sold like a wind. This Fuchu furniture made great progress.

The Fuchu furniture receives the first prize continuously in some domestic contests to compete technique of producing furniture. Its skilful products are highly evaluated in markets.

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How about this Yamatodamashii? We need your opinions and feedbacks more. We are waiting for them!

Please write as 'Sub: reply to the newsletter' and send it to us



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— The Philosophy of Daimyo Ltd. —

The Philosophy of Daimyo Company Limited.
Under our slogan of 'We deliver the YAMATODAMASHII', 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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For our customers, we wish your fully happy new year.

Happy New Year! This is Takashi Hanamoto. Thank you so much for your support last year, too. Under the slogan of Chinese letter, '固' (strong), making strong relationship with our clients, I have spent the last year. In 2017, this year, I set a new slogan of Chinese letter, '挑' (challenge) and am now thinking of having a lot of tries like what I have never ever done, something to resume and so on in order to make our clients much happier. Personally, I will overcome my mental weakness and tackle to reduce my weight which has been increased gradually every year. I'm looking forward to working with you this year as well.



挑

Happy New Year! This is Akemi Nakabori. As my slogan in this year, I use this Chinese letter, '前' (positive). 'I regard everything around me constructive and positive'. This is my target in this year. For example, 'I have no time' → 'I have no time because I am living to the fullest.' 'I am very busy' → 'My boss trusts me and give me difficult tasks'. 'I got chubby.' → 'Failure teaches success' :-). I will make these positive thinking like these and improve myself more than yesterday even though my improvement is not so big. I want to grow gradually day by day. I need to be able to publish our better 'YAMATODAMASHII' which gives joy to more readers than last year. If I can do it and grow up, I will be very happy. I will appreciate your continued cooperation this year.



前

Happy New Year! This is Takako Shimatani. As my slogan in this year, I use this Chinese letter, '共' (share). I want to share our private lives, questions about old Japanese antiques, etc. with our clients by sending 'We deliver 'YAMATODAMASHII!' more than last year steadily. And, my second daughter will enter an elementary school this spring as well. Though I guess I might have what make me worried about her, I will be happy if I cry, laugh and spend time together with her. My thoughts let me make a slogan as '共' (share). I hope your continued kind cooperation this year, too.



共

Hello! I am Takako Shimatani. I received a question from our customer, which said 'how Kogai of swords were used?'. Now, I am going to write about Kogai in this article.

The story about Yamatodamashii

大和魂

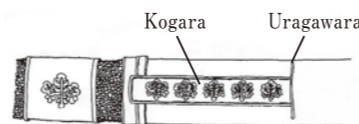
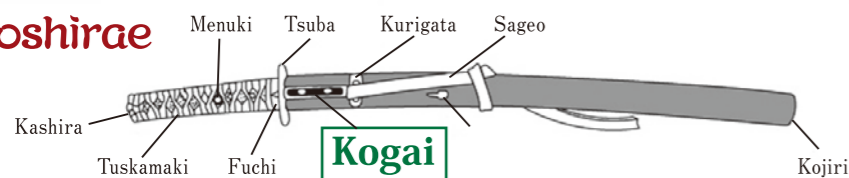
First of all, I think.....

Kogai, attached to **Koshirae**(mounting) of sword-do you know about it? Actually, there were various ways to use it! (Koshirae ----was a body protector from a sword when Samurai warriors wore swords.) In the Age of Civil Wars, people always came to put on **Jingasa**(ancient soldier's hats) or helmets on their heads. (Jingasa-I gave detailed description about it in 'We deliver 'YAMATODAMASHII' Vol11.) **Sakayaki** (shaved part of the forehead), one of chignons which was difficult to be stuffy when they put on helmets, was very popular. While they kept on wearing **Jingasa** for a long time, they felt very itchy on their heads as they thought.Kogai was used as a tool to scratch their heads in such a case. And they thought 'are there any ways to carry them somehow or other?' and became an attachment for swords.



Sakayaki

Koshirae

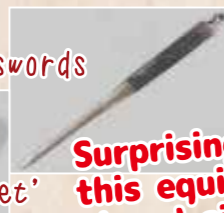


How many ways of usage does Kogai have?

- 1 Itching heads or/and grooming
- 2 A safety stopper-preventing swords from sheaths accidentally
- 3 Removing 'earwax'
- 4 Getting rid of 'calluses on feet'
- 5 Scoop medication from pill boxes

Moreover!

- 6 Substitutes for chopsticks when they ate-out.



Surprisingly, this equipment played six roles!



Warikogai (also said Sakikogai) divided into two pieces vertically.

It was very useful and one of decorative materials which was essential to bring swords.

Actually, I ate foods with Kogai.



I had some seaweed, one of my favourite foods. Since they were smaller and heavier than normal chopsticks, it was a little bit difficult for me to pick up foods. I thought it was so hard to use it for a long time.

Heavy.....



Eight sheets of seaweed. When I ate the last two sheets of them, my hands were shaken a little.

Such a way to use

Kogai

- There were some friendly and/or enemy soldiers that were fatally injured while they retreated in battles. In such cases, Kogai was used to give them as easy death as possible by stubbing arteries of ankles with it.
- After killing enemy in one-on-one combat, people used to stub enemy's ankles of bodies directly and leave Kogai with family crests. It was a signpost to show 'I am waiting for your revenge' as well.

Warikogai

When people had some deals, each had a piece of Warikogai. Each person confirmed by Warikogai whether his partner was a fake or not. It is said to be 'Warifu' (a certificate) as well.

How do you feel about it? I understood that Kogai was used as a hairpin at first. But I also knew that the way of its usage had been changed and became a useful multi-functioned knife afterwards. I also recognized that the shape of its edge was made for easiness to use it and the reason why this shape was created. I thought that equipments attached to a sword were, even if it was only one part, essential as well as decorative. If you say, 'I know another way of usage about Kogai', please tell me about it at any cost. I am looking forward your other opinion.



Hanaemon's

I am going to Make you Back in time



I am Hanaemon, who will become 33 years old in February, 2017. February is my birth month. So, I am going to make you back in time when successive rulers in history were 33 years old!

Successive rulers



1. **Kiyomori Taira** -a ruler who made the period that samurai ruled. The time was in 1151, the latter term of Heian period. Kiyomori Taira was 33 years old at that time. But it was when he was 50 years old, which was still later on, that he was appointed as Daijo-daijin (Grand Minister) at last and took power as Samurai for the first time.

When Kiyomori was 33 years old, there was no well-known happening which dared to mention. By Hogen Disturbance, he caught a chance to get important economic and military power rapidly for conquering the whole country. But the year when he was 33 old was five years ago of this accident. Well, it is very delicate. Then, let's go to a next ruler!



2. A princess of reversal-Yoritomo Minamoto

The time was in 1180, the end of Heian period.

Yoritomo: 'I am going to attack Heike who killed my father!'. His followers: 'Yeah!!!!'



After Yoshitomo, his father, lost against Kiyomori Taira, he was sent to Izu Province (Current Shizuoka prefecture) in his 14 years old. 19 years had passed and he stood for being down with Heike when he was 33 years old. That is the starting point of his success story, which means he eliminated Heike and established the Kamakura Shogunate. The year of 1192 is very common as the phrase of 'Iikuni Tsukuro Kamakura Bakufu (いい国つくろう鎌倉幕府)' for remembering the numerals of year in studying history as well. That year he was nominated as Seii Taishogun was 12 years later, when he was 45 years old.



3. A mysterious man to be divided in assessing what he had done-Takauji Ashikaga.

The time was in 1338, the later term of Kamakura period. A close associate to the emperor: 'I appoint Takauji as Seii Taishogun'. Takauji: 'I really appreciate your nomination!'

Mr. Takauji had already become a ruler when he was 33 years old. Substantially, Muromachi Shogunate had been allegedly established in 1336. However, he was appointed as Seii taishogun in 1338, two years after. His social standing of family and extraordinary military capability enabled him to get the position very swiftly.



Kamakura Shogunate with Takauji



Emperor Godaigo

Takauji won

Emperor Godaigo with Takauji



Kamakura Shogunate

Takauji won

Takauji



Emperor Godaigo

Takauji won



Zyodo-ji Temple

During the battle against emperors, Takauji ran away to Kyushu province temporarily. When he recovered his forces and went east, he visited the 'Zyodo-ji Temple' (Onomichi-shi, Hiroshima Prefecture) where was near my hometown in the middle of his way in order to pray for victory in battles. Since he rebelled emperors, he is said to be evaluated as rebels till after the World War II. 'Kiyomori', who was before his turning point in his life. 'Yoritomo', who had just stood for his family's restoration. 'Takauji', who had already been a ruler. They were same 33 years old. Even though they were in the process of same rulers at that time in Japanese history, don't you think they were interesting because of huge gap between them? It might be also interesting for you to compare your life with your favorite historical persons in same ages. In the next article, I am going to write about other three Samurai who were composed in the famous Haiku phrase of '.....hototogisu (ホトトギス/a little cuckoo)' when they were 33 years old.



The portrait of presumed Takauji Ashikaga (the collection of Zyodo-ji Temple)