

I find the Samurai in overseas!!

The 6th Edition!!

A comment from Mr.P



Accomplished!

Mr.P's seal in his job is 'Aoyama' (青山)

Now, making the hilt and sheaths



Before grinding

After grinding



I questioned Mr. P who engaged in 'grinding swords' and 'producing the fittings' (Koshirae).

Q1

Why did you think that you were going to grind a Japanese sword and make the fittings?



When I who I had no interest in Japanese and its history, either was eight years old, my grand mother took me to Spain. The shop I entered-I still remember, now-was very small and dusty. What were sold in the shop was spread without care. But, the only Japanese sword was decorated beautifully in a show case. It had grabbed my attention. That is the reason why I am doing this job. Even a fabulous sword will get rusty and be forgotten unless no care is taken. Even if a rusty sword gets repaired, 'the beauty of sword and its history will be continued as well'- I thought like this and I started to grind a sword. That is my feeling.

Q2

When did you kick off this job?

Now, I am 34 years old. But, I had already begun to grinded a replica of Japanese sword for training myself when I was 15 years old. In order to study the process of creating the hilt and sheaths with wood, I started to create some works to use wood as a material in my 19-year-old days. First of all, what I dreamed was to keep close to traditional ways of making the hilt and sheaths and complete them in order to be able to put a sword grinded beautifully in a sheath. I still have a lot of things to study. So, I am looking forward to my future.

I felt his hot passion in what he said. I really appreciate Mr. P.

I got his attentive attitude to his work. Thank you for sending many photos. From now on, I hope Mr. P will keep on grinding a sword for remaining Japanese swords and Japanese feelings even to futurity. We, the Daimyo, deliver messages about Japanese good history and antiques passionately so that we do not lose Mr.P.



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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We deliver

大和魂

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The Philosophy of Daimyou 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.

Greetings with One Chinese letter of this year

整
Sei



Though it has already been in February, Happy New Year! This is Takashi Hanamoto. Thank you so much for your support last year, too. Under the slogan of Chinese letter, '樂' (enjoyment), making my one year happy, I spent the last year. I think it was a really happy year! In 2019, I set a new slogan of Chinese letter, '整' (order). I am going to make various kinds of things in my office neat and to tidy what is now in chaos this year. I received a medical check up and its results were not so good. So, I will take care of my health and prevent from drinking eating too much. I'm looking forward to working with you this year as well.

How is your day? This is Takako Shimatani. Thank you for your supporting 'Daimyo' and 'We deliver YAMATODAMASHII'. This year, 2019, is my 12th year as a mother. At last, my eldest daughter will be a junior high school student in April. Raising children is not easy. I have had a lot of things to make me want to cry and/or run away. The eldest daughter who is at the height of puberty. The second daughter at her rebellious age. * I face my daughters seriously without avoiding her from now on as well. * Even though I confront some problems, I make efforts to seek for a solution. I expect I will be able to get more improvement as a mother with my children. So, I make a slogan as '向' (face). I hope your continued kind cooperation to Daimyo this year, too.



向
Kou

頼
Rai



Hello! This is Akemi Nakabori. I feel that the last year was going by fast. I was able to have a productive day. As my slogan in this year, I use this Chinese letter, '頼' (rely). * My companies rely on me more and more and they give me tasks without worries!! * I acknowledge what I fail to do by myself honestly and ask for supports to my colleagues. And I want to get my progress with my co-workers. * I fulfil customers' (your) requests with their easy minds. I will do my best to achieve these targets. I appreciate your continued cooperation in 2019 as well.

Hello! This is Akemi Nakabori. I got a question from a client: 'why did a short sword have various kinds of shapes?' I am going to talk about a short sword whose length of blade is fewer than 30.3 cm.



The original purpose

Till Heian Era, a short sword was used for cutting umbilical cord after thermal disinfection by holding a short sword over the fire. Afterwards, it was used for a ceremony like Genpuku (coming-of-age ceremony) as a tool to cut hair, a string for tying hair (Motorui), and so on.



Sasuga

(a sword for stubbing)

A main weapon for a soldier in Kamakura Era was Naginata (pole swords). When soldiers lost a weapon or failed to use Naginata in a rough-and-tumble combat, it was used as a sub weapon. Then, it became long and changed to a sword (Tachi).



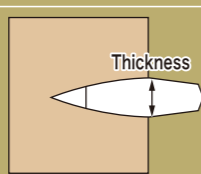
Yoroidoshi

(a short sword penetrating general armour)

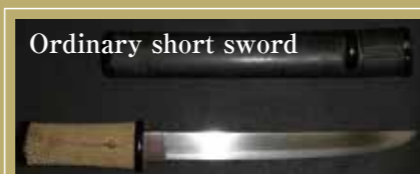
The feature of Yoroidoshi is the extraordinary wide thickness of blade and its edge is narrow. And its stalk is loner than a blade. At the end of Kamakura Period, the number of battles using sword was increased. The main stream of combat was close combat. In order to be able to penetrate over armour, the length of blade in Yoroidoshi was short and the thickness of blade in it was wide. Yoroidoshi was produced solidly and toughly. Yoroidoshi was a killer weapon to stab between armour's protectors. Yoroidoshi was used for cutting enemy's head off as well.



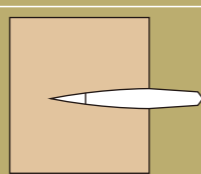
Yoroidoshi



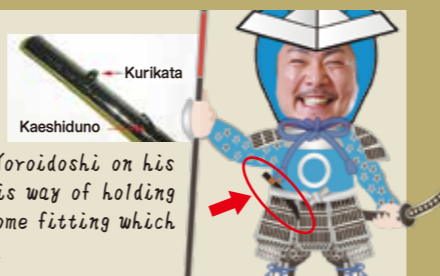
Thickness



Ordinary short sword



By the way, a Samurai warrior wore an ordinary sword on his left waist. But, he wore Yoroidoshi on his right waist. Because, while he scuffled with an enemy, he might be stabbed contrary in case that he had been taken a sword from a sheath by an enemy he held down. So, he held an enemy down with his left hand and he needed to get Yoroidoshi with his right hand. For this purpose, he wore Yoroidoshi on his right waist. Since a Samurai warrior usually led a horse with his right hand, this way of holding Yoroidoshi is called 'Metazashi' (holding a sword for a horse battle). There is some fitting which kept a 'Kurikata' and 'Kaeshiduno' as parts of a sword knot holder in reverse.



A dagger

(Kaiken, Futokorogatana)

A dagger is small and has a short blade. A special fitting for a dagger (Aikuchi Koshirae) is mainly used. It is a weapon for self-protection in event of being attacked surprisingly at the places where using a sword was prohibited like in narrow indoor spaces, the palaces and so on. Regardless of gender, it was held in holders inside pocket or belt. It has no hand guard in order not to make it an obstacle in one's inside pocket.



Osoraku workmanship

A bizarre short sword whose length of blade was more than the half of length of sword. 'Sukemune', a swordsmith who belonged to Shimada Group living in Suruga (Shizuoka Prefecture) in 1560 (approximately), produced the short sword and it was well-known as Shingen Takeda's 'Metazashi' (a sword for a horse battle). It has a carving of 'Osoraku' (おそろく) on its surface of blade. It is the origin of nickname 'Osoraku workmanship.' Probably, nothing like this sword may exist. 'A horrible short sword' - There were many opinions about the origin of nickname.



Osoraku

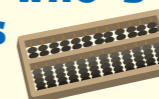
Previously, I thought a sword with a short blade was 'a short sword'. After I researched about it, the workmanship of 'fittings' and 'blade' changed according to the purpose of using a short sword. It surprised me. And a short sword was presented as 'a sword for the safety' as preventing from diseases and disasters in giving birth, marriage, etc. Medium length swords and swords seem to be strong. But, why a short sword? Because many people were saved their lives by a short sword, a final weapon. In a life-or-death battle, a blade of sword had been broken and a Samurai warrior recognized his death. However, some Samurai warriors stabbed his short sword to an enemy feverishly and saved their lives. So, I suppose a short sword came to call 'a sword for the safety'. What do you feel about it? I am very happy to hear your suggestions, advices and so on. Seeing a short sword, why don't you make you back in time? I am looking forward to your opinions.



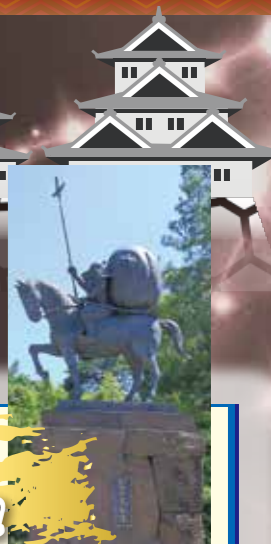
I am going to make you back in the times!

Hello! I received a request from a client. So I am going to make you back in the times of this man

A good calculator who's another name was 'Yari no Mataza'



Toshiie 1539-1599
前田 利家 Maeda



A go-go Kabuki-mono a man who had a strange acts and clothes

Nobunaga Oda as Kosho-a pageboy. At that time, Toshiie was allegedly hot-tempered, easy to anger and wore outstanding clothes like girly outfits. When Toshiie was 16 years old, he had a coming-of-age ceremony. In his first combat, Toshiie held a 6.3 meter-long spear and charged first. Toshiie was the first to take the enemy's head. Toshiie had made successful results in the battle. In the other battle after three years, Toshiie defeated the enemy and showed his brilliant activity even though he had been penetrated under his right eye with an arrow. Around this time, it is said that he was called as 'Yari no Mataza'



Toshiie was still stabbed with the arrow in Kubikenbun- checking the enemy heads, brought by Samurai warriors after a battle, for granting appropriate rewards. Some people say Toshiie might have been blind in one eye.

Toshiie was named as 'KECHI' (stingy)

After that, Toshiie had had a lot of success in his career. Toshiie was selected as a head of the Aka horo shu (elite bodyguard unit under immediate control of Nobunaga). Toshiie had exceedingly smooth sailing in his lifetime at that moment. But a certain accident forced him to spend two years as a masterless Samurai. Due to his poor life in the two years, Toshiie used to tell, 'if you have money anyway, you do not feel the society and people not so scared as well. But, if you do not have any money, you feel the society frightened. One day, a castle Toshiie controlled got attacked by the enemy and Toshiie needed to send some troops to the castle. But Toshiie got into trouble of no soldiers. Then, Matsu, Toshiie's wife, threw some gold and silver toward Toshiie with the words as below; 'You had a lot of property, gold and silver. If you hired many Samurai warriors in peacetime, such a situation would never been happened, wouldn't you!'. This small episode is remained.



Toshiie had had a lot of hardship since his younger days. So, Toshiie used an abacus which had been just imported from an overseas country at that time and made efforts to store money. Toshiie collected information about market prices of rice, invested his property he had accumulated and increased his assets.



Toshiie got a nickname as a stingy man. But when Hojo family was ruined, Toshiie appointed many excellent men who had served Hojo family as retainers.

Afterwards, Toshiie lent money to even military commanders and feudal lords who were stuck for money. In his later days, Toshiie told his sons and retainers, 'please do not press for payment of a debt I lent. You should treat the debt owned by those who support the Maeda family and by people who fail to clear away as nothing. Toshiie did not only intend to accumulate wealth but invested enough funds to the places where his investment was required. I have a lot of thing to study from Toshiie as a manager.