

Feedbacks from our customers



I was really looking forward the articles about the blade patterns. I found the sword of Tsumadamaru at the scene of sword shop during the play of Botan Dr aired in NHK's Jidaigeki drama last year. I felt my style to enjoy a Jidaigeki drama had changed a little in myself. I got a short sword created by Tadayoshi. It is said that the sword belonged to a famous family of the Kishu Clan. The case of it has a method of lacquering, called mother-of-pearl work. Its hilt is covered with baleen. Though it was very rare as the short sword created by Tadayoshi, the blade pattern of this short sword is very beautiful like a cloud, like the blade pattern of Jyukachoji rather than Gunome. I have a sleep hiding this sword under my pillow. I can sleep well.

I am very happy to hear the article of 'I am going to talk about YAMATODAMASHII' is your favourite. You look at shops and/or goods appeared in dramas, which means you may find some ways to enjoy other things as well as the story of Jidaigeki drama. Actually, I also feel 'oh, I am disappointed...' when I watch some Jidaigeki dramas and find armour used in the drama is a replica. I have heard the story that a sword has a soul and the sword selects its owner. You said, 'I have a sleep hiding this sword under my pillow. I can sleep well.' That means it is very pleasant for the short sword produced by Tadayoshi to stay with you. It is excellent! . Though how to extract baleen like thread is not transmitted to posterity, the hilt wrapped with baleen seems very rare. I expect you will spend a time together with it as a sword for protection. Thank you for your outstanding comment!



Shimatani

For the first time, I got your newsletter! 'YAMATODAMASHII' is interesting. I received the newsletter Vol.39. The article of blade patterns is very marvellous. I need some back issues of the newsletter. Could I get each one from Vol.33? I am going to pay for shipping.

Thank you for your newsletters. I expect you will describe how 'the sword' was used in actual battles in each period?

Thank you very much for your favour to 'I am going to talk about YAMATODAMASHII' and request to read previous articles. I am likely to send the back issues of newsletters. Please enjoy them. I hope this newsletter will make you happy. I am going to write some stories to satisfy you after your reading from now on. Please have your high expectation to us.

Thank you for your feedback. I am going to research and write about it. I hope your continuous support from now on as well.



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 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 this year



Happy New Year! This is Takashi Hanamoto. Thank you so much for your support last year, too. I would like to make the slogan of Chinese letter, '出' (out) in 2021. Due to the spread of COVID-19, I was unable to go to various places I wanted to visit last year. I am likely to go out and visit places I need to head this year. And I need to get a lot of information out of many stakeholders in order to increase all of feeling of happiness as well as customer and employee satisfaction. I'm looking forward to working with you this year as well.



Happ New Year! This is Takako Shimatani I hope your continued kind cooperation to Daimyo this year, too. My slogan using a Chinese letter in 2021 is '勝' (Win). It is my third year this year since I was appointed as a manager of local kickball game. My team has a lot of players who are in the upper grades of elementary schools. So, the team sets a target to be a winner of championship. I am going to win against my weakness to have a tendency to say, 'it is difficult' and/or 'I might fail to do it.' this year as well. I am likely to make efforts not to use negative words.



Hello! This is Akemi Nakabori. I hope you will keep your continuous support in 2021 as well. My slogan expressed in a Chinese letter this year is '敬' (respect). The virus of COVID-19 robbed my ordinary lives. I found the very normal life was really happy again. While I have shown appreciation to others, I think I have had little respect from my heart. I will set my goal of this year to respect all of the things this year. Since I am not good at using respect language, I want to study it. If you feel my respect language is weird, I hope you will treat it as my attractiveness. I am looking forward to your long-term support this year as well.



Hello! This is Akemi Nakabori. I am likely to describe 'a spear' in this newsletter as well.



The origin was from a stone spear



A stone spear

People sharpened the edge of stone in the Jomon or Yayoi period. A stone spear was used in order to put an end to the lives of animals which had fallen into a pit.

The reason why a spear was mainly used

When big battles happened often in the Period of the Northern and Southern

Courts, using a spear which did not need any training to utilize like a sword and/or arrow became the main stream. It was very easy for a soldier to handle a spear like 'hitting', 'stabbing' and 'sweeping'. The squads of foot soldiers with spears came to increase. These squads with spears were mostly used since Muromachi Period when, 'Karadachi-Sen', an infantry action, became common. The first group to charge the enemy in battlefields was the soldiers with spears. The strength of this group directly connected the evaluation of army military commanders led. What the squads of soldiers with spears did at that time were 'hitting', not 'stabbing' unexpectedly. These soldiers had long spears whose length were about 6.4 meter. They hit the heads and bodies of enemy soldiers. The impact was tremendously strong. It allegedly had ten times stronger than the impact of 'stabbing'. Another strategy using the soldier teams with spears was developed, which was 'Yaribusuma'. The tops of spears were faced toward the enemy in front of defence lines. The groups of soldiers with spears were settled without making any spaces. This Yaribusuma prevented from being invaded by the enemy cavalry and this strategy was standard in Sengoku Period.



'Kikuchi's thousands spears'-the troops of 1,000 soldiers with spears win against the enemy of 3,000 soldiers!?

'Takeshige Kikuchi' attached short swords at the edges of bamboo and used as a weapon 'at the Battle of Hakone and Takenoshita in 1336.' It is said to be the beginning of this weapon. Kikuchi's Army of 1,000 soldiers commanded by Takeshige had surrounded by Ashikaga's Army which had 3,000 soldiers. Takeshige had a quick wit and ordered his men to cut trees of bamboo grown around his troops and attached short swords to the bamboo trees. When the enemy commenced the attack, Takeshige gave his soldiers an order to stab the spears made of bamboo and short swords all together.



This is allegedly the start of 'Yaribusuma' This tactic got a great success. Takeshige made the Enju swordsmith create similar spears after he came back to Kikuchi (currently Kyushu). These spears came to be called 'Kikuchi's thousands spears' The short swords used for the edge of spears have two patterns of length -about 18 cm and 30cm. The long swords whose length were 30 cm were called 'Kazutori'. Commanders had them. Using different short swords in length enabled soldiers to distinguish rank at first glance.



The features	1 The single-edged sword because the short sword is used as a blade.	3 The Habaki-moto has Hamachi and Munemachi same as a sword.	4 The thickness of blade is thin. The layers of steel are thick.
	2 The point of sword is Unokubi-zukuri (Neck of cormorant style) which have no Yokote.		5 The stem of blade is as long as that of spear. But the width of blade is as wide as that of sword.

This is the very spear in order to be developed for battle! At first, I thought a spear played a role of supporting in battlefields. But I finally found that it was impossible to win without a spear. In the end of Edo Period, these spears were renovated because they were related to the Period of the Northern and Southern Courts. After Meiji period, naval officers had them as their short swords. This trend seemed to be fashionable. Kikuchi Spear was very practical because it can be used as a short sword and as a spear, too. I am going to write about a spear in the next column as well.



Hanaemon's **I am going to make you back in times!**

In the previous article, I mentioned Yukichi Fukuzawas whose face is used as the design of current Japanese 10,000 JPY banknote. In this article, I am going to make you **back in time** about a man whose face will be designed for the new Japanese 10,000 JPY banknote which will be updated in 2024 fiscal year.

Eiichi had reportedly founded and operated 500 firms in his life. These companies were as below; The first National Bank (current Mizuho Bank) Tokyo Marine and Fire Insurance Company (current Tokyo Marine & Nichido Fire Insurance) Tokyo Stock Exchange Kirin Beer (current Kirin Holdings Company) Sapporo Beer (current Sapporo Holdings Limited), etc. They are so various kinds of companies which are concerned with our daily lives. Then the total number of educational and social business Eiichi involved in is said to be over 600.

The Father of Japanese capitalism

Eiichi 渋沢栄一
Shibusawa
(1840 - 1931)



From Sonno Joi ha (a supporter of the doctrine of restoring the emperor and expelling the barbarians) to a shogunate retainer

Eiichi was born at current Fukaya-shi, Saitama Prefecture, as the eldest son of wealthy farmer. Because he had rich parents, Eiichi had learnt various kinds of studies since he was little. Eiichi also learnt Shindō Munen-ryū, an art of swordsmanship. When he was 19 years old, Eiichi went to Edo, became a pupil of Hokushin Ittō-ryū, another art of swordsmanship, and came to make a close contact with many loyal supporters of the Emperor. When he was 23 years old, Eiichi planned to capture Takasaki Castle-currently settled at Takasaki-shi, Gunma Prefecture- and overthrow the shogunate in Japan. Thanks to the persuasion by Eiichi's cousin as well, this plan had been suspended. After that, Eiichi was disinherited by his father. Then, Eiichi headed for Kyoto. In addition, the political change on August 18 1863 made a lot of loyal supporters of the Emperor went down. Because of these accidents, Eiichi was unable to take action as a supporter of the Emperor. By the recommendation of vassal served in Hitotsubashi Family with whom Eiichi had had some close relationship, Eiichi was appointed as a man of Yoshiki Hitotsubashi (the 15th Shogun of the Edo Shogunate later). Yoshiki took office as the Shogun and Eiichi became a shogunate retainer. Eiichi had served Yoshiki till the Meiji Restoration.



Not for the private, But for the nation

Eiichi had involved in founding many firms. We guess Eiichi must have become a millionaire and made financial combines. But it was not the case. Before the World War in Japan, the financial groups like Mitsui, Mitsubishi and so on had prospered. Most of them were naturally private companies, not public companies. Eiichi considered being invested by many people widely was significant. Eiichi was said to have a couple of ownership rate. When a firm Eiichi involved in began to show growth curve, Eiichi found and move to another business and/or company to make them flourish. Peter Drucker, an economist, reportedly said, 'as for the CSR Management, there is no one to compare to Eiichi Shibusawa. He saw though the truth that the nature of management was simply responsibility earlier than anyone else in the world'.

The development of technology enables his face to use as a design of new banknote

Eiichi as a business person to represent Japan was nominated as a candidate of portrait for new banknotes. At that time, those who had a beard was used as a design of banknote in order to prevent from counterfeiting. Due to the development of technology in recent years, females who have no beard came to be selected as well. By the way, the first head of bill bureau, current printing bureau which takes charge of printing banknotes, was Eiichi Shibusawa.



Best regards This year, too



Eiichi Shibusawa is a hero of large-scale, long-running TV series (esp. of period pieces produced by NHK) which will begin in February 2021. You can see various characters of Eiichi Shibusawa in it as well. I am looking forward to which kinds of episode Eiichi had. In Eiichi's words, 'each person has a destiny. To live with enjoying its destiny is the first consideration to get on in life.' Same as the last year, I think the year of 2021 will have a lot of effects from COVID-19 as well. Thinking about the meaning of living in these times, I hope I will be able to have a happy time with my customers, employees and family members this year. I expect your continuous support this year, too.