

We sent the post cards

There are a large number of overseas customers who are unable to visit Japan. We wanted them to feel the Japanese atmosphere as much as possible. Then, Daimyo posted the postcards of 'Japanese Castle'. We have received a lot of feedbacks. Thank you so much! Now, though we are now in unforeseeable situation, we hope we can overcome these tough circumstances together. After the end of this pandemic caused by Covid-19, we are very happy to receive your visit to Japan and Daimyo our company's office.



I was so surprised at your postcard. I am very delighted to get it. I really appreciate it.

We are joyful to hear that you decorate it. When the pandemic ends, please come to Japan and see me.



Thanks a lot! It is very amazing for me to get the postcard. So, I put it at the place where I can see whenever I want to see it.

We are very glad that you are very pleasant to get the postcard. After the end of this pandemic, please come to see the real Japanese castle at any cost.



Your postcard surprised me happily. How about this my photo? Your postcard is a part of my diorama. Don't you think it amazing?

Sure! It is sooo cool! The castle fits as a part of the streets. The postcard made you happy! We are happy, too.



Thank you so much for your excellent postcard designed the Castle. I made this decoration with the postcard. What do you feel?

It is very suitable for the flower stand. So, cool! We are very pleased because the postcard made you happy.

YAMATODAMASHII'S NEWS

Since June, 1st, 2021, the EMS services to the US will be resumed! Because of the pandemic of Covid-19, we were unable to use air freight services. So, we have sent what customers bought by ship. But we can ship swords by EMS. (Postal fees are relatively more expensive than usual).

We have some areas where we are still unable to dispatch our goods. But we will deliver our amazing Japanese antique goods to all of our customers in the world under the slogan of 'we deliver YAMATODAMASHII' without being defeated by Covid-19.

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.



Hello! This is Takako Shimatani. How are you going? The Shimatani family plays The Game of Life, cards, Jenga and Othello with my children. Because all of us hate to lose, our looks change when it comes to playing games. Though you may say I am childish, I play the boardgames seriously! My third daughter asked me a couple of days ago, 'Did people in old times used to play The Game of Life as well?'. I was not sure about its clear answer and failed to solve her question. Currently, we have 'The Game of Life', 'Momotaro(the peach boy) Dentetsu(the video game)' and so on. Did people in old times have 'Sugoroku (Japanese backgammon)' like now over 300 years ago?

What is 'Sugoroku'?

Sugoroku was brought from China in the 7th Century (Asuka Period) approximately. The maximum pip of dice played in Sugoroku was six(六/Roku). Sugoroku used two dices. So, by using two dices, the word of Sugo (双/both dices) Roku (六/the pip of six) is said to be used. The origin of Sugoroku was called 'Ban Sugoroku'. Afterward, it changed to 'E Sugoroku' (picture Sugoroku) which was made in Japan originally. 'E Sugoroku' was created reportedly for not only for entertainment but also for telling morals and lessons.

'Japan produced the picture Sugoroku. Don't you feel it great? What was that?'



My second daughter



'Did people in old times used to play The Game of Life as well?'



My third daughter

Dochu Sugoroku (Mawari Sugoroku)

Sugoroku traveling from Edo Nihonbashi to Kyoto, the final destination of travel.

Tobi Sugoroku

Sugoroku moving to the designated place according to the pips of dice

Shusse Sugoroku

Sugoroku with themes such as social and monetary success subjects because of the harsh class system in Edo Period.

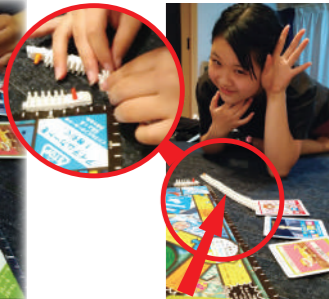
By the way, Shusse Sugoroku seemed to have a female version. It was like a story of marrying into a wealthy family and being called 'Madam', which was another Cinderella story. I think that is a dream for a woman in any period.

Since long time ago, Japan has had various kinds of Sugoroku and they are now developing, too.

That is right! Modern Sugoroku is improving and does not set money as a theme. Do you know that? In old Sugoroku, reaching to the goal fastest, getting success in career and earning a lot of money was the first priority. But, in modern Sugoroku, the most important thing is 'how do you become an '*influencer'?'. I promise you will be addict to it. Please have a try at any cost. And if you have any indoor game, please inform me!



The developed Game of the life.



A person who collects these small bars the most is a winner.

*It is like a youtuber, Instagrammer, etc. In SNS, a person who has the strongest influence to others.

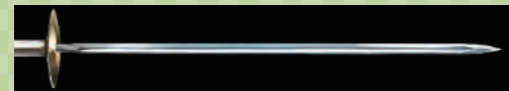

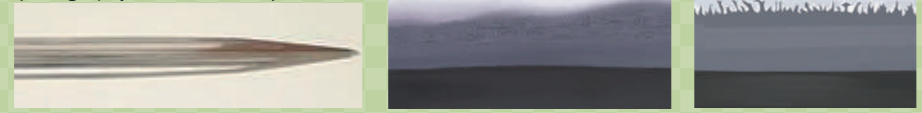
The story about Yamatodamashii
大和魂

Hello! This is Akemi Nakabori.
After the previous column, I am going to mention 'Otegine: Three Great Spears of Japan' in this newsletter.
(Three Great Spears of Japan: Nihon-go/Hinomoto-go, Otegine, Tonbogiri)

The origin of name

Harumoto Yuki, a military commander from Sengoku Era to the beginning of Edo Period, stubbed ten or more heads of the enemy he had cut off on the spears and was returning to his castle with carrying them on his shoulder. In the middle of the way, one head had been dropped from the spear. The appearance of spear at that time looked 'Tegine' (a hand pestle). Later, the Tegine-shaped sheath was added.



| | | |
|---|--|--|
|  | Name Otegine | The total length : 333.3 cm The length of blade : 139cm The weight including Koshira : 26.25kg (approx.) |
| | (The average weight of long spear was between four and six kg approximately)*Not existed currently because of being destroyed by fire. | |
|  | Creator Gisuke | The name of creator was 'Gisuke/Yoshisuke Shimada (*another name: Yoshisuke Gozyo)'. He was a swordsmith working at Shimada, Suruga Province (currently Shizuoka Prefecture) in Muromachi Period. He was the fourth generation of 'Shimada Group', a group of swordsmiths which had succeeded from the middle of Muromachi Period to the middle of Edo Period. |
| | The feature | <p>① Sankaku ② Ditetsu : Mokume ③ Blade pattern : Komidare</p> <p>(bibliography : old documents)</p>  <p>The blade pattern was Suguha on the whole. Kogunome, Koashi, Nezumiashi and so on were mixed. These small patterns spreaded.</p> |

▲Tegine(Tatekine) had the narrow part in the centre. You can hold there with your hand and move up and down. By these movement, Tegine was used for threshing and cleaning rice in a mortar.

From Yuki to Matsudaira

Hideyasu Tokugawa, the second son of Ieyasu Tokugawa, was adopted by Harumoto and changed his name as 'Hideyasu Yuki'. After Hideyasu's death at 34, 'Tadanao', the first son of Hideyasu, did not use the family name of Yuki and came to name himself as the family name of 'Matsudaira', the original name of Tokugawa Clan. The situation that the family name of Yuki and territory might have been lost stunned Harumoto. Harumoto requested Ieyasu earnestly and let 'Naomoto', the fifth son of Hideyasu, succeed Yuki's family fortune. In the end, Naomoto had changed his family name to Matudaira. But Naomoto allegedly kept using the family crest of Yuki family. The family crest was inherited by Matsudaira Yamatonokami Clan.

A huge cover

Matsudaira Clan is said to value Otegine very highly. A new Tegine-shaped cover was made and it was Umajirushi showing the place of vehicle a feudal lord was riding on as the symbol of Matsudaira Clan during its Sankin-kōtai(alternate attendance). The sheath was covered with fur of bear. It was 150cm in height, 45cm in diameter and 22.5kg in weight. It had the exceptionally massive volume and weight allegedly. When it caught a rain in the middle of way, it contained a lot of water and got heavy. It was very hard to carry it in the rain.



Due to the Great Tokyo Air Raids on March 10 in 1945, bombs hit the storage where Otegine was possessed and it had burnt down. Therefore, no actual Otegine does not exist. I think it would be impossible to swing such a big spear as a weapon and attack without having strong power and high skills to handle. I make sense of being used as Umajirushi because of its presence and force. I wish I could give a glance of the real spear with massive power. When I was about to have such a feeling, Mr. A in Ibaragi Prefecture read my previous article and sent me a letter.

'I am now living near Yukikurabikan in Yuku-City, Ibaragi Prefecture. This museum presents the replica of Otegine. So, I am likely to send some information about it. I took some photos of it as well. I will give you them for your reference.'

Now, the pandemic of COVID-19 prevents me from heading there. But I could see the actual pictures in spite of the replica. I was able to grasp the spears was so big with strong force even though from the pictures. His letter made me very happy. Thank you so much! If you have a chance after the end of pandemic, how about having a visit here and making yourself back in time? I am going to write about Tonbogiri in the next column. I am waiting for some information about it from you:-).



I respect Mr A's copyright. So, I cannot present it in detail. I hope your understanding.

Source: Touken World Foundation (Token Corporation)

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

I am likely to introduce a military commander who fought against an adverse situation in this column as well. I will make you back in time about this man.

No reliable resource is said to be remained. A commonly accepted view says Yukimori was born in 1545 as a child of chief retainer of Amago Clan at Izumo Province (currently Matsue-City, Shimane Prefecture). From his childhood, Yukimori had served Amago Clan. When he was eight years old, Yukimori made an attack a person. Yukimori had studied archery, horsemanship and tactics since the age of ten with enthusiasm. Yukimori slaughtered the enemy at 13 and achieved a feat. It is said that Yukimori had cut 66 heads off in his entire life. Since the age of seventeen, Mori Clan began to attack Amago Clan in order to eliminate Amago Clan. While Yukimori made his best efforts, Amago Clan had gone when he was 22 years old.

a man who was completely faithful
Yukimori Yamanaka 山中幸盛
1545? -1578?
Died in 33 years old?



Afterward, Yukimori had had fights three times in order to rebuild Amago Clan. But, Yukimori had been murdered at 36.

Popular name: Shikanosuke Yamanaka

'I would rather sustain all kinds of troubles myself than see the clan of my lord fall into ruin.'

The first movement for the revival of the Amago Clan



When he was 23 years old, Yukimori had Katsuhisa, an orphan of Amago Clan, as a leader and gathered the surviving retainers of Amago Clan in various places. Mori Clan was moving their forces for attacking north Kyushu. Then, Yukimori **had captured the 16 Castles in Izumo Provinces**, let the retainers of Mori Clan betray and got Izumo and Hoki Provinces(Kurayosi-City, Shimane-Prefecture). After that, Yukimori expand his territory to the parts of Inaba (Tottori-City, Tottori Prefecture), Bingo (Fukuyama-City, Hiroshima Prefecture), Bicchu (Soja-City, Okayama Prefecture) and Mimasaka (Tsuyama-City, Okayama Prefecture). But Mori Clan gave up the plan to attack north Kyushu and started to launch a counter attack. Eventually, Yukimori had been defeated and captured at the age of 26.

But, Yukimori was able to escaped from Mori Clan somehow or other and waited for the next chance.



The second movement for the revival of the Amago Clan

When he was 28 years old, Yukimori hid in Tajima Province (Toyooka-City, Hyogo Prefecture). But Yukimori attacked Inaba Province and settled his base there. Tottori Castle was guarded by 5,000 solders. However, Yukimori captured the castle with **only 1,000 solders**. Yukimori finally occupied the East Inaba Region. Yukimori received Mori Clan's harsh military attack at the age of 31. Yukimori's military success had been ended.

The third movement for the revival of the Amago Clan



Yukimori depended on Nobunaga Oda this time. Under the support of Oda Clan, Yukimori planned to make the revival of Amago Clan. As a member of Oda Forces, Yukimori moved from place to place to fight and was hugely successful.

When he was 33 years old, Yukimori entered the Koduki Casle (Sayo District, Hyogo Prefecture) with Katsuhisa. Mori Forces which were engaging with Oda Forces stormed the castle with a large number of solders. After fighting bravely, Yukimori and Katsuhisa had no choice but to surrender. Katsuhisa Amago performed Harakiri and Yukimori had been in custody. While he was forced to transfer to the base of Terumoto Mori, Yukimori was killed on his way because Mori Forces was afraid of Yukimori's bravery.

The son was a founder of the big financial group

Yukimoto, a son of Yukimori, lived in exile when he was nine years old. Yukimoto leant his uncle and ran away to Itami Province (Itami-City, Hyogo Prefecture). Yukimoto launched the sake brewing business there and allegedly produced the first Japanese Sake. Later, Yukimoto became Naofumi Konoike, a builder of Konoike financial group which was the biggest Japanese financial combine in Edo Period.



Yukimori Yamanaka had penetrated his loyalty until the very end and kept fighting without giving up. I studied a lot of things from Yukimori's way of life. I am going to trust myself and go forward, too.

