

This is my first experience I have read your newsletter. The staff's faces were on the page, and I could feel the happy atmosphere from the paper. I cannot buy your items every time because I live on a pension, but it is a treasure! But, when I find what I consider a true gem, I will contact to you-Daimyo! Thank you very much.  
From Mr./Ms. S in Gunma Prefecture

**Some feedback from our readers**

Thank you for your comment. We are very glad you could feel the atmosphere of our company. We will do our best to provide you with items that will make you feel, 'this is a treasure!' We look forward to working with you in the future. From Hanaemon



I look forward to reading each issue. I can feel how much the editorial staff cares about Japanese culture. Japanese armaments had been transformed with the end of the Tokugawa Shogunate. I expect you will do your best to edit the newsletter.  
From Mr./Mrs M. in Hiroshima Prefecture

I always appreciate you for reading our newsletters. Yes, I think it is because the weapons used in warfare changed. I love the armour with the feelings of the warlords, and I feel like I am living with the warlords of each era. Do you like them too? I would like to continue to introduce more wonderful Japanese culture that can only be found in Japan. I will make my maximum efforts to edit articles that will make you admire  
From Shimatani



I am always surprised that there are so many articles about women. I have heard of 'Rekijo' -female buffs in Japanese histories, but I think antiques are in a category that is not easily accepted by ladies. My wife is negative about antiques, especially swords, saying they scare her. If there were a way to get her to accept them, I would like to have it published in an article. If your company were close by, I would like to visit often.  
From Mr./Mrs. Y in Tokyo Prefecture

Thank you for your feedback. I was not so interested in history and antiques at first:-).However, I started to become interested in antiques when I came into contact with the historical background of the products and the feelings of our predecessors. I will try to create articles that will be of interest to many women through 'We deliver 'YAMATODAMASHII!'  
From Nakahori



**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.**

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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 Akemi Nakahori! It is now a pleasant season, isn't it? When it comes to Autumn, I imagine sports. Did you watch the Paris Olympics held in the summer? I was really impressed by Japanese athletes, who carried Japan on their backs and competed fairly and squarely on the big stage of the Olympics. Taishi, my son, is learning Judo, so I was particularly excited to cheer for Japanese Judo players! While Japan was getting excited about the Olympics, I went to Aizu Wakamatsu in Fukushima Prefecture for his expedition matches -!



**Judo began with...**



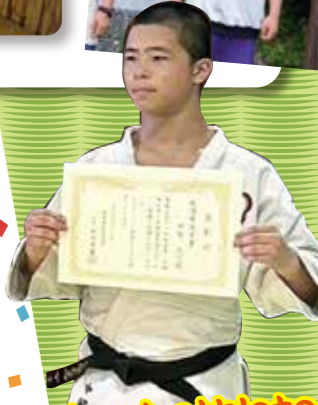
Jigoro Kano (1860-1938) is said to be the founder of Judo. Jigoro, who was not blessed with a good physique, suffered from bullying. It was during this time that he encountered 'Jujutsu'. He immersed himself in Jujutsu training from boyhood to adolescence. And, using the principle of 'the soft overcomes the hard' (where the weak can defeat the strong), he dedicated his life not to simply defeating opponents or intimidating others, but to using the power of judo for education and peace, benefiting those around him and society as a whole. In 1882, he founded the headquarter of Judo, the Kodokan, and not only spread Judo in Japan but also introduced it to the world, achieving numerous great accomplishments. Among his disciples were Yokoyama Sakujiro, Yamashita Yoshitsugu, Tomita Tsunejiro and Saigo Shiro, who were known as the 'Four Heavenly Kings of Kodokan'. One of them, Shiro, was born in Aizu-Wakamatsu and came to Onomichi to recuperate from an illness, but died at the young age of 57. Because of this connection, a juvenile friendship judo tournament is held every three years between Aizu-Wakamatsu and Onomichi. This year, students from Onomichi went to Aizu Wakamatsu. Despite his small stature, Shiro emerged as a prominent figure and contributed to the development of the Kodokan by overpowering the best with his unique throwing technique 'Yama-Arashi'. On this trip, I visited the Aizu Samurai Residence, a row of historical buildings that have been restored or relocated, mainly the residence of Saigo Tanomo-Shiro's fatehr, a retainer of the Aizu clan, to learn about its history.



The statue of Yama-Arashi



Judo is a battle not only against your opponent, but also against your own weak mind. I hope that my son will learn to be polite and never neglect his daily training, and that he will become stronger both physically and mentally. I would like to support my son's Judo life. May he become as strong as Shiro Saigo...



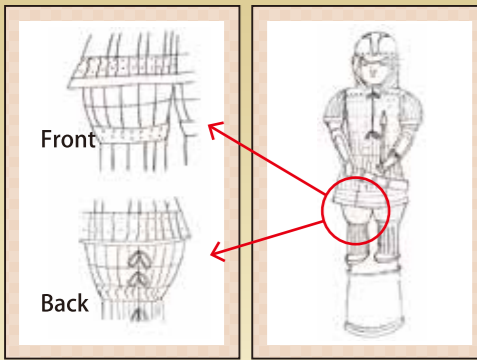
**Awarded as the best athlete for three consecutive wins.**

Hello, This is Takako Shimatani. The hot weather is continuing, is everything OK? In this issue, continuing from the previous issue, I would like to talk about 'Hakote/Haidate/Suneate', which protect the arms, hands and legs.



I am going to talk about Yamatodamashii  
**大和魂**

**What is Haidate(Hiza Yoroi) - wearing shield ,knee armour?**



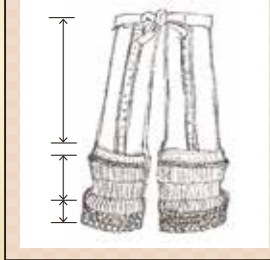
It is also called knee-armour, as it protects the legs from the part of the leg that is under the grass skirt to the kneecap. It was also represented in 'Warrior Haniwa' (clay figurines) from the Kofun period, and is believed to have existed since the Kofun period.



The Kobakama style (Hakama with iron fittings sewn onto the Hakama) was popular from the Nanbokuchō period to the Muromachi period. No relics remain, but they are called 'Kusati Hakama' (chain hakama) and later called 'Oda Haidate' as well.



**Muromachi period**



**Late Muromachi - Edo period**



The oldest relic is from the Muromachi period and is known as a 'Hodo Haidate'. The name comes from its resemblance to the Hodo Bata-Yama's pole (with a small flag on the top)-used in temples. The upper and lower halves were made differently, with the last part divided into three parts. Because of the gap around the knees, which should be protected, it was not suitable for infantry battles, but was often used in mounted battles, as it was easier to move when riding a horse. From around the end of the Muromachi period, they became an essential part of the 'Tosei Gusoku (general armour)', which was improved for use in warfare. Then, various types of Haidate came into vogue until the early Edo period.

hole for inserting a riding whip when not in use.

support leather to prevent from stretched and/or broken.

cloth to stop metal fittings and small tag-heads being caught

**Muchisashi no Ana (whip hole)**

**Chikaragawa**

**Omeri**

**Koshio** cord or belt to wrap around the waist

**Hikiagejime** to tie the cord or belt wrapped around the waist by passing it through this hole at the end to prevent loosening.

**Fungomi** they were worn with the feet inserted, to reduce impact on the knees

**What shapes were often made?**

**'Iyo-Haidate'**

Made from Iyo-fuda, which were narrower boards and made of thread without being painted over, and sewn onto the base cloth. Because it was finished with thread, it fitted easily on the thigh and was easy to move around. But the time and expense involved in its production was so huge, it was used by generals of high rank

**'Ita Haidate'**

Rectangular boards were bound together horizontally and coated with black lacquer to make multiple horizontal boards, which were then sewn to the base cloth. This Haidate was often made for ease of mass production. To provide protection and reduce the burden on the feet, the material was almost exclusively leather kneading. This was slightly less flexible and harder to move than the Iyo Haidate.

**'Shino Haidate', 'Koshino Haidate' and 'Ecchu Haidate'**

These were made of small metal plates attached within fine chain links. They fitted snugly to the part to be protected and were able to be changed at the joints of the chains, allowing both ease of movement and protection.

**Any other styles?**

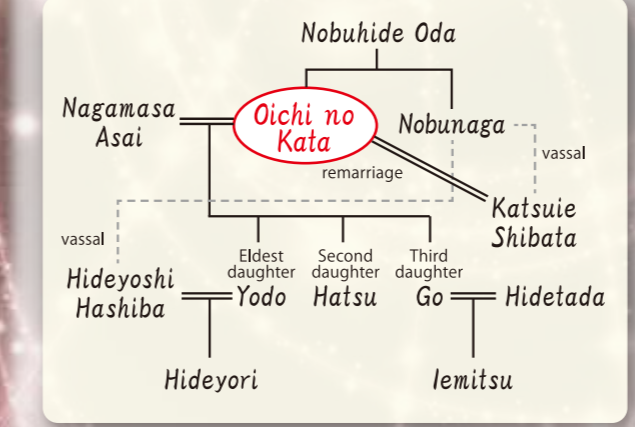
- Kusari Haidate**
- Ubu Haidate** Metal fittings were planted in the base cloth
- Kikko Haidate** Shaped like a tortoise's shell.
- Urokofuda Haidate** Shaped like fish scales.
- Karuta Haidate**
- Hiraikada Haidate**

Haidate a shield worn to protect the thighs, which could be immobilised and lead directly to death if attacked in battle. I found out that they had been existed since the ancient Kofun period and were indispensable parts. I also learnt that depending on the battle, the lightness, flexibility and defensiveness of the Haidate shields were taken into consideration. I like the simplicity of the Ecchu Haidate. How about you? I will talk about Suneate-shin guards- in the next issue.

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

Following on from the three great beauties of the Genpei period in the previous issue, this issue will turn our attention back to one of the three great beauties of the Sengoku period.

Oda Nobunaga's sister  
**Oichi no Kata** おいちのかた  
(1547 - 1583)



Oichi no Kata was proclaimed the most beautiful woman in the Sengoku period. Nobunaga, her elder brother, arranged for Oichi no Kata to marry into his family in order to forge an alliance with the Asai family. Although it was a political marriage, the couple were on good terms and were blessed with three daughters. However, when Nobunaga attacked the Asakura family which was allied with the Asai family, things started to become unstable around Oichi no Kata.

**Death and bereavement of husband**

The Asai family, caught between the Oda and Asakura families in the conflict, decided to side with the Asakura family. Oichi no Kata, also a hostage of the alliance, was neither separated nor killed. Then, just before the Asai family was destroyed, Nagamasa Asai, her husband, forced Oichi no Kata (26) and her three daughters to flee the castle in order to save their lives.

The reason they were not killed when the two families fought was probably because they had a good marital relationship. Nobunaga was apparently quite angry at his brother-in-law's betrayal, so he put gold leaf on Nagamasa's skull and drank Sake from it as a sake cup. I wonder how Oichi no Kata must have felt when she heard such a story...

**Second fall of the castle**

Nobunaga, the elder brother, was killed by Mitsuhide Akechi in the Honnoji Incident, and Hideyoshi Hashiba defeated Mitsuhide Akechi and avenged his enemies. The Oda family's chief vassals held a meeting to discuss their territories and future policy. (Kiyosu Conference). During the meeting, Oichi no Kata (35 years old) married Katsuei Shibata, the leading vassal of the Oda family. However, a few months later, Katsuei Shibata and Hideyoshi Hashiba had a confrontation and Katsuei Shibata was defeated. In this battle, Oichi no Kata encountered the fall for the second time, and decided to let her three daughters escape and die with Shibata Katsuei.

Katsuei Shibata told Oichi no Kata to escape from the castle, but Oichi no Kata refused. On her last night, she had an all-night banquet in the castle with more than 80 members of her family and chief vassals, after which she committed suicide. She was the most beautiful woman in the Sengoku period, who was constantly tossed about by her brother, her husband, her brother's vassals and the Sengoku period. Oichi no Kata's eldest daughter Yodo gave birth to Toyotomi Hideyori as a concubine of Hideyoshi, who died in a dispute with Tokugawa Ieyasu. Her third daughter, Go, married Tokugawa Hidetada and gave birth to Tokugawa Iemitsu, who became the foundation of the 260-year-long Edo Shogunate. Incidentally, Go's lineage is even connected to Emperor Showa.

