

THE TO-KEN SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
for the Study and Preservation of Japanese Swords and Fittings



HON. PRESIDENT, KAZUTARO TORIGOYE, Dr. LITT.
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PROGRAMME

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, August 3rd, 1966. Fulham Conservative Club, 4 Shorrolds Road, S.W.6.

LAST MEETING: Almost the entire evening was devoted to the showing of the film "The Seven Samurai". A fair number of guests attended and this old favourite amongst Japanese film connoisseurs was well received. The copy was a little "dark" and for those who really knew the film, some of the finer detail was unfortunately lost.

NEXT MEETING: At this time we are not yet sure that Mr.Knutson will be able to attend the meeting and demonstrate the art of IAI, although as promised in our July Bulletin, it is hoped that this will be possible.

Andrew Ford now has the colour slides which we had hoped to show when he gave his talk on Tameshigiri. It is hoped that he will show these during the meeting and give a resume of some of the important points he raised then.

Due to the uncertainty at the moment of the main item of the next meeting, it is suggested that members bring sword blades or tsuba, or armour, for discussion so that we can have an extended general get-together of members if Mr.Knutson is unable to attend.

In any case, the business side of the meeting should be a little more protracted than normally happens. The following meeting, in September, will be the one in which nominations for Officers and Chairman will be accepted. The present Chairman will ask members to think about this and about the affairs of the Society in general at the coming meeting.

JOURNAL NO.2 The sales of this have been going fairly well, but there has been a rather surprising lack of enquiries from corresponding members for copies. It has become apparent from one or two letters received that some corresponding members are under the impression that their membership fee includes the price of the Journal. We must point out that this is not so, the corresponding membership fee only just covers the cost of typing and posting twelve copies of this Programme per year, the cost of the Journal has to be extra. So, let us hear from you corresponding

members, send your five shillings plus about 6d postage to the address on this Programme. Do it now! It is a good Journal. Support the Society - buy a copy for your friends, too!

NEW MEMBERS

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SWORD GLOSSARY (Continued)

- GIN-SUJI The same as KIN-SUJI, the alternative phonetic spellings are interchangeable as in the following, the G being substituted for the K.
- GISSAKI or KISSAKI The point section of a blade above the yokote line. Important in identification and dating blades and the area in which the Boshi is seen.
- GOMABASHI A pair of narrow grooves carved in a blade running parallel with each other and to the back edge. Extending about half way along the blade, "Chopstick" grooves.
- GYO-NO-MUNE Another name for INORI MUNE, the usual inverted V-shaped back ridge, or mune, found on most sword blades, although there are others.
- GYAKU-TAKA-NO-HA Inverted V-shaped file marks, or Yasurime, one of the many different patterns of file marks found on a sword tang.
- GUNOME-HA An irregular inverted yakiba. Becoming combined with other forms of yakiba, for example, Gunome-choji-ha; Gunome-ko-choji-ha; Gunome-midare-ha; etc.
- GUNTŌ Modern military swords
- GENDAI-TŌ Modern swords, that is from about 1870 up to now, but made by the old methods and water tempered.
- GAKU-MEI The signature (Mei) on a sword tang, cut out in a panel and inset into the new tang when the sword was shortened.
- GOSHO KITAE: Sword blades made by GO Toba Tenno, in the latter part of the 12th century, a few of which still exist in Japan, also called KIKU-SAKU, "Imperial Chrysanthemum make"
- GŌ The name by which Gō Yoshihiro of Etchu is usually known, when a Japanese text or translation refers to, for example, the Inaba Gō, or Tomita Gō - this in fact means "the sword blade made by Yoshihiro now called Inaba Gō" etc. His work is extremely rare and valuable; he died very young and made only Tachi.

ARMOUR GLOSSARY (Continued)

- GOMEN-GAWA Lit. "Licenced leather". A red dyed leather having white dots reserve dyed. A decorative leather usually used as a border to other printed leathers.
- GORŌMARU A cloth woven in KAGA and ETCHŪ provinces and favoured for making trousers (Hakama)
- GUMI Lit. "Silverberry". Tubes of metal which pass over cords on the shoulder pieces of DŌ to facilitate the attachment of the shoulder guards.
- GUSOKU Armour. The word, comprised of the two characters armour and helmet, denotes a complete set. It is usually prefixed by the word TOSEI (modern) and used mainly for armour of the type developed in the late MUROMACHI and MOMOTAMA periods as distinct from the scale constructed DŌ-MARU and Ō-YOROI.
- GYŌYŌ-NO-ITA Lit. "Apricot leaf". Two small plates worn over the AIBIKI-NO-O. These originated as protection for the point of the shoulder on the old DŌ-MARU when it was worn by foot soldiers and prior to its adoption by men of rank in the 14th century. The samurai classes wore shoulder guards with DŌ-MARU and so the GYŌYŌ were draped forward to the point of the shoulder pieces.