

The Story of the Nations.

JAPAN



THE STORY OF THE NATIONS.

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BELL AT KYOTO.

JAPAN

BY

DAVID MURRAY, PH.D., LL.D.

Late Adviser to the Japanese Minister of Education

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PREFACE.

IT is the object of this book to trace the story of Japan from its beginnings to the establishment of constitutional government. Concerned as this story is with the period of vague and legendary antiquity as well as with the disorders of mediæval time and with centuries of seclusion, it is plain that it is not an easy task to present a trustworthy and connected account of the momentous changes through which the empire has been called to pass. It would be impossible to state in detail the sources from which I have derived the material for this work. I place first and as most important a residence of several years in Japan, during which I became familiar with the character of the Japanese people and with the traditions and events of their history. Most of the works treating of Japan during and prior to the period of her seclusion, as well as the more recent works, I have had occasion to consult. They will be found referred to in the following pages. Beyond all others, however, I desire to acknowledge my obli-

gations to the *Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan*. A list of the contributors to these transactions would include such names as Satow, Aston, Chamberlain, McClatchie, Gubbins, Geerts, Milne, Whitney, Wigmore and others, whose investigations have made possible a reasonably complete knowledge of Japan. The *Transactions of the German Asiatic Society* are scarcely less noteworthy than those of her sister society. To these invaluable sources of information are to be added Chamberlain's *Things Japanese*, Rein's *Japan* and the *Industries of Japan*, Griffis' *Mikado's Empire*, Mounsey's *Satsuma Rebellion*, Denning's *Life of Hideyoshi*, the published papers of Professor E. S. Morse, and the two handbooks prepared successively by Mr. Satow and Mr. Chamberlain.

To friends who have taken an interest in this publication I owe many thanks for valuable and timely help: to Dr. J. C. Hepburn, who for so many years was a resident in Yokohama; to Mr. Benjamin Smith Lyman of Philadelphia who still retains his interest in and knowledge of things Japanese; to Mr. Tateno, the Japanese Minister at Washington, and to the departments of the Japanese government which have furnished me material assistance.

In the spelling of Japanese words I have followed, with a few exceptions, the system of the Roman Alphabet Association (Rōmaji Kai) as given in its published statement. I have also had constantly at hand Hepburn's *Dictionary*, the *Dictionary of Towns and Roads*, by Dr. W. N. Whitney, and *Murray's Handbook of Japan*, by B. H. Chamberlain. In

PREFACE.

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accordance with these authorities, in the pronunciation of Japanese words the consonants are to be taken at their usual English values and the vowels at their values in Italian or German.

DAVID MURRAY.



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APPENDIX I.

LIST OF EMPERORS.¹

NAME.	Date of Access.	Date of Death.	Age at Death.
	B.C.	B.C.	
1. Jimmu.....	660	585	127
2. Suizei.....	581	549	84
3. Annei.....	548	511	57
4. Itoku.....	510	477	77
5. Kōshō.....	475	393	114
6. Kōan.....	392	291	137
7. Kōrei.....	290	215	128
8. Kōgen.....	214	158	116
9. Kaikwa.....	157	98	111
10. Sūjin.....	97	30	119
		A.D.	
11. Suinin.....	29	70	141
	A.D.		
12. Keikō.....	71	130	143
13. Seimu.....	131	190	108
14. Chūai.....	192	200	52
Jingō (Empress Regent) ²	201	269	100
15. Ōjin.....	270	310	110
16. Nintoku.....	313	399	110

¹ The list here printed is the official list issued by the government, and has been revised by Mr. Tateno, the Japanese Minister at Washington.

² In the official list Jingō is not reckoned, and the time of her reign is counted with that of her son and successor.

NAME.	Date of Access.	Date of Death.	Age at Death.
17. Richū.....	400	405	67
18. Hanzei.. ..	406	411	60
19. Inkyō	412	453	80
20. Ankō	454	456	56
21. Yūriyaku.....	457	479	—
22. Seinei.....	480	484	41
23. Kenzō.....	485	487	—
24. Ninken	488	498	50
25. Muretsu	499	506	18
26. Keitai	507	531	82
27. Ankan	534	535	70
28. Senkwa	536	539	73
29. Kimmei	540	571	63
30. Bidatsu	572	585	48
31. Yōmei	586	587	69
32. Sujun	588	592	73
33. Suiko (Empress).....	593	628	75
34. Jomei	629	641	49
35. Kōkyoku (Empress)....	642	—	—
36. Kōtoku	645	654	59
37. Saimei (re-accession of Kōkyoku	655	661	68
38. Tenji.....	668	671	58
39. Kōbun	672	672	25
40. Temmu	673	686	65
41. Jitō (Empress).....	690	702	58
42. Mommu	697	707	25
43. Gemmyō (Empress).....	708	721	61
44. Genshō (Empress).....	715	748	69
45. Shōmu.....	724	756	56
46. Kōken (Empress)	749	—	—
47. Junnin	759	765	33

	NAME.	Date of Access.	Date of Death.	Age at Death.
48.	Kōken (re-enthroned)...	765	770	53
49.	Kōnin	770	781	73
50.	Kwammu	782	806	70
51.	Heijō	806	824	51
52.	Saga	810	842	57
53.	Ninna	824	840	55
54.	Nimmyō	834	850	41
55.	Montoku	851	858	32
56.	Seiwa	859	880	31
57.	Yōzei	877	949	82
58.	Kōko	885	887	58
59.	Uda	888	931	65
60.	Daigo	898	930	46
61.	Shujaku	931	952	30
62.	Muragami	947	967	42
63.	Reizei	968	1011	62
64.	Enyū	970	991	33
65.	Kwazan	985	1008	41
66.	Ichiyō	987	1011	32
67.	Sanjō	1012	1017	42
68.	Go-Ichijō	1017	1028	29
69.	Go-Shujaku	1037	1045	37
70.	Go-Reizei	1047	1068	44
71.	Go-Sanjō	1069	1073	40
72.	Shirakawa	1073	1129	77
73.	Horikawa	1087	1107	29
74.	Toba	1108	1156	54
75.	Shutoku	1124	1164	46
76.	Konoye	1142	1155	17
77.	Go-Shirakawa	1156	1192	66
78.	Nijō	1159	1165	23
79.	Rokujō	1166	1176	13

	NAME.	Date of Access.	Date of Death.	Age at Death.
80.	Takakura	1169	1181	21
81.	Antoku	1181	1185	15
82.	Go-Toba	1186	1239	60
83.	Tsuchi-mikado.....	1199	1231	37
84.	Juntoku	1211	1242	46
85.	Chūkyō	1222	1234	17
86.	Go-Horikawa	1221	1234	23
87.	Yojō	1232	1242	12
88.	Go-Saga.....	1242	1272	53
89.	Go Fukakusa	1246	1304	62
90.	Kameyama	1259	1305	57
91.	Go-Uda	1274	1324	58
92.	Fushimi.....	1288	1317	53
93.	Go-Fushimi	1298	1336	49
94.	Go-Nijyō.....	1301	1308	24
95.	Hanazono.....	1308	1348	52
96.	Go-Daigo	1318	1339	52
97.	Go-Murakami	1339	1368	41
98.	Go-Kameyama.....	1373	1424	78
99.	Go-Komatsu	1382	1433	57
100.	Shōkō	1414	1428	28
101.	Go-Hanazono	1429	1470	52
102.	Go-Tsuchi-mikado	1465	1500	59
103.	Go-Kashiwabara	1521	1526	63
104.	Go-Nara	1536	1557	62
105.	Ōgimachi.....	1560	1593	77
106.	Go-Yojō	1586	1617	47
107.	Go-Mizuo.....	1611	1680	85
108.	Myōshō (Empress)....	1630	1696	74
109.	Go-Kōmyō	1643	1654	22
110.	Go-Nishio.....	1656	1685	49
111.	Reigen	1663	1732	79

APPENDIX I.

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NAME.	Date of Access.	Date of Death.	Age at Death.
112. Higashiyama	1687	1709	35
113. Naka-mikado	1710	1737	37
114. Sakuramachi	1720	1750	31
115. Momozono	1747	1762	22
116. Go-Sakuramachi (Empress) .	1763	1813	74
117. Go-Momozono.....	1771	1779	22
118. Kōkaku.....	1780	1840	70
119. Jinkō.....	1817	1846	47
120. Kōmei.....	1847	1867	37
121. Mutsuhito (reigning emperor)	1868		





APPENDIX II.
LIST OF YEAR PERIODS.¹

NAME.	Japanese Era.	Christian Era.
Taikwa	1305	645
Hakuchi	1310	650
Saimei	1315	655
Tenji	1322	662
Sujaku	1332	672
Hakuhō	1333	673
Suchō	1346	686
Jitō	1347	687
Momm	1357	697
Daihō	1361	701
Keiun	1364	704
Wadō	1368	708
Reiki	1375	715

¹ From *Japanese Chronological Tables*, by William Bramsen, 1880.

The system of counting from year-periods (*neugō*) was introduced from China. These periods of Japanese history do not correspond to the reigns of the emperors. A new one was chosen whenever it was deemed necessary to commemorate an auspicious or ward off a malign event. By a notification issued in 1872 it was announced that hereafter the year-period should be changed but once during the reign of an emperor. The current period, *Meiji* (Enlightened Peace), will therefore continue during the reign of the present emperor.

The numbers in the second column of this table indicate the years as counted from the founding of the empire by Jimmu Tennō. According to the official chronology this occurred B.C. 660.

NAME.	Japanese Era.	Christian Era.
Yōrō	1377	717
Jinki.....	1384	724
Tembiō	1389	729
Tembiō shōhō	1409	749
Tembiō hōji	1417	757
Tembiō jingo	1425	765
Jingo keiun.....	1427	767
Hōki.....	1430	770
Tenō	1441	781
Enriaku	1442	782
Daidō.....	1466	806
Kōnin	1470	810
Tenchō	1484	824
Jōwa.....	1494	834
Kajō.....	1508	848
Ninju	1511	851
Saikō.....	1514	854
Tenan	1517	857
Jōgwan	1519	859
Gwangiō	1537	877
Ninna.....	1545	885
Kwampeï.....	1549	889
Shōtai.....	1558	898
Engi.....	1561	901
Enchō	1583	923
Jōhei	1591	931
Tengiō	1598	938
Tenriaku	1607	947
Tentoku.....	1617	957
Ōwa	1621	961
Kōhō	1624	964
Anna	1628	968

NAME.	Japanese Era.	Christian Era.
Tenroku	1630	970
Ten-en	1633	973
Jōgen	1636	976
Tengen	1638	978
Eikwan	1643	983
Kwanna	1645	985
Ei-en	1647	987
Eiso	1649	989
Shōriaku	1650	990
Chōtoku	1655	995
Chōhō	1659	999
Kwankō	1664	1004
Chōwa	1672	1012
Kwannin	1677	1017
Ji-an	1681	1021
Manju	1684	1024
Chōgen	1688	1028
Chōriaku	1697	1037
Chōkiū	1700	1040
Kwantoku	1704	1044
Eijō	1706	1046
Tengi	1713	1053
Kōhei	1718	1058
Jiriaku	1725	1065
Enkiū	1729	1069
Jōhō	1734	1074
Jōriaku	1737	1077
Eihō	1741	1081
Ōtoku	1744	1084
Kwanji	1747	1087
Kahō	1754	1094
Eichō	1756	1096

NAME.	Japanese Era.	Christian Era.
Jōtoku	1757	1097
Kowa	1759	1099
Chōji	1764	1104
Kajō	1766	1106
Tennin.....	1768	1108
Tenei	1770	1110
Eikiū	1773	1113
Genei	1778	1118
Hō-an	1780	1120
Tenji	1784	1124
Daiji.....	1786	1126
Tenjō	1791	1131
Chōjō	1792	1132
Hō-en	1795	1135
Eiji.....	1801	1141
Kōji	1802	1142
Tenyō	1804	1144
Kiū-an.....	1805	1145
Nimbiō.....	1811	1151
Kiūju	1814	1154
Hōgen.....	1816	1156
Heiji.....	1819	1159
Eiriaku.....	1820	1160
Ōhō	1821	1161
Chōkwan.....	1823	1163
Eiman.....	1825	1165
Ninan.....	1826	1166
Ka-ō.....	1829	1169
Jō-an	1831	1171
Angen.....	1835	1175
Jishō.....	1837	1177
Yōwa	1841	1181

NAME.	Japanese Era.	Christian Era.
Ju-ei.....	1842	1182
Genriaku.....	1844	1184
Bunji.....	1845	1185
Kenkiu.....	1850	1190
Shōji.....	1859	1199
Kennin.....	1861	1201
Genkiu.....	1864	1204
Kenei.....	1866	1206
Jōgen.....	1867	1207
Kenriaku.....	1871	1211
Kempō.....	1873	1213
Jōkiu.....	1879	1219
Jō-ō.....	1882	1222
Gennin.....	1884	1224
Karoku.....	1885	1225
Antei.....	1887	1227
Kwangi.....	1889	1229
Jō-ei.....	1892	1232
Tempuku.....	1893	1233
Bunriaku.....	1894	1234
Katei.....	1895	1235
Riakunin.....	1898	1238
En-ō.....	1899	1239
Ninji.....	1900	1240
Kwangen.....	1903	1243
Hōji.....	1907	1247
Kenchō.....	1909	1249
Kōgen.....	1916	1256
Shōka.....	1917	1257
Shōgen.....	1919	1259
Bunō.....	1920	1260
Kōchō.....	1921	1261

APPENDIX II.

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NAME.	Japanese Era.	Christian Era.
Bunei	1924	1264
Kenji	1935	1275
Kōan	1938	1278
Shō-ō	1948	1288
Ejnin	1953	1293
Shōan	1959	1299
Kengen	1962	1302
Kagen	1963	1303
Tokuji	1966	1306
Enkiō	1968	1308
Ōchō	1971	1311
Shōwa	1972	1312
Bumpō	1977	1317
Gen-ō	1979	1319
Genkō	1981	1321
Shōchū	1984	1324
Kariaku	1986	1326
Gentoku	1989	1329
Shōkiō	1992	1331
Kemmu	1994	1334
Engen	1996	1336
Kōkoku	1999	1339
Shōhei	2006	1346
Kentoku	2030	1370
Bunchū	2032	1372
Tenju	2035	1375
Kōwa	2041	1381
Genchū	2044	1384
Meitoku	2050	1390
Ō-ei	2054	1394
Shōchō	2088	1428
Ejkiō	2089	1429

NAME.	Japanese Era.	Christian Era.
Kakitsu	2101	1441
Bunan	2104	1444
Hōtoku	2109	1449
Kōtoku	2112	1452
Kōshō	2115	1455
Chōroku	2117	1457
Kwanshō	2120	1460
Bunshō	2126	1466
Ōnin	2127	1467
Bummei	2129	1469
Chōkō	2147	1487
Entoku	2149	1489
Mei-ō	2152	1492
Bunki	2161	1501
Eishō	2164	1504
Dai-ei	2181	1521
Kōroku	2188	1528
Tembun	2192	1532
Kōji	2215	1555
Eiroku	2218	1558
Genki	2230	1570
Tenshō	2233	1573
Bunroku	2252	1592
Keichō	2256	1596
Genna	2275	1615
Kwanei	2284	1624
Shōhō	2304	1644
Kei-an	2308	1648
Jō-ō	2312	1652
Meireki	2315	1655
Manji	2318	1658
Kwambun	2321	1661

APPENDIX II.

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NAME.	Japanese Era.	Christian Era.
Empō	2333	1673
Tenna	2341	1681
Jōkiō	2344	1684
Genroku	2348	1688
Hō-ei	2364	1704
Shōtoku	2371	1711
Kiōhō	2376	1716
Gembun	2396	1736
Kwampō	2401	1741
Enkiō	2404	1744
Kwanen	2408	1748
Hōreki	2411	1751
Meiwa	2424	1764
Anei	2432	1772
Temmei	2441	1781
Kwansei	2449	1789
Kiōwa	2461	1801
Bunkwa	2464	1804
Bunsei	2478	1818
Tempō	2490	1830
Kōkwa	2504	1844
Ka-ei	2508	1848
Ansei	2514	1854
Manen	2520	1860
Bunkiū	2521	1861
Genji	2524	1864
Kei-ō	2525	1865
Meiji	2528	1868



APPENDIX III.
LIST OF SHŌGUNS.¹

I.—The Dynasty of Minamoto. 1186–1219.

1. Minamoto Yoritomo, 1186–1199, died ; received his appointment as shōgun in 1192.

NOTE.—In this as in the later cases, the dates will be cited which correspond to the attainment of power and its general recognition, but which do not, in many cases, correspond to the grant of the title, which frequently was much later.

2. Minamoto Yori-iye, 1199–1203, son of the preceding, first deposed by his grandfather, Hōjō Tokimasa, and banished to Izu, there was murdered in 1204.

3. Minamoto Sanetomo, 1203–1219, eleven years old, brother of the preceding, murdered by his nephew Kokio, the son of Yori-iye.

The Time of the Shadow Shōguns. 1220–1338.

The shōguns of this period, taken partly from the Fujiwara family, partly from the princes of the imperial house, were mostly children, and in every instance the weak agents of the Hōjō family, whose chiefs, as regents (*shiken*), had the power in their hands, although the

¹ Translated from the chronology of the shōguns in *Mittheilungen der deutschen Gesellschaft für Natur und Volkerkunde Ostasiens*, Heft 3, 1873.

nominal bearers of the same were likewise principally only children.

4. Fujiwara Yoritsune, 1220-1243, nine years old, dethroned by Hōjō Tsunetoki, died 1256.

5. Fujiwara Yoritsugu, 1244-1251, son of the preceding, seven years old, deposed by H. Tokeyori, died 1256.

6. Munetaka Shino, 1252-1265, eleven, according to others thirteen, years old, deposed by H. Tokimune, died 1274.

7. Koreyasu Shino, 1266-1289, son of the preceding, three years old, deposed by H. Sadatoki, died 1325 (1326?).

8. Hisa-akira Shino, or, as he was called, Kumei Shino, 1289-1307, sixteen years old, deposed by H. Sadatoki, died 1328.

9. Morikuni Shino, 1308-1333, son of the preceding, seven years old, dethroned by Nitsuda Yoshisada, died in the same year.

10. Moriyoshi Shino, 1333-1334, son of the reigning Emperor Go-Daigo, dethroned by Taka-uji, murdered, in 1335, by Minamoto Nao-yoshi.

11. Nari-Yoshi Shino, 1334-1338, dethroned and murdered by Taka-uji.

II.—The Regents of the Hōjō Family.

Hōjō Tokimasa, died 1215, did not have the title of regent (*shiken*).

Hōjō Yoshitoki, 1205-1224, from 1205 regent (*shiken*), murdered.

Hōjō Yasutoki, 1225-1242, died.

Hōjō Tsunetoki, 1243-1246, grandson of the preceding, retired in favor of his younger brother, Tokiyori, and died thirty-three years old.

Hōjō Tokiyori, 1246-1256, retired in favor of his son, Tokimune, and died 1263, thirty-seven years old.

Hōjō Tokimune, 1257-1284, seven years old, under the guardianship of H. Nagatoki and H. Masamura, died.

Hōjō Sadatoki, 1284-1300, adopted son of the preceding, retired in favor of Morotoki, the grandson of Tokiyori, but continued to exercise a potent influence over the regency, died 1311.

Hōjō Morotoki, 1300-1311, died.

Hōjō Takatoki, 1312-1326, the son of Sadatoki, nine years old, under the guardianship of Hirotoke and Munenobu, retired in favor of his younger brother, Yasuye, who likewise soon withdrew.

Until the fall of the Hōjō family Takatoki really conducted the regency, although others held the title. After the taking of Kamakura by Nitta Yoshisada in 1333, he killed himself.

III.—*The Dynasty of Ashikaga.* 1334-1573.

12. Ashikaga Taka-uji, 1334-1358, died fifty-three years old.

13. Ashikaga Yoshimori, 1359-1367, retired in favor of his son Yoshimitsu, died 1408, fifty-one years old.

14. Ashikaga Yoshimitsu, 1368-1393, retired in favor of his son, Yoshimochi, at the age of thirty-seven years, died 1409.

15. Ashikaga Yoshimochi, 1394-1422, retired in favor of his son, Yoshikatsu.

16. Ashikaga Yoshikatsu, 1423-1425, died nineteen years old. Ashikaga Yoshimochi, 1425-1428, the fifteenth shōgun, took the power again, and died forty-three years old.

17. Ashikaga Yoshinobu, 1428-1441, murdered by Aka-

matsu Mitsusuke, forty-eight years old. From 1429 called Yoshinori.

18. Ashikaga Yoshikatsu, 1441-1443, son of the preceding, eight years old, died.

19. Ashikaga Yoshinari, called Yoshimasa, 1443-1473, brother of the preceding, eight years old, retired, and died in 1490.

20. Ashikaga Yoshinao, 1473-1489, died twenty-five years old; from 1488, called Yoshihiro.

21. Ashikaga Yoshimura, 1490-1493, nephew of Yoshimasa, twenty-five years old, taken prisoner and dethroned by Hosokawa Motomoto.

22. Ashikaga Yoshimitsu, 1493-1508, had to flee, died 1511; from 1449 called Yoshitaku, and from 1502 Yoshisumi; Yoshitada, 1508-1521, is Yoshimura, who from the year 1501 bore the name, and since that time was the shōgun of the enemy at war with Yoshisumi, had to flee, was deposed, and died, 1523.

23. Ashikaga Yoshinaru, 1521-1546, son of Yoshisumi, retired in favor of his son, Yoshifushi, died 1550, forty years old.

24. Ashikaga Yoshifushi, 1547-1565, eleven years old, killed himself in his palace, having been confined there by the rebels.

25. Ashikaga Yoshigi-ei or Yoshinaga, 1568 died, important as opposition shōgun.

26. Ashikaga Yoshi-aki, 1568-1573, deposed by Nobunaga, died 1597.

IV.—The Time of the Usurpation. 1573-1603.

27. Taira-no-Nobunaga, 1573-1582, killed himself, having been forced to do so by Akechi Mitsuhide.

Akechi Mitsuhide, who usurped the title of shōgun, ruled only twelve days, and fell conquered by Hideyoshi

28. Samboshi, 1582-1586, grandson of Nobunaga.
29. Toyotomi Hideyoshi, 1586-1598, was never shōgun, but kwambaku ; (on his retirement called Taikō-sama).
30. Hidetsugu, 1591-1595, nephew of the preceding, killed himself, was also kwambaku.
31. Hideyori, 1600-1615, son of Hideyoshi, killed himself, conquered by Ieyasu. According to other accounts, he escaped and fled to Satsuma ; was Naifu (Minister of the Interior) from 1603.

V.—The Dynasty of the Tokugawa. 1603-1868.

32. Ieyasu, 1603-1605, died 1616 ; 1603 appointed shōgun (posthumous title Gongensama). The shōguns of this dynasty frequently retired, as soon as their successors grew up, but in spite of this fact they continued to lead the regency.
33. Hidetada, 1605-1623, died 1632, son of the preceding.
34. Iemitsu, 1623-1651, died 1652, son of the preceding.
35. Ietsuna, 1651-1680, died, son of the preceding.
36. Tsunayoshi, 1681-1709, son of Iemitsu, killed by his wife.
37. Ienobu, 1709-1712, grandson of Iemitsu, died.
38. Ietsugu (Ietsubo according to Klaproth), 1713-1715, died, son of the preceding.
39. Yoshimune, 1716-1745, retired, died 1751, formerly fifth Prince of Kii.
40. Ieshige, 1745-1760 (according to others 1761 or 1762), son of the preceding, died.
41. Ieharu, 1760-1786, son of the preceding, died.
42. Ienari, 1787-1836, died 1841, son of the preceding.
43. Ieyoshi, 1837-1852, son of the preceding.

44. Iesada, 1853-1857, son of the preceding.
45. Iemochi, 1858-1866, died, formerly thirteenth Prince of Kii.
46. Yoshihisa (Yoshinobu according to Adams, vol. ii. p. 37), 1867-1868, son of the Prince of Mito, Nari-akira, adopted by the Prince of Hitotsubashi, retired at the fall of shōgunate in 1867.





APPENDIX IV.

LAWS OF SHŌTOKU TAISHI.¹

[From *Dai Nihonshi*, vol. xii., folio 28 to 31.]

I.—Harmony shall be esteemed and obedience shall be held in regard. Because dissensions prevail, therefore men are often unfaithful to their prince and disobedient to their fathers. Let adjoining districts be left in peace, thus harmony between superior and inferior shall be cultivated and co-operation in matters of state shall be promoted, and thus the right reason of all things may be reached and the right thing accomplished.

II.—Let bountiful honor be always paid to the three precious elements of Buddhism, that is, to its priests, its ritual, and its founder. It is the highest religion in the universe, and all people in all generations must pay becoming reverence to its doctrines. Do not harshly censure men's wickedness but teach them faithfully until they yield obedience. Unless men rely upon Buddhism there is no way to convert them from the wrong to the right.

III.—To the commands of the Emperor men must be duly obedient. The prince must be looked upon as the heaven and his subjects as the earth. The earth contains all things and the heaven stretches over it. The

¹ The translation of these laws of Shōtoku Taishi was furnished by Mr. Tsuji Shinji, late vice-minister of state for education, and by Mr. Matsumoto Kumpei.

four seasons pass orderly along and the spirit of the universe is harmonious. If the earth were to cover the heaven the effect would be distraction. Hence the prince must command and the subject obey ; superiors must act and inferiors yield. Men ought therefore to pay due heed to the orders of the Emperor ; if not they will bring ruin on themselves.

IV.—Politeness must be the chief rule of conduct for all officers and their colleagues in the court. The first principle governing subjects must be politeness. When superiors are not polite then inferiors will not keep in the right ; when inferiors are not polite their conduct degenerates into crime. When both prince and subjects are polite, then social order is never disturbed and the state is kept in a condition of tranquillity.

V.—Covetousness and rapacity must be expelled from the hearts of officers, and they must adjudicate with just discrimination in all suits that come before them. Even in a single day there are thousands of such suits, and in the course of years how great must be the accumulation ! If the suit is won through bribery, then the poor man can obtain no justice but only the rich. The poor man will have no sure place of dependence, and subjects will be driven to abandon their duty.

VI.—To punish vice and to encourage virtue is the rule in good ancient law. The virtuous man must therefore be promoted, and the vicious man must be surely punished. The man who is untruthful is a powerful instrument to endanger the state and a keen weapon to destroy the nation. The flatterer loves to tell the faults of the inferior to the superior, and also to disclose the errors of the superior to the inferior. Such men are alike unfaithful to the prince and unfriendly to fellow-citizens, and in the end fail not to stir up social disorder.

VII.—The duty of men in the government must be assigned according to their capacity. When intelligent men take service the applause of the people follows, but when bad men are in office calamities ensue. If wise officers are put on duty the matters of state are well managed, and the community is free from danger and prosperity prevails. Therefore in ancient times the wise king never selected the office for the man, but always selected the man to suit the office.

VIII.—Too often officers and their colleagues come early to their offices and retire soon ; so that the public work accomplished in a single day is small. It is incumbent on them to devote sufficient time to their tasks ; if not, then the work of the government cannot be done.

IX.—Everything must be faithfully done, because fidelity is the origin of justice. The distinction between good and bad, between success and failure, depends on fidelity. When both prince and subjects are faithful then there are no duties which cannot be accomplished, but when both are unfaithful nothing can be done.

X.—Give up all thoughts of indignation and be not angered with others on account of a disagreement of opinion. Each one may have a different point of view and may therefore come to a different conclusion. If the one side be right then the other must be wrong, or the cases may be just reversed. It would be unjust to set down one man as surely wise and another as positively stupid ; because men cannot attain perfection in their characters. It is impossible to decide either side to be perfectly right or perfectly wrong. While you are angry with another who has a different view from you, you cannot be sure lest you be in the wrong. Therefore though you may think yourself in the right, it is safer to follow the opinions of the many.

XI.—Let merit and demerit be carefully considered, and let rewards and punishments be meted out accordingly. In times past this has often failed to be justly done. It is incumbent on all who are entrusted with the direction of public affairs and on all officers of the government to look carefully after the distribution of rewards and punishments.

XII.—Governors of provinces and their deputies must be careful not to impose too heavy duties on their subjects.* One state never has more than one prince, and in like manner the subjects cannot have more than one master. The prince is the head of all his dominions and of all his subjects. The officers of government are also the subjects of the prince ; and there is no reason why they should dare to lay undue burdens upon others who are subjects of the same prince.

XIII.—Each officer of the government has his appointed duty. Sometimes officers complain of the stagnation of business, which, however, is caused by their own absence from their appointed duties. They must not make a pretence of the performance of their duties, and by their neglect interrupt public affairs.

XIV.—Subjects and officers must not be jealous of each other. If one person is envious of another, the second is sure to be envious of the first. Thus the evils of jealousy never end. If men shall envy each other on account of their talent and wisdom, no single wise man would ever be obtained for government service through a thousand years. What a noble method of governing a state would that be which expelled from its service all wise men !

XV.—To sacrifice private interests for the public good is the duty of the subject. When men are selfish there must be ill-will ; when ill-will comes, then with it must

come iniquity, which will disturb the public welfare, Ill-will is sure to bring about the breaking of wholesome rules and the violation of the laws of the state. It is for this reason that the harmony between superior and inferior spoken of in the first article is so important.

XVI.—To select a convenient season in which to employ men for public work is the rule of good ancient law. Winter is a time of leisure; but during the season between spring and autumn, in which they are employed on their farms and in feeding silk-worms, it is not expedient to take men from their work, or interfere with them in their efforts to supply food and clothing.

XVII.—Important matters should only be settled after due conference with many men. Trifling matters may be decided without conference, because they are not so material in their effects; but weighty matters, on account of their far-reaching consequences, must be discussed with many councillors. It is thus that the right way shall be found and pursued.





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