

東山堂 弓道部門販売 開設のお祝い文 (英語版)

In all times and ages, Nasuno Yoichi is considered one of the greatest masters in the world of archery. At the Battle of Yashima in The Tales of the Heike, Nasuno Yoichi is known to have hit the bullseye on a boat in one shot. As Nasuno Yoichi was sent to fight a war by his master, Yoshitsune Minamoto, he fell ill on his way to Kyoto. And while he recuperated from his illness in Fushimi, Kyoto, he is said to have regularly visited the Sokujoin Temple to give prayers to Amitabha. His extraordinary recovery following his visits to the Sokujoin Temple has led to his victory at the Battle of Genpei. Due to his successful campaign, he was later promoted to become the commander and was given five provinces – Tamba, Shinano, Wakasa, Musashi, and Bicchu.

However, he later abruptly ended his career as a Samurai and returned to the Sokujoin Temple in Kyoto to honor those who have fallen in the Battle of Genpei as a Buddhist monk. He has lived the remainder of his life peacefully and well respected by the locals in Kyoto until his death at the age of 34. The temple has later erected a large stone monument to celebrate his life.

Today, people visit the Sokujoin Temple to wish their prayers to come true, just the way Nasuno Yoichi was able to hit the bullseye in one shot. His direct descendent (the 37th master of the Nasu family, Masami Nasu, pictured below) regularly visits the Sokujoin Temple to give floral tribute to Nasuno Yoichi.

For all of us at the Sokujoin Temple, it is honor to have Higashiyama-Do to offer archery gears in Kyoto, where Nasuno Yoichi has had such a cherished life. We also wish that their mission to “expand Japan’s traditional art of archery” throughout the world would be a successful one. We want to sincerely congratulate the grand opening of the Archery Gear Department.

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