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sho-shin

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Hello sho-shin,
The Web-Site will be
www.reninet.com/shoshin
Any search engine or sword
devoted web site should
provide either the address or direct link.

Keep an eye out!

sho-shin often has the chance to handle important and rare pieces from history. The appraisal of Japanese swords is largely dependent on knowing the styles or shapes of swords, as is repeatedly pointed out in the "Appraisal Series." These are extracted from the 5 part book set, sho-shin "Japanese Swords - Appraisal and Price," and presented here for the newsletter readership.

Over and over, experience teaches that swords are identifiable by shape. Shape, or sword style, changed with steady regularity, every 50 years or so, from one recognizable proto-type to another.

These rare and important pieces, sho-shin has the pleasure to present, of course, also have a rare and important history. While being extremely interesting, they provide readers, an excellent opportunity for appraisal study and insight by opening whole areas of



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related Japanese history. These Japanese histories fit the sword time line, and place together the knowledge-puzzle that is fundamentally and absolutely required for anyone hoping to know swords.

Japanese history and the sword time line are quite

uniform and understandable. Appraising swords is knowing the sword shapes, or

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SUGATA, according to time. Time and shape, or style, are nearly identical terms and knowing these styles and the times from which they came are, essentially, the whole of the key to unlocking the mystery of Japanese swords.

Therefore, it is most important to read and study these various stories and histories and place them together because, by design, they fit together and reveal the

whole landscape & time-picture for swords and sword study. Please read every article. They are chosen to bring together a seamless understanding of the stream of history pertinent to sword study and are a requirement for appraisal and the development of an acute eye.

Issue #4 completes the appraisal considerations for the KAMAKURA period wherein, the great masters stream to SAGAMI and issue #5 tackles the NAMBOKUCHO, where the country settles after the great masters struck back for home.

A full and complete appraisal capability for the whole of the KOTO period will be provided by issues #6, #7 & #8.