

CONTENTS

Foreword	xiii
Acknowledgements	xvii
Conventions Used in this Book	xix
<i>Romanisation and Spelling</i>	xix
<i>Layout, Brackets and the Treatment of Technical Terms</i>	xx
<i>Names</i>	xxii
<i>Toponyms (Provinces, Domains and Fiefs)</i>	xxiv
Introduction	
Pre-modern Japan and the Coming to Prominence of the Warrior Class	1
<i>The Rise of the Warrior</i>	1
<i>The Warriors Take Control</i>	3
<i>Who Were the samurai?</i>	4
<i>The End of the samurai</i>	5
Martial Traditions of the Japanese Warrior Class	6
<i>Early Martial Traditions of the bushi and Their Subsequent Formalisation</i>	6
<i>The Evolution of Traditional Martial Arts Schools into Popular Styles</i>	8
<i>From War to Martial Arts</i>	9
<i>Swordsmanship Enters a New Era</i>	10
<i>Post-WWII Swordsmanship</i>	11
Taisha-ryū and Its Predecessors	12
<i>The Three Founding Schools</i>	12
<i>Kage-ryū</i>	13
<i>The Birth of Shinkage-ryū</i>	15
<i>Marume Kurando</i>	18
<i>Tai-sha</i>	21
Formative Documents of Taisha-ryū	23
The <i>Shinkage-ryū</i> ‘Prohibitions of the Worthy Deva’ (<i>Shinkage-ryū Sonten-no Kinsei</i> ; 新陰流尊天之禁制)	27
The <i>Taisha-ryū</i> ‘Unravelling the Cords’ (<i>Taisha-ryū Kaichū</i> ; タイ捨流解紐)	41
<i>Preface (Jo; 序)</i>	47
<i>Book of the Rat (Ne-no Kan; 子ノ巻)</i>	51
<i>Book of the Ox (Ushi-no Kan; 丑ノ巻)</i>	79
<i>Book of the Tiger (Tora-no Kan; 寅ノ巻)</i>	123
<i>Fifty Secret Poems (Hika Gojusshu; 秘歌五十首)</i>	157
<i>Five Subjects of Study (Goka-no Narai; 五个ノ習)</i>	181

<i>Eighteen Articles on the Manner of Transmission</i>	
(<i>Denjutsu Jūhakkajō</i> ; 伝術十八ヶ條)	185
(Afterword)	195
 Historical Background: From Marume Kurando	
to Nakano Shūmei and Beyond	
The Founder of Taisha-ryū Marume Kurando-no Suke Nagayoshi	201
<i>One of the Best Students of Kamiizumi Ise-no Kami</i>	202
<i>Menkyo Kaiden</i>	204
<i>Kurando's Forced Seclusion</i>	207
<i>The Two Best Swordsmen under Heaven</i>	209
<i>The Taisha-ryū of Master Kurando</i>	211
<i>The Last Years of Kurando</i>	212
The Taku Taisha-ryū and its Early <i>shihanke</i>	215
<i>Beginnings</i>	215
<i>The Wider Nakano Clan</i>	217
<i>Nakano Shūmei</i>	222
<i>Ishida Ittei</i>	229
<i>The Nakano and the Yamamoto</i>	232
<i>Yamamoto Jōchō and the Hagakure</i>	233
<i>The Challenge of Identifying Historical Persons</i>	237
Later <i>shihanke</i>	240
<i>The Yamaryō Family</i>	240
<i>Short History of the Saga Kōdōkan</i>	244
<i>Saga under Nabeshima Naomasa</i>	247
<i>Nabeshima Ōsumi</i>	251
<i>Taku Shigetsugu</i>	256
Nakano / Yamaryō Family Tree	260
 Hyōhō: Syncretism of the Artistic, Martial and Spiritual	
The Roots of Japanese Martial Mysticism	267
<i>The Seven Military Classics</i>	269
<i>Cross-pollination with Daoism and Confucianism</i>	278
<i>Cross-pollination with Esoteric Buddhism</i>	285
<i>Japanese Martial Mysticism</i>	292
Chán (Zen) and the Symbolism of the Sword	294
<i>Setsunintō and Katsujinken</i>	295
<i>The 'Sword' of Mañjuśrī</i>	307
The Kaichū and the Literature of its Kind	315
<i>Nō-gaku</i>	315
<i>Codes of Law and Codes of Conduct</i>	319
<i>Among the Ranks of the Gorin-no Sho and the Heihō Kadensho</i>	327

THE QUESTIONS OF LIFE, DEATH AND RIGHTEOUSNESS XI

The Questions of Life, Death and Righteousness	331
‘ <i>Life and Righteousness</i> ’ vs. ‘ <i>Death and Honour</i> ’.....	331
‘ <i>Light</i> ’ and ‘ <i>Heavy</i> ’.....	342
Ishida Ittei on ‘ <i>Bushidō</i> ’.....	351
Some Concluding Thoughts	358
Appendix A: Supplementary Materials	
Lineages of Taisha-ryū	363
<i>The Main Line</i>	364
<i>The Taku Line</i>	366
Maps	371
Appendix B: Original Texts	
Bibliography	381
List of Illustrations	435
List of Illustrations	443