



ITEM# UJKA172

A KOBAYASHI KUNITERU KATANA SIGNED & DATED, 3RD YEAR OF ENPO (AUGUST 1675)

Swordsmith: *Kobayashi Ise no Kami KUNITERU (first generation)*
Location: Settsu province (Osaka)
Length: 73.9cm (ubu) **Curvature:** 1.5cm **Moto-haba:** 2.94cm
Hamon: *Dai gunome midare*
Jihada: *Beautiful dense itame, part masame on shinogi, sunagashi, kinsuji*
Certificate #1: **NBTHK Tokubetsu Hozon** (a sword designated as Especially Worthy of Preservation by the Society for the Preservation of the Japan Art Sword)
Certificate #2: **NTHK-NPO Yushusaku** (a sword designated as Highly Excellent by the Non-Profit Japanese Sword Appraisal Association)
Fujishiro: *Jo-saku* (ranked as a superior swordsmith)
Cutting Ability: *Wazamono* (maker of sharp swords)
Included: Shirasaya, sword fabric bag, sword stand, maintenance kit, DVD, etc.

SOLD

Behold a magnificent katana by *Shodai (first generation) Kobayashi Ise no Kami Kuniteru*. Born *Kobayashi Hayanoshin*, Kuniteru studied under first-generation *Shodai Kunisuke* of the *Kunisuke School*. He became not only one his star students, but also his adopted son-in-law by marrying his sensei's daughter.

Kuniteru was granted the title of *Ise Daijo* in 1671, and upgraded it to *Ise no Kami (Lord of Ise province)* in spring 1672. Once becoming Ise no Kami until the Tenna era (1684), Kuniteru was considered the finest swordsmith after *Tsuda Sukehiro* and *Inoue Shinkai* in Osaka.

The *ubu-nakago* (original length) katana is from his glory days as it is dated to the third year of Enpo, August 1675.

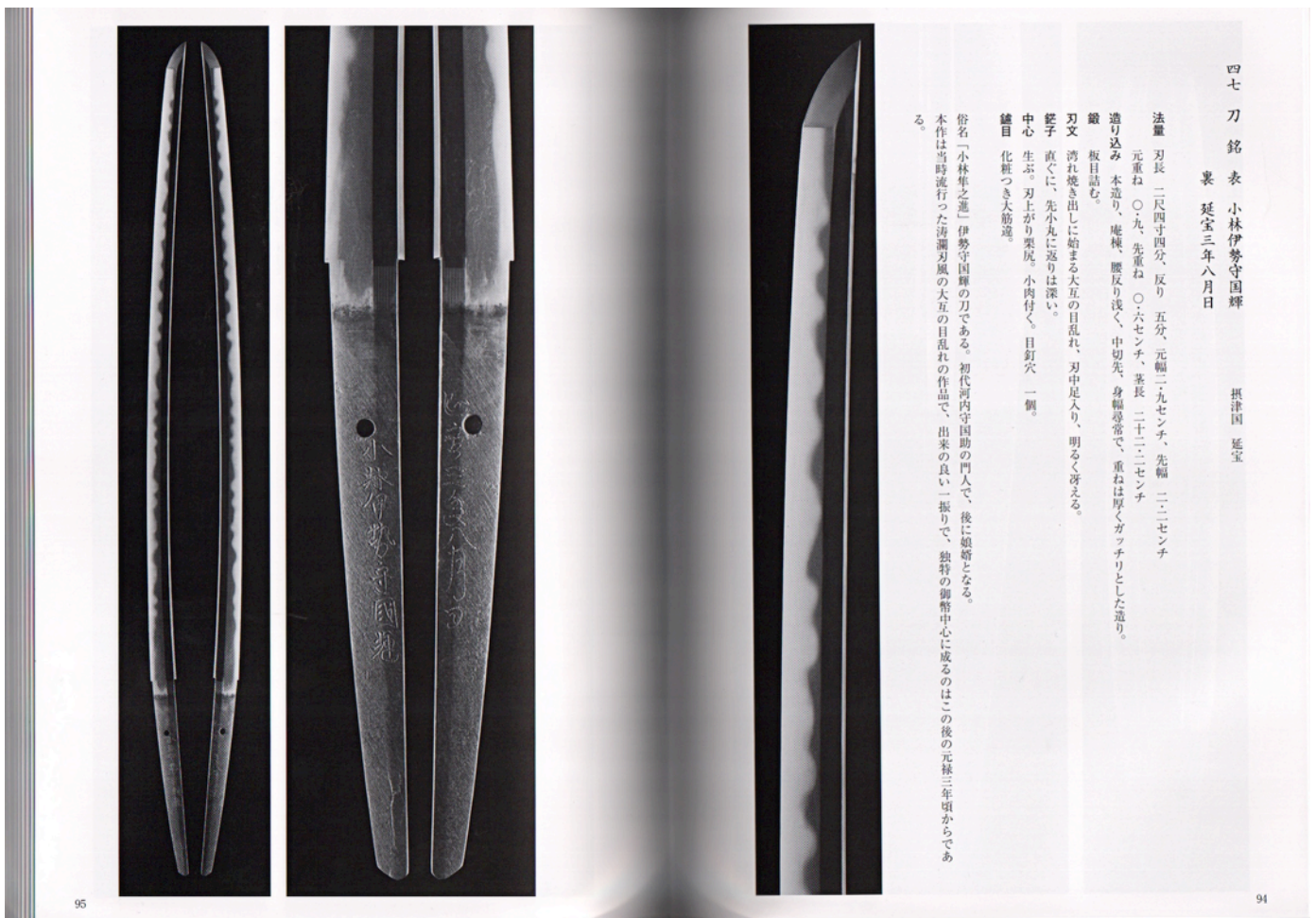
The sword is prime example of what made Kuniteru so well-respected. A long, beautifully forged *jigane*, a gorgeous *dai-gunome midare hamon* of surging waves and long *ashi* (legs) reminiscent of fellow Settsu province grandmaster *Sukehiro*.

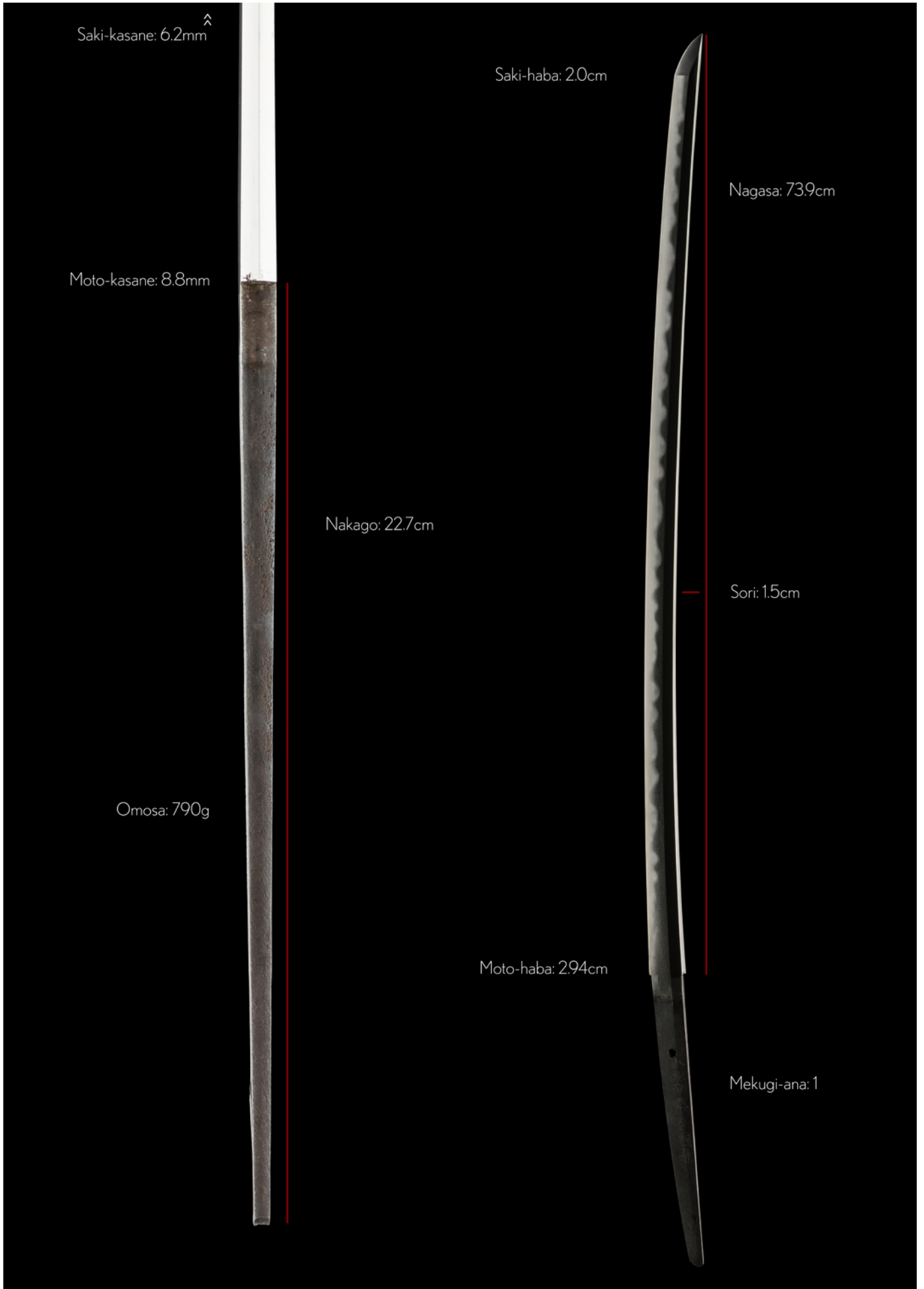
The sword has two highly-desired certificates of authenticity, *NBTHK Tokubetsu Hozon* and *NTHK-NPO Yushusaku*, the sword preservation society's highest level of honour.

The sword has also been published in the *NTHK-NPO's Book of Yushuto swords* (see image below). A complimentary copy of the book will be included for the new caretaker of this mighty sword.

This is a classic Samurai sword of the early Edo period. Like many top swords of it's time, the sword is housed in a *shirasaya* only.

A custom *koshirae* is therefore being crafted for this remarkable katana.









A beautifully tapered *nakago* (tang) with acutely angled file marks and a calligraphy-inspired signature.

Kuniteru was a true artist - attention to every layer of detail.

This katana, crafted by
Kobayashi Kuniteru, has been
dated to a day in the 8th month
of the 3rd year of the Enpo era.

August, 1675.

Enpo

3
nen

8
gatsu
hi

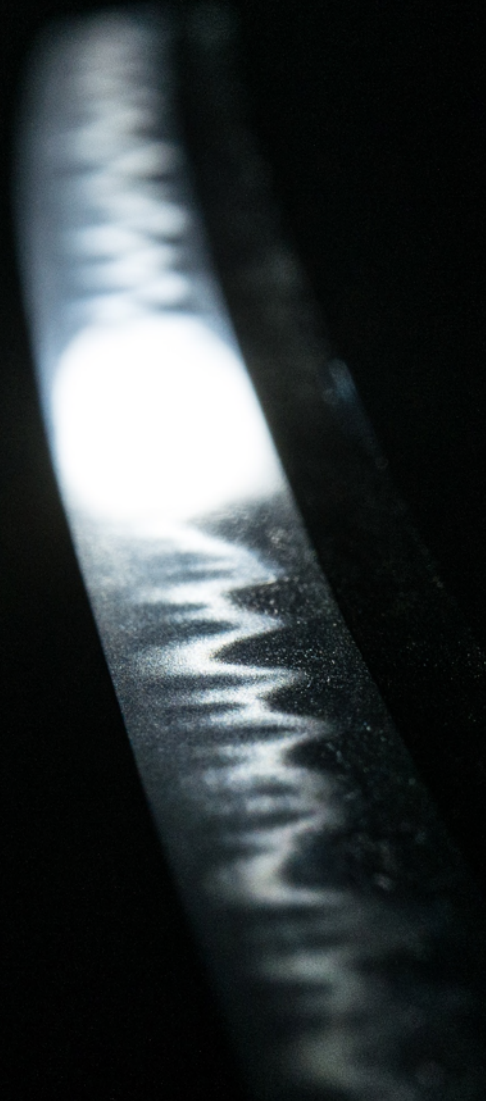


Hamon

A most impressive *dai gunome midare* (large irregular wavy temper line).

The hamon is bright and has consistency in width of the band of crystals forming the hamon called the *nio-guchi*.

Note the long *ashi* (legs) flaring out to the blade's edge.



Yakidashi

The beginning of a *hamon* (temper line) where the cutting edge starts is called the *Yakidashi*.

The *Osaka-yakidashi*, is a term that describes the *yakidashi* pattern for swords coming from the Settsu region (Osaka) in the Edo period.

In *Osaka-yakidashi*, the hamon widens slightly at the base and flows naturally into the hamon.







In some cases, such as with the Kuniteru katana here, the yakidashi is a gentle *notare* (undulating wave) which blossoms into a grand *dai gunome midare*.

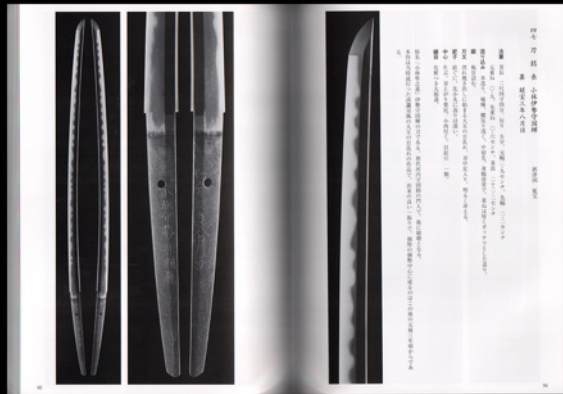


widens



Niju-habaki
(gold on copper base)

捺 査 印 員	備 考	寸 法	拵 え	中 心	図 影 柄 り	鑑 子	刃 紋	下 地	鍛	造 り 込 み	銘 文	第 五 七 五 九 号
				目釘穴 一個		道下小丸返り横手込	浅水庵忠、大五の目札刀作是良し		板目詰	銘造り	小林伊勢守國輝 延宝三年八月日	
				鐵 化極付之入竹助達								
												
												
												
												



NTHK-NPO Yushusaku Certification

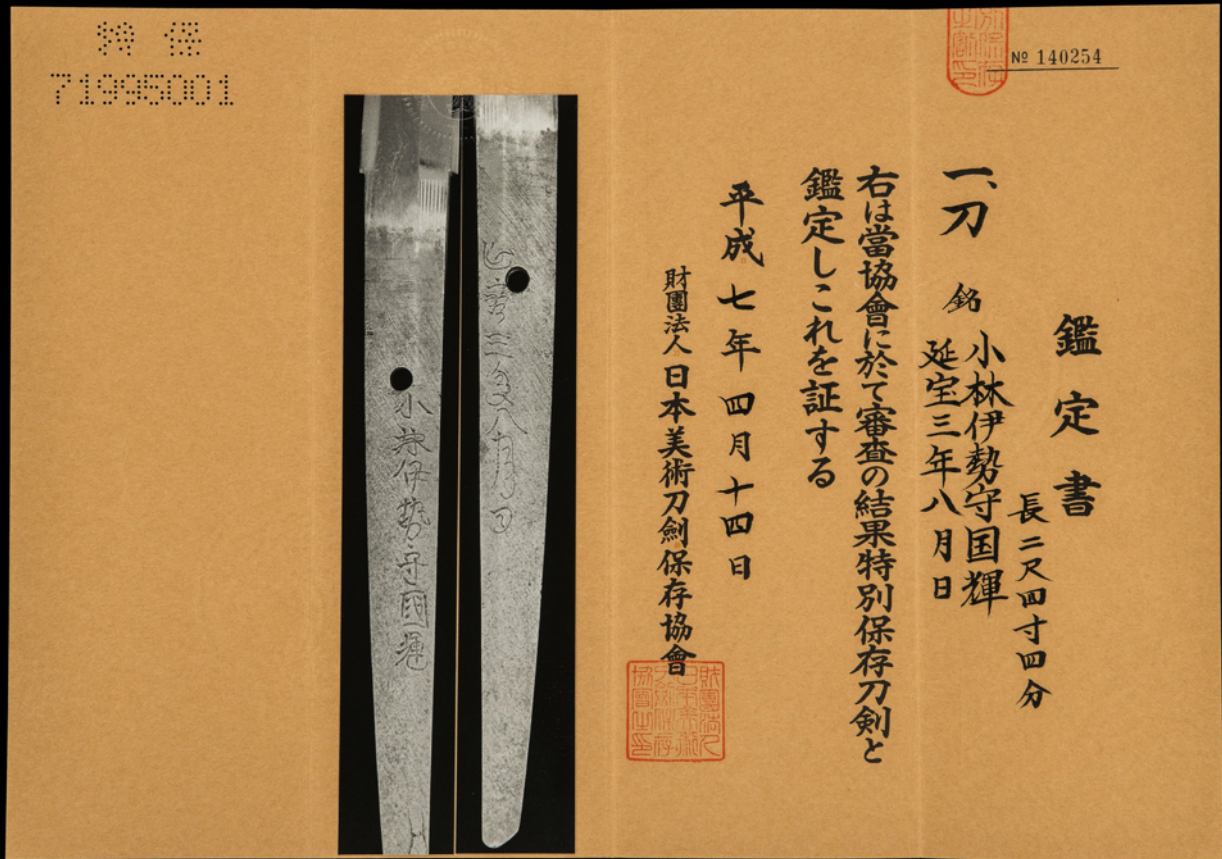
This wakizashi was designated as *Yushusaku* (Highly Excellent) by the Society for the Preservation of the Japanese Sword.

It has been published in a catalogue issued by the NTHK-NPO with other *Yushusaku* awarded swords. Book included with sword.

Kobayashi Ise no Kami Kuniteru

Issued in 26th year of Heisei (2014), July 23rd

Nihon Token Hozon Kai
(NTHK-NPO)



NBTHK Tokubetsu Hozon Certificate of Designation

(a sword designated as *Especially Worthy of Conservation*
by the Society for the Preservation of the Japan Art Sword)

Issued in the 7th year of Heisei (1995), April 10th

One, Katana

Mei (signature)

*Kobayashi Ise no Kami Kuniteru
Enpo 8-gatsu hi*

Nagasa (length)

2-shaku 4-sun 4-bu (73.9cm)

Nihon Bijutsu Token Hozon Kyokai
(NBTHK)

Steps to Building Your Own Koshirae

*Many fine antique Samurai swords today come stored only in a shirasaya.
A shirasaya acts like a humididor, protecting the steel for the long term.
Just as the Samurai would have custom ordered during the Edo Period
we can build a traditional set of outdoor koshirae (sword mounts) for your sword.*

Step 1: Choose your sword (find the sword that chooses you)



Step 2: Select your antique fittings & colours (decide on a theme that speaks to you and your sword)



Step 3: Patience...

(it takes about 3-6 months to build as it is handmade by master craftsmen in Japan)

Total production cost ranges from \$2,500 ~ \$5,000

Please speak to a member of the Unique Japan team to get started!