



ITEM# UJKA342

SOLD

A KANETSUGU KATANA

SIGNED & DATED, 6TH MONTH OF THE 7TH YEAR OF HEISEI (JUNE 1995)

Swordsmith: *Higo no Kuni Jû Akamatsu Tarô Kanetsugu saku (ubu nakago) Utsushi Minamoto Kiyomaro*

Measurements: **Length:** 74.0cm **Curvature:** 2.0cm **Weight:** 895g

Jihada: *Dense ko-itame with ji-nie*

Hamon: *Wavy gunome choji-midare with sunagashi and long streaks of kinsuji*

Authentication: **Sayagaki** by the swordsmith himself

Included: Shirasaya, koshirae, bags, kit, printed description

SOLD

Born *Kimura Kanesada* in 1951, living swordsmith *Kanetsugu* is of the *Akamatsu Tarô School* having studied under his father *Kimura Kaneshige*. *Kanetsugu* is a greatly admired modern-day swordsmith who currently lives in *Yatsushiro* in *Kumamoto prefecture* on *Kyushu island*.

The *Akamatsu Taro school* uses its own *tamahagane* giving their *jigane* a unique quality. This sword is a faithful *utsushi* (recreation) of a katana by maestro *Minamoto Kiyomaro*. The sword was dated in June of 1995 with a huge *kissaki* and a bright, bold *hamon* with a wavy *gunome-choji-midare* pattern with long streaks of *kinsuji*. It was commissioned by a husband and wife as written by *Kanetsugu* on the *shirasaya sayagaki*. A modern-day *koshirae* was crafted with an alluring theme of flowers, spiders and a pair of *menuki* depicting a dragon swallowing a sword.



Saki-kasane: 4.6mm

Moto-kasane: 6.9mm

Omosa: 895g

Kissaki: 10.17cm

Saki-haba: 3.09cm

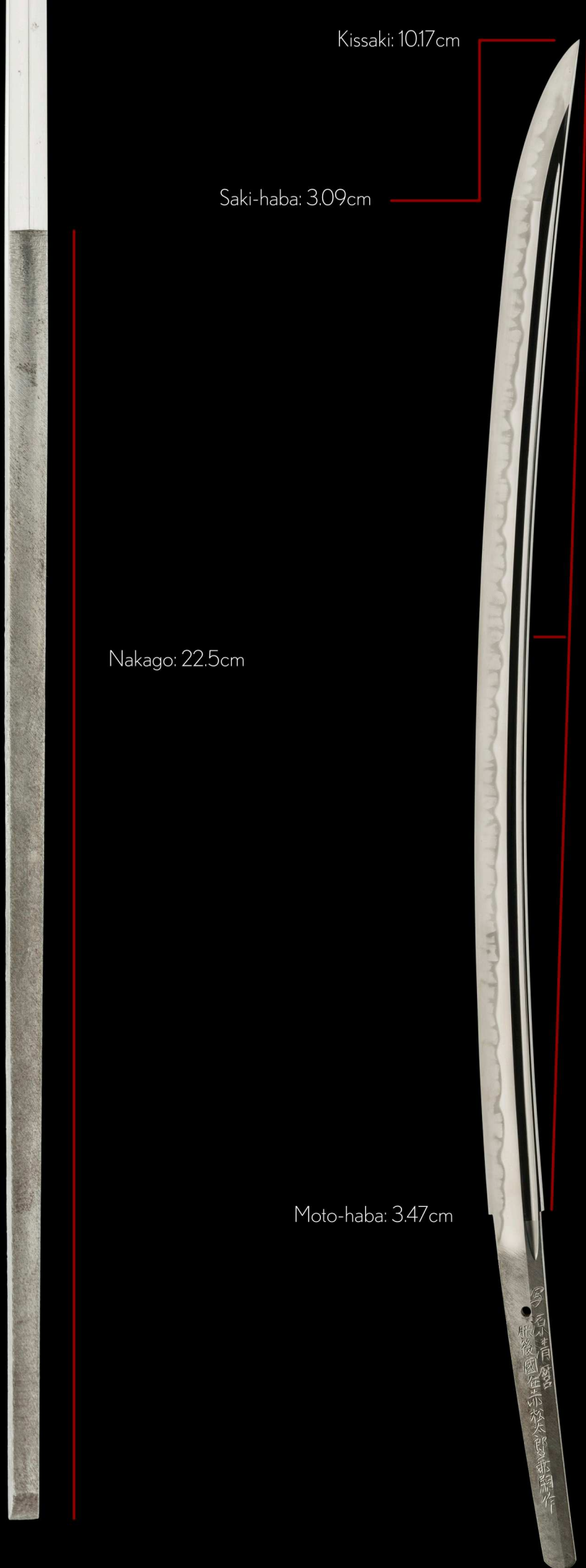
Nakago: 22.5cm

Moto-haba: 3.47cm

Nagasa: 74.0cm

Sori: 2.0cm

Mekugi-ana: 1



Kiyomaro is arguably the finest sword smith of the shinshinto era on par with the likes of shinto period's *Kotetsu*, *Horikawa Kunihiro* and *Hizen Tadayoshi*.

Kiyomaro committed suicide at the age of 42 in 1854 after years of battling alcohol and likely mental illness.

He is the most sought after sword smith of the late Edo period and a number wonderful *utsushi* (recreations) such as this katana exist in his honour.

Kiyomaro's work can be classified as working in three major traditions, the *Sôshu tradition*, the *Mino tradition*, and the *Bizen tradition* which this particular katana is forged in.



Location: *Higo* (resident of Kumamoto)

School: *Akamatsu Tarô*

Swordsmith: *Kanetsugu*

ubu-nakago (original, unaltered tang)

sujikai-yasurime (diagonal file marks)

A faithful recreation of Minamoto Kiyomaro katana

写 (Utsushi)

源 (Minamoto)

清 (Kiyô)

磨 (maro)

(Hi) 肥

(go, no) 後

(Kuni) 國

(jû) 住

(Aka) 赤

(matsu) 松

(Ta) 太

(rô) 郎

(Kane) 兼

(tsugu) 嗣

(saku) 作

写
源
清
磨
肥
後
國
住
赤
松
太
郎
兼
嗣
作

Heiei nananen rokugatsu kichijitsu
Dated on a lucky day in June in the
7th year of Heisei era (1995)

(Hei) 平
(sei) 成
(nana) 七
(nen) 年
(roku) 六
(gatsu) 月
(kichi) 吉
(jitsu) 日




An intimidating *o-kissaki*
of over 10cm (~4inches)





a gorgeous *gunome-choji midare hamon* with long streaks of *kinsuji*

A close-up, high-contrast photograph of a curved blade, likely a katana, showing a hamon pattern. The blade is dark and metallic, with a bright, glowing edge. The hamon pattern is visible as a series of small, sharp, white peaks along the length of the blade. The background is black, making the blade stand out.

The hamon is equally consistent on both sides of the blade - it is extremely healthy and full of life.



御夫妻の御注文で作刀

Gofusai no gochûmon de sakutô

This sword was crafted for a husband and wife

刀匠兼嗣木村兼定

Tôshô Kanetsugu Kimura Kanesada

Swordsmith Kanetsugu

(born: Kimura Kanesada)

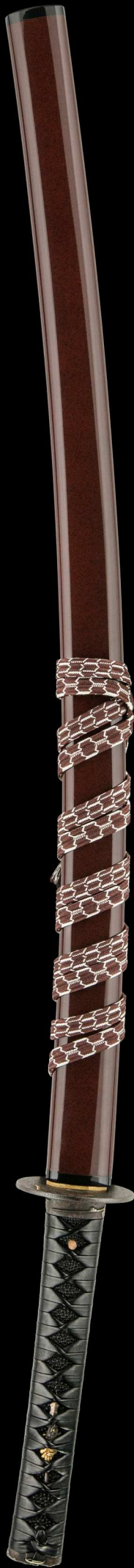


Shirasaya
(protective scabbard)



silver *habaki* with
diagonal file marks

A traditionally crafted
Uchigatana Koshirae





A spider and its web depicted on the iron tsuba.

"Let spiders live in the morning, kill spiders at night" is a popular Japanese superstition stating that seeing a spider in the morning brings good luck while such an occurrence brings bad luck at night.

One theory is that the spider's morning visit symbolizes a guest during the day, while the nightly encounter implies a thief.



Fuchi-kashira with a carved floral design





Menuki (decorative grips) depict a dragon swallowing a sword known as *Kenmaki-ryû*.
The tsuka (hilt) is traditionally wrapped with high-quality black leather.



Watch Pablo's video presentation of ujka342 Kanetsugu Katana

Access on YouTube:
<https://youtu.be/yeNVON9jxfs>

