



ITEM# UJWA124

A DAIMINKIN WAKIZASHI

SIGNED, EDO PERIOD (KANBUN ERA: 1661-1672)

- Swordsmith:** DAIMINKIN (also read DAIMINKYO)
Location: Izumo no Kuni (Shimane prefecture)
Length: 32.3cm **Curvature:** 0.7cm
Jihada: *Tight ko-itame*
Hamon: *Gunome midare with "Jizo boshi"*
Nakago: *Ubu (uncut, original length)*
Certificate #1: **NBTHK Tokubetsu Kicho** (*a sword certified as being Especially Precious by the Society for the Preservation of the Japan Art Sword*)
Certificate #2: **NTHK-NPO Kanteisho** (*koshirae sword fittings designated as Important by the Society for the Preservation of the Japanese Sword*)
Fujishiro: **Chujo-saku** (*ranked as an above average swordsmith*)

SOLD

Born with family name *Kunishige* and also known by *Korei Yakuro*, swordsmith *Daiminkin* lived in the picturesque Samurai city of *Matsue* known as the "City of Water".

It is said that the *Daiminkin* family can trace its roots to the Korean peninsula much like the *Rai School* of the *Kamakura* period. There are three generations of *Daiminkin*. This is considered the work of the first generation, or *shodai*. The *ubu nakago* (unaltered tang) is signed with his name.

The *tsuka* (hilt) is made of beautifully aged antique rosewood from the *Edo* period. This is rare and would have been very expensive to produce at the time. Only a Samurai with great prestige could have afforded to commission such subtle luxury.

Delicately carved rowboats (much like Venician gondolas) are depicted on the *fuchi-kashira* paying tribute to the canals of *Matsue*. The wavy *gunome hamon* (temper line) compliments the water scene with the wooden hilt embodying a boat floating along its calm surface.

From blade to fittings, this is a unique find with two certificates of authenticity; the first is a vintage NBTHK Tokubetsu Kicho from 1969 (granting the wakizashi *Especially Precious* status) and in 2014 an NTHK-NPO Kanteisho certification was bestowed for the *koshirae* (fittings).

Further images below; note the demon warding off evil spirits on the *kozuka* (utility knife).

