北基・南基のプレートの **QR** コードより当組合の **HP** の住吉講にリンクし両プレートの以下の英語翻訳が閲覧できます。翫物商住吉常夜石燈籠（北基）

Ganbutsu-sho Sumiyoshi Joya Isi-doro

(Nightlight Standing Stone Lantern) (North unit)

—— Sumiyoshi Taisha, guardian deity of toys and dolls ——

Ganbutsu-sho were traders that handled "toys", such as current toys and traditional dolls, in Edo period (1603 – 1868). At that time, Ganbutsu-sho were involved in the production/sales and distribution of straw dolls and wood carving toys.
Osaka in Edo period prospered as the “Kitchen of the nation” and Osaka was the center of Ganbutsu (toy /traditional doll) trade. Heads of dolls and Nishijin-ori Hina doll kimono were brought to Osaka. Osaka shipped Hina dolls and toys nationwide and toys and traditional dolls from all parts of Japan were also sent to Osaka, making Osaka a bustling market place. And it was shipping that supported its distribution.

Sumiyoshi Taisha (Grand Shrine) had been gathering faith in navigation safety since ancient times, but in the early modern period (16th -19th century), marine transportation, such as freight vessels known as Kitamae-kaisen and Higaki-kaisen, flourished, and those shipping companies and merchants of freights prayed for maritime safety and donated stone lanterns one after another. Even now, more than 600 stone lanterns, large and small, stand in the shrine precincts.

Ganbutsu-sho of Edo period formed the “Ganbutsu-sho Sumiyoshi-ko (Toy & Traditional Doll Trader Sumiyoshi Association)” at Sumiyoshi Taisha. It is not known when the Association was formed, but activity in 1755 is recorded and the first stone lantern was erected at Sumiyoshi Taisha in 1762. Thereafter, the Grand Shrine has become the center of the faith of toy and traditional doll traders, praying not only for maritime safety of trading, but also for the safety and prosperity of the trade. The tradition of Ganbutsu trade persisted while other trades prospered and declined, and renovation works of the stone lanterns were conducted five times: 1808. 1882, 1928, 1961 and 1991. Even today, the Grand Shrine is revered by toy and traditional doll traders from all over Japan and a regular visit and a general meeting is held every November to pray for the prosperity and development of all toy and traditional doll industries in Japan.

The 6th renovation work was completed upon dawning of the new era of Reiwa. We celebrate the dawning of the new era of Reiwa and commemorate the 260th anniversary of erecting Ganbutsu-sho Nightlight Standing Ishio-doro. We will honor the tradition and convey it to future generations for many years to come.

Renovation work completed on December 20 of Reiwa 2 (2020)

Osaka Gangu Ningyo Sumiyoshiko

Ganbutsu-sho Sumiyoshi Joya Isi-doro

(Nightlight Standing Stone Lantern) (South unit)

翫物商住吉常夜石燈籠　（南基）

—— History of Ganbutu-sho and Ishi-doro ——

Edo period

1762 Donated ishi-doro

Trading between Edo and Kamikata (Osaka/Kansai region) were conducted by maritime transportation by Japanese-style wooden ships. Wholesalers of Hina dolls and toys formed “Sumiyoshi-ko” in honor of Sumiyoshi Taisha in order to pray for safety of the sea route. At the proposal by Osaka traders, the east and west peers joined hand in donating a stone lantern.

1808 1st Renovation work in Bunka Era

Deterioration of stone lanterns over time and damages caused by earthquakes and typhoons were repaired to coincide with the Sengu (construction of a new shrine and transfer of enshrined objects from the old to the new occurring at a regular and precoordinated time) of Bunka era. Renovation work was executed mainly by traders of Osaka and Kyoto.

Modern times

1873 Meiji Restoration

On January 4, 1884, the Daijo-kan (Great Council of State) abolished the five annual ceremonies that were traditionally celebrated by the imperial court* with the adoption of the solar calendar and declared new holidays. Thereafter, the trend of breaking down customs and social changes caused the festival decorations to decline. In order to respond to the new age, toy and traditional doll traders organized the Osaka Toy Traditional Doll Trader Association.

*Gosekku: Jinjitsu (New Year’s); Joshi (March 3, Hinamatsuri); Tango (May 5, Boys’ festival); Tanabata (July 7, Star festival); Chooyoo (September 9, Chrysanthemum festival).

1882 2nd Renovation work of Meiji

Osaka Toy Industry Association was organized with the enactment of Osaka Sakai City Commerce and Industry Control law. Simultaneously, association members formed Osaka Sumiyoshi-ko and called on peers in Tokyo and Kyoto to conduct stone lantern renovation work in November of the same year.

1928 3rd Renovation work of Showa Era

To celebrate the dawn of Showa Era (Enthronement of Emperor Showa) and to

coincide with reorganization work of Sumiyoshi Taisha precinct, the Association called on peers in Tokyo, Kyoto and Nagoya to conduct a major renovation work. A total of 68 traders participated.

1961 4th Renovation work

1961 was the year for Sengu (Shrine transfer) and to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the 1st stone lantern erected in 1762, Sumiyoshi Taisha Ganbutsu-sho Ishi-doro Preservation Association (Chairman: ITO Tsuyoshi) was organized and conducted a renovation work. This was featured in industry journal “Gangu Shoho” (present day “Monthly Toy Journal”) and became a topic among the industry persons throughout Japan.

1991 5th Renovation work of Heisei Era

In celebration of dawn of Heisei Era (enthronement of Heisei Emperor) and to commemorate the 230th anniversary of Ishi-doro donation, Osaka Toy Traditional Doll Sumiyoshi-ko called on toy industries in Tokyo and Osaka to conduct a renovation work. Japan is one of the leading countries for toy production and as toys command a significant share in miscellaneous goods trade, it served to attract great attention to succession of the tradition.

2001 Publication of commemorative issue

“240 years history of Ganbutu-sho Nightlight Stone Lantern” was published on November 9, 2001, by Osaka Toy Traditional Doll Sumiyoshi-ko in commemoration of the 240th anniversary its foundation.

2020 6th Renovation work of Reiwa Era

The 6th renovation work was conducted to celebrate the dawn of Reiwa Era (Enthronement of Reiwa Emperor) and to commemorate the coming 260th anniversary of its foundation. Osaka Toy & Traditional Doll Sumiyoshi-ko and Osaka Toy & Traditional Doll Wholesaler Federated Association (Osaka Big Toy Dealers Cooperative, Osaka Toy Wholesaler Cooperative, Osaka Traditional Doll Wholesaler Cooperative) called on Osaka Toy Dealers Cooperative, Japan Toy Association, Tokyo Toy & Traditional Doll Association , Kansai Sekku Doll industry Association and Japan Plamodel Industry Association to conduct a major renovation of Ganbutsu-sho Nightlight Ishi-doro and to publicly honor the tradition.

We wish healthy growth and happiness to all children around the world and continue to pray for the development and unity of our toy & traditional doll industry.