

# Historical Princess Study Guide

Kazunomiya

Princess to Nun

Name: Chikako, Kazunomiya, Kazu

Born: August 1, 1846

Died: September 2, 1877

Spouse: Tokugawa Iemochi

Father: Emperor Ninko

Mother: Hashimoto Tsuneko

Issue: none



The Imperial House of Japan, also referred to as the Imperial Family or the Yamato Dynasty, comprises those members of the extended family of the reigning Emperor of Japan who undertake official and public duties. Under the present Constitution of Japan, the Emperor is "the symbol of the State and of the unity of the people". Other members of the Imperial Family perform ceremonial and social duties, but have no role in the affairs of government. The duties as an Emperor are passed down the line to their male children.

The Japanese monarchy is claimed to be the oldest continuous hereditary monarchy in the world. The Imperial House recognizes 126 monarchs beginning with the legendary Emperor Jimmu (traditionally dated to 11 February 660 BC) and continuing up to the current emperor, Naruhito.

*Above information gathered from Wikipedia*

## Website/ Non-Fiction Book List/ Historical Fiction

<https://www.nakasendoway.com/the-story-of-princess-kazunomiya/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Princess\\_Kazu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Princess_Kazu)

- Japan Under the Shoguns, 1185-1868 by, Mavis Pilbeam
- Art of Hokusai: Explore His Life and Legacy and Learn to Paint in His Unique Style by, Heather Rodino
- Ninjas and Samurai; a nonfiction companion to Magic Tree House #5 by, Mary Pope Osborne
- Kazunomiya, Prisoner of Heaven by, Kathryn Lasky
- Dragon of the Red Dawn (Magic Tree House #37, takes place in Edo, 1600s, before Kazu's time, but same "period") and Night of the Ninjas (book #5) by, Mary Pope Osborne
- The Young Samurai series by, Chris Bradford (also 1600s)
- Yuki and the One Thousand Carriers by, Gloria Whelan (a similar story to the journey of Kazu)

## Era Literature

**Jippensha Ikku** (1765–1831) is known as Japan's Mark Twain and wrote *Tōkaidōchū Hizakurige*, which is a mix of travelogue and comedy.

**Kyokutei Bakin** (1767–1848) wrote the extremely popular fantasy/historical romance *Nansō Satomi Hakkenden* over a period of twenty-eight years to complete.

**Poetry** - Traditional haiku often consist of 17 on (loosely translated as "syllables"), in three phrases of 5, 7, and 5 on, respectively, typically having to do with nature.

## Music

### Kabuki theatre

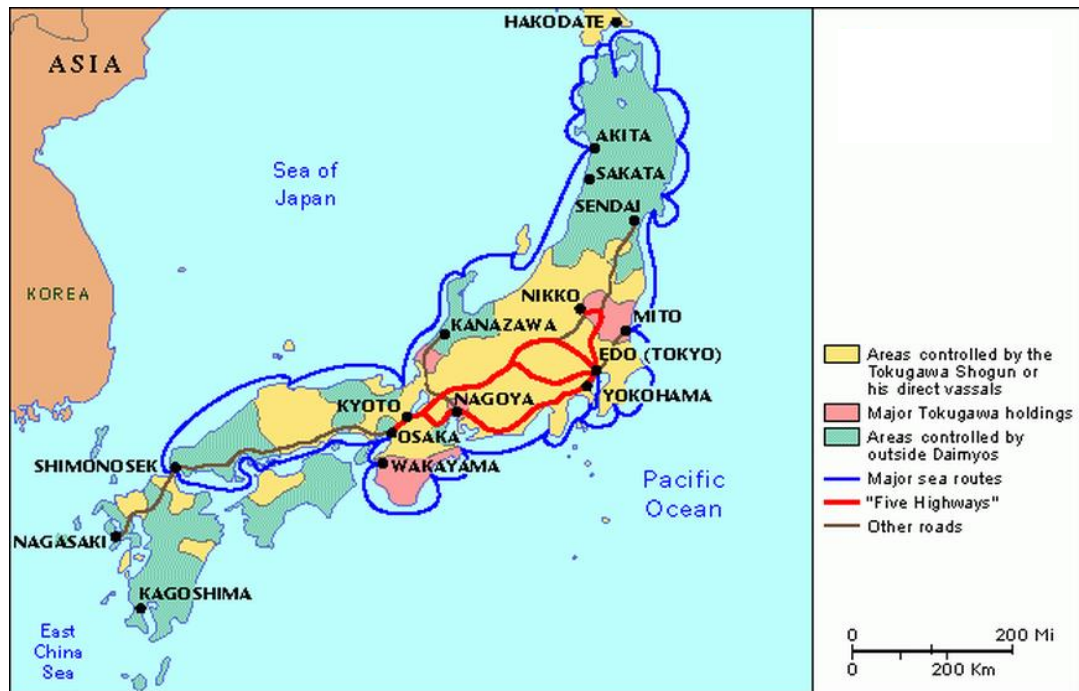
The nagauta (long song) form of lyric music, like most of the narrative forms, began with a close relation to the Kabuki popular theatre of the Tokugawa period. The first Kabuki performances used instruments from the Noh drama (storytelling). Because Kabuki was related to the flourishing demimonde of the major cities, however, the music of the party houses and brothels was soon added to the theatre. <https://www.britannica.com/art/Japanese-music/Samisen-music#ref283265>

## Art

Celebrated for their one-of-a-kind process and distinctive aesthetic, woodblock prints have become a widely recognized and iconic form of Japanese art. Along with paintings, prints produced from the 17th century through the 19th century captured the spirit of ukiyo-e, a genre that presented “pictures of the floating world” to the public. <https://mymodernmet.com/ukiyo-e-japanese-woodblock-prints/>



# Maps



# EAST ASIA, 1850-1900



|                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
|                      | Boxer Rebellion, 1898—1901 |
| <b>Taiping areas</b> |                            |
|                      | 1853—57                    |
|                      | 1857—63                    |
|                      | Nian Rebellion, 1853—68    |
|                      | Muslim revolts, 1855—73    |

| Railway | Colonial possessions | Spheres of influence             |
|---------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
|         |                      | Russia                           |
|         |                      | Britain                          |
|         |                      | Japan                            |
|         |                      | France                           |
|         |                      | Germany                          |
|         |                      | Treaty ports                     |
|         |                      | Former states tributary to China |

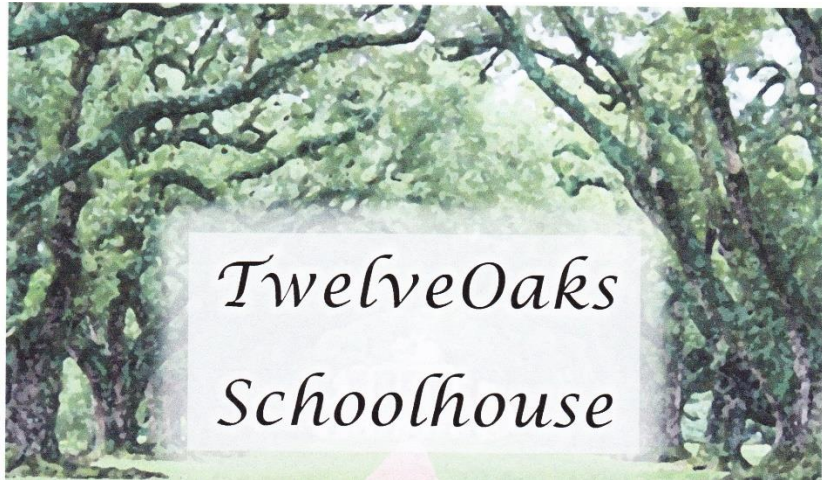
## Discussion or Essay Questions

1. Why was Kazu's birthdate "officially changed"?
2. Why was Kazu forced to get married?
3. What tragedies did Kazu experience during 1865-1867?
4. What did Kazu do after her brief marriage was over?
5. What was a Shogun? What happened to the Shogunate in 1868?

## Activities

1. Do a family tree of the Imperial House of Japan.
2. Research Buddhism. Write a report on what the day to day life of a Buddhist nun is.
3. Try Japanese wood block painting with help from this website - <https://mymodernmet.com/woodblock-printing-how-to/>
4. Write a haiku.





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*Kendra Bott*