

Explanatory Notes to the Original Edition

1. The illustrations contained in this volume were produced by Murata Deigyū based on a faithful copy of the *Senmen koshakyo*, *Ban Dainagon ekotoba*, *Chōjū giga*, *Shigisan engi*, *Gaki zōshi*, *Kitano Tenjin engi*.
2. The illustrations have been chosen from scenes in picture scrolls of everyday life of common people and aspects of aristocratic life pertinent to the life of ordinary people in modern times. An effort has been made not to focus on objects in isolation, but to situate everyday life in the context of its surrounding circumstances and activities.
The illustrations are presented not in the order of their appearance in the original scroll, but according to the following categories:
 1. dwellings
 2. clothing
 3. food
 4. furniture, facilities, techniques
 5. earning one's living, livelihood
 6. transportation
 7. trade
 8. appearance, actions, work
 9. life, status, disease
 10. death, burial
 11. life of children
 12. entertainment, play, social life
 13. annual events
 14. gods, festivals, religion
 15. animals, vegetation, nature
3. Explanatory notes below each illustration are keyed to numbers appended to the items and activities figuring in it. Standard terminology has been used as much as possible; items of uncertain identity are indicated by a question mark.
A circle around a number indicates a general category and a square indicates an activity.
4. Illustrations are numbered consecutively.
5. General explanations of the illustrations focus primarily on the topic chosen as the title of the illustration. Individual items are not explained in detail.
6. The works consulted in preparing the explanations include *Kojiruien*, *Kōbunko*, *Kojitsu sōsho*, *Kinsei fūzokushi*, *Kiyūshōran*, *Emaki* by Okudaira Hideo, and others; specific sources are not listed for individual illustrations.
7. The introductory note at the beginning of each picture scroll explains the following:
 1. The number of volumes, the date of the work, and the author
 2. The outline of the story and the value of the work as a source
8. This project is based on the conviction that there should be a pictorial index for pictorial materials comparable to dictionaries for written materials. It aims to compile such a pictorial index of ordinary life, but it is not intended to be a substitute for the original works, which, it is hoped, the reader will consult as far as possible. Consequently, elements regarded as nonessential to the present purpose have been omitted.

Explanatory Notes to the English Edition

1. This is an English translation of the revised edition of *Pictorial Dictionary of Japanese Folk Culture*, vol.1, edited by SHIBUSAWA Keizo and the Institute for the Study of Japanese Folk Culture, Kanagawa University, and published from Heibonsha in 1984. This volume includes English translations of the explanatory notes and lists of items appearing in the illustrations. A multilingual version of the lists of items, and a glossary and index are included in a separate volume.
2. An effort has been made to keep the translation as faithful as possible to the original text, but in some cases obvious and simple mistakes have been corrected. Some long quotations from historical sources have been omitted as well.
3. In principle, the original Japanese terms have not been included in the text, but where an English equivalent is hard to find, romanized Japanese terms are given in italics. These terms are explained in the glossary contained in the separate volume.
4. The original text may contain inaccuracies judged from today's understanding of the historical situation, statements about "modern" conditions that are no longer true in 2007, or discriminatory expressions, yet these passages have been in general translated as they are, preserving the content of the original.