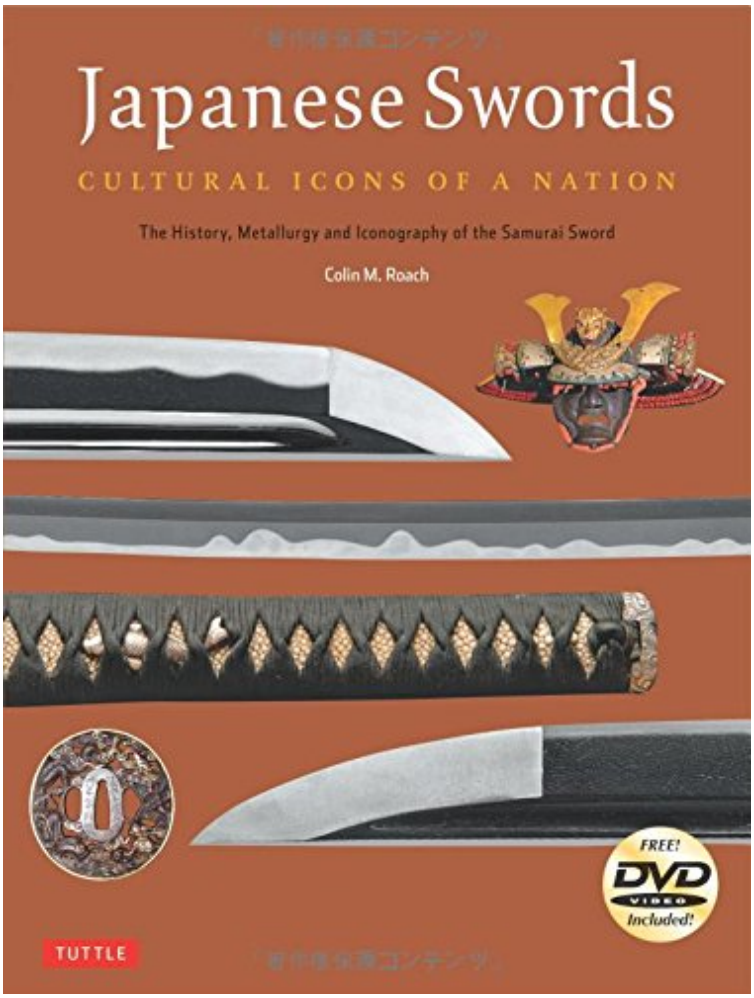
(Mobile pdf) Japanese Swords: Cultural Icons of a Nation; The History, Metallurgy and Iconography of the Samurai Sword

Japanese Swords: Cultural Icons of a Nation; The History, Metallurgy and Iconography of the Samurai Sword

Colin M. Roach
*ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook*



Download Read Online

#191029 in Books 2014-08-19 2014-08-19Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 12.00 x .70 x 9.00l, .0 #File Name: 4805313315176 pages | File size: 56.Mb

Colin M. Roach : Japanese Swords: Cultural Icons of a Nation; The History, Metallurgy and Iconography of the Samurai Sword before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Japanese Swords: Cultural Icons of a Nation; The History, Metallurgy and Iconography of the Samurai Sword:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Reference BookBy CharlieExcellent reference book with a great deal of information about the the various types of swords and the cultural importance of the sword. Well illustrated and an interesting read. Good resource information and additional resources identified. I contacted several of the resources as well as the author and found all to be very responsive and helpful. Unfortunately, as another reviewer noted, the editor did not do a very good job of proofreading and allowed the book to be printed with a

number of errors that could have been easily corrected.6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Content but Lots of TyposBy Thomas RavenAs others have mentioned, the component parts of this work are all excellent. From the photography to the in-depth analysis of Japanese sword making and the sword's place in Japanese culture, everything is well done. So why couldn't the publisher be troubled to actually proofread the book?It's astonishing to me that such a high quality work can be eroded by the carelessness of a publisher. On a single reading I found so many typos that they became a distraction from the content. I feel that this particular edition (I bought the hardcover) was given short shrift by Tuttle. That's a real tragedy considering the subject matter and the obvious care the author put into this work.The accompanying DVD provides some good "extras" similar to those found on movie releases. They left me wanting to see even more.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A GREAT BOOK.By Svein MagnussenThis is a beautiful book. I love just looking into it. Then reading about the history and background of this art is amazing.The work and love of sword craft is very special. The author has a great knowledge of what he's writing about.I never thought it could fetch my interest as it did.I really recommend this book. Just put it on your table and go back into it from time to time.Being a Norwegian it's very exotic to read about a far away culture such as the japanese...I just had some knowledge about Samurais and their swords...I guess that's why this book caught my attention.I'm glad i bought it.

With over 300 stunning photographs and woodblock prints along with extensive historical and cultural commentary, Japanese Swords is the ultimate authority on Samurai weaponry.Historically, Japanese warriors considered their swords to be far greater than simple weaponry. Their swords were both lethal tools and divine companions — social and religious icons. Traditionally worn by the samurai as a sign of social status, the Japanese sword represented the junction between the reigning military class and those whom they ruled. Moreover, the samurai sword was a technological and artistic marvel. Many scholars consider it to be the finest sword ever constructed.In terms of symbolism and historical importance, no other blade comes close to the Japanese sword. With a historical, iconographical, and technological perspective, author Cohn M. Roach provides an in-depth study of these magnificent weapons in Japanese Swords. This richly illustrated sword book weaves the blade's primary influences together, tracking its history and illuminating its progress from infancy to grandeur. By studying the evolution of the Japanese sword from this perspective, we better understand Japan and its warrior archetype.Combining research materials from multiple disciplines, Roach uses his expertise as an educator to guide readers through the sword's rise to greatness in a unique way. This book discusses the history, development, and spiritual symbolism of the sword, as well as the esoteric metallurgical techniques used in making it. It also covers the difficult training practices used by skilled swordsmen. Japanese Swords also includes a companion DVD featuring a beautifully-filmed documentary that explores the traditional swordmaker's craft. The DVD also contains an introduction to the Japanese sword at a sword shop in Kyoto and a visit to a dojo for a beginner's class in the medieval sword-drawing art called iaido.

From Publishers WeeklyRoach, a student of both iaido and aikido and a dedicated sword-enthusiast, passionately dissects the symbolic essence of the sword throughout history, emphasizing changes in social significance, technological influence, and iconography. The erudite prose is ameliorated by design, modern swordsmanship, traditional artwork, illustrative photos, and etiquette. Historical periods are elegantly punctuated with ornate depictions, highlighting shifts in katana design and value from early periods to the current interpretation of ancient disciplines. Roach's own deep-rooted interest and involvement in the subject ensures a seamless blend of historical and religious themes, as well as much "sword appreciation" (the author champions his comrades in promoting traditional craftsmanship and confronts the contemporary dilemma of commercial fraud and shameless profiteering). In order to truly understand the Japanese sword in its entirety one must, Roach suggests, appreciate the "unique sociological, spiritual, and metallurgical environment in which it evolved." With this at the core of his book, he vividly tracks the fundamental transition from the sword as a mythological instrument to a functional tool for war, and finally to the display art commodity it is today. (c) Copyright PWxyz, LLC. All rights reserved. "The imagery here is the real selling point. To me, you've got to show me as well as tell me about Japan. Trust me, if you've wanted to see some historical artifacts, detailed descriptions of Japanese swords, and a little glimpse into the world of Iaido, then you're in for a treat. "—Japan Finds blog"Beautiful photographs of swords, pictures of sword craftsmen at work, and illustrations of Japanese art and artifacts complement the thorough, scholarly text."—Maine Antique Digest"This oversized 176-page hardcover is overflowing with color and black-and-white photographs." —Black Belt Magazine"In order to truly understand the Japanese sword in its entirety one must, Roach suggests, appreciate the 'unique sociological, spiritual, and metallurgical environment in which it evolved.' With this at the core of his book, he vividly tracks the fundamental transition from the sword as a mythological instrument to a functional tool for war, and finally to the display art commodity it is today." —Publishers WeeklyAbout the AuthorColin M. Roach, M.Ed. lives in the high mountains of Utah with his wife and three sons. He is a private school administrator with expertise in the areas of differentiated teaching and learning, and a member of the All Kinds of Minds Institute's national teaching faculty. Mr. Roach is an avid student of Japanese history, culture, and martial arts. Four generations of familial connection to Japan have fueled

Mr. Roach's passionate study of Japan's archetypal warrior culture. In addition to his academic study of sword-related symbolism, he has trained with some of the top teachers of aikido and iaido in Japan and America. He holds the ranks of Youdan (4th degree) in iado and Sandan (3rd degree) in aikido. He also holds the teaching title ""Shidoin" in both arts. Mr. Roach often travels to teach sword-related symbolism, traditional Japanese swordsmanship, the etiquette involved when handling a Japanese sword, and iado's role in cultural preservation.