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Edited by Haruo Shirane and Tomi Suzuki

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THE CAMBRIDGE HISTORY OF
JAPANESE LITERATURE

The Cambridge History of Japanese Literature provides, for the first time, a history of Japanese literature with comprehensive coverage of the premodern and modern eras in a single volume. The book is arranged topically in a series of short, accessible chapters for easy access and reference, giving insight into both canonical texts and many lesser-known, popular genres, from centuries-old folk literature to the detective fiction of modern times. The various period introductions provide an overview of recurrent issues that span many decades, if not centuries. The book also places Japanese literature in a wider East Asian tradition of Sinitic writing and provides comprehensive coverage of women's literature as well as new popular literary forms, including manga (comic books). An extensive bibliography of works in English enables readers to continue to explore this rich tradition through translations and secondary reading.

HARUO SHIRANE, Shincho Professor of Japanese Literature at Columbia University, is a specialist in Japanese literature and culture, with interests in prose fiction, poetry, and drama; the interaction between popular and elite cultures; and issues of cultural memory. He is the author and editor of over twenty books. His most recent book, *Japan and the Culture of the Four Seasons* (2012), explores the cultural construction of nature across a wide spectrum of media and arts.

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DAVID LURIE, Associate Professor of Japanese History and Literature at Columbia University, specializes in the literary, cultural, and intellectual history of premodern Japan. His research concerns the development of writing and literacy; the history of linguistic thought; and Japanese and comparative mythology. His first book, *Realms of Literacy: Early Japan and the History of Writing* (2011), treated the advent of Japanese inscription and the early development of literature and other modes of writing.

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Edited by
HARUO SHIRANE
and
TOMI SUZUKI
with
DAVID LURIE



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A note on Romanization and conventions

All Romanization of Japanese names and terms follows the Hepburn system. East Asian names are written in the traditional order (surname followed by given name), except in cases when a person publishes in English using their given name followed by surname. Romanization of Chinese names and terms follows the Pinyin system except in quotations of translations using the older Wade-Giles system, which have been left unchanged. Romanized titles are in lower case after the initial letter, unless they include proper nouns.

In order to reduce the number of references, all cited English-language sources on Japanese literature can be found in the bibliography, which covers major English-language publications and is organized by text, genre, and period in parallel to the chapters of the book. A handful of Japanese language references appear in footnotes, but such citations have been kept to a minimum.

Because the variety of approaches to rendering such Japanese words in English reflects debates within the field, we have avoided imposing an artificial unity on translations of titles and terms. Sometimes a genitive article “no” is added between the surname and given name of premodern individuals, as in Minamoto no Yoshitsune (Yoshitsune of the Minamoto family), but we have allowed authors to follow their own inclinations about whether to include this article.

Chronological table

Ancient period (beginnings to 794)

Jōmon	14,000–900 BCE
Yayoi	900 BCE–250 CE
Tomb	250–552
Asuka	552–710
Jinshin War	672
Nara	710–94

Heian period (794–1185)

Medieval period (1185–1600)

Kamakura	1185–1333
Fall of the Heike	1185
Jōkyū Rebellion	1221
Kenmu Restoration	1333–6
Northern and Southern Courts (Nanboku-chō)	1336–92
Muromachi	1392–1573
Ōnin War	1467–77
Warring States (Sengoku)	1467–1573
Azuchi-Momoyama	1573–98

Edo (Tokugawa, early modern) period (1600–1867)

Battle of Sekigahara	1600
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Modern period (1868 to present)

Meiji	1868–1912
Taishō	1912–26
Shōwa	1926–89
Heisei	1989–present