

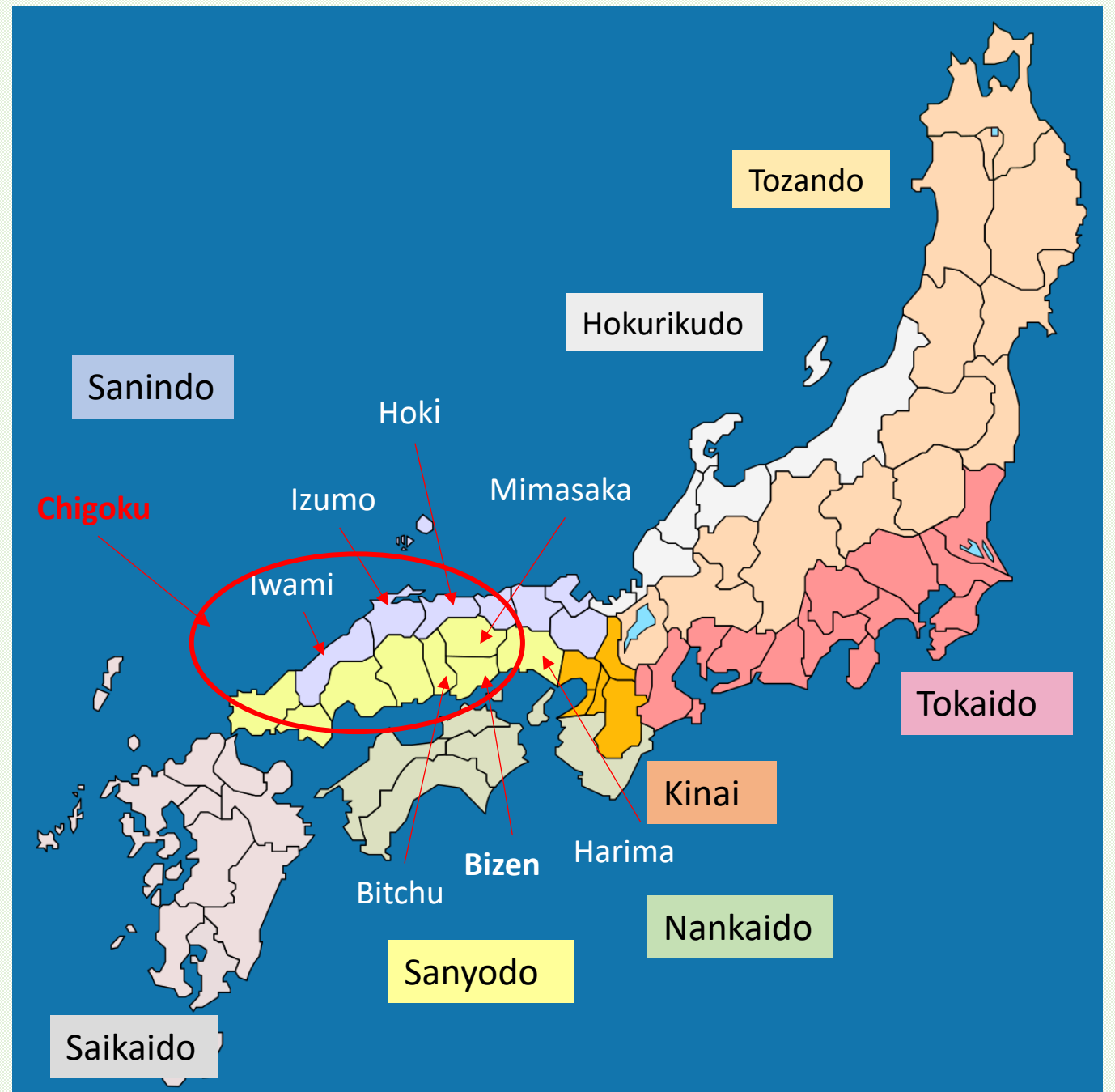
# NBTHK-AB Presentation at the SF Sword Show 2024

- Gokaden: Bizen – Nambokucho period
  - August 2024

# Why Bizen swords were so prolific –

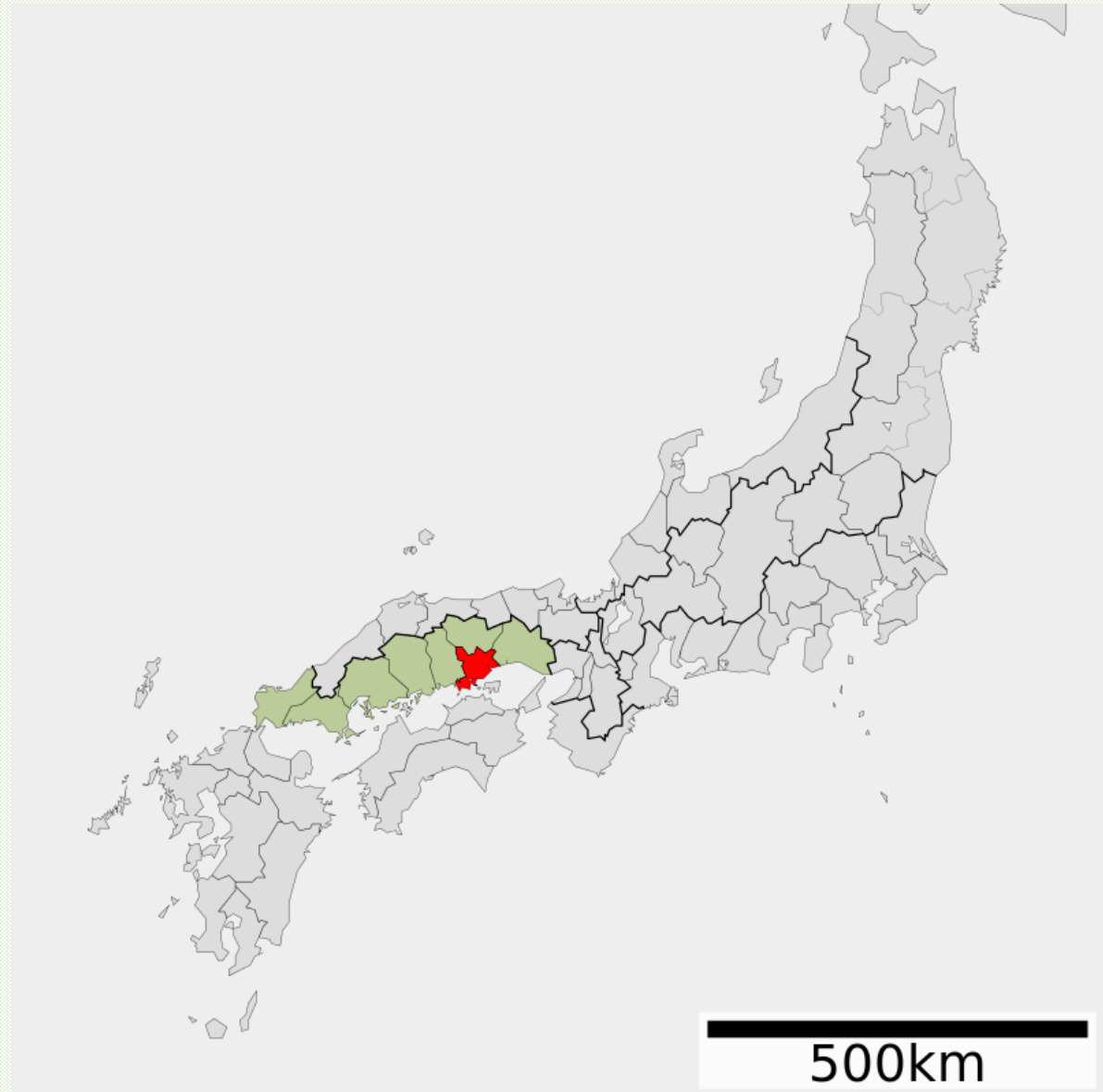
## Iron production in Chigoku region

- Iron production in the Chigoku region using a box furnace had been done since the Kofun era.
- Studying the ruins of Chugoku Region, there were over 70 tataro foundry sites to be in iron production from 6<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- This region predominately included most of the Sanyodo and Sanindo Road provinces.
- Production started moving out of the Bizen and lower Bitchu regions after the 11<sup>th</sup> centuries, into the mountain regions of Mimasaka, Hoki, Izumo and Iwami



# Bizen Province

- Bizen province, where the many schools were located
  1. High quality sand iron
  2. Raw material for fuel – charcoal
  3. Convenient transportation
- Sanyodo Road
- Three rivers in region also supported other sword schools:
  - Yoshii River – Multiple mainline Bizen school
  - Asahi River – Unkai school
  - Takahashi River – AOE school, Senoo School (which was East and down river from AOE), Katayama Ichimonji
- Muromachi - Controlled predominately by the Hosokawa and then the Mori Clans



# Okayama Map

Current day Okayama Province:



Katayama Ichimonji

Ukai

Yoshii

Yoshioka Ichimonji

Iwato Ichimonji

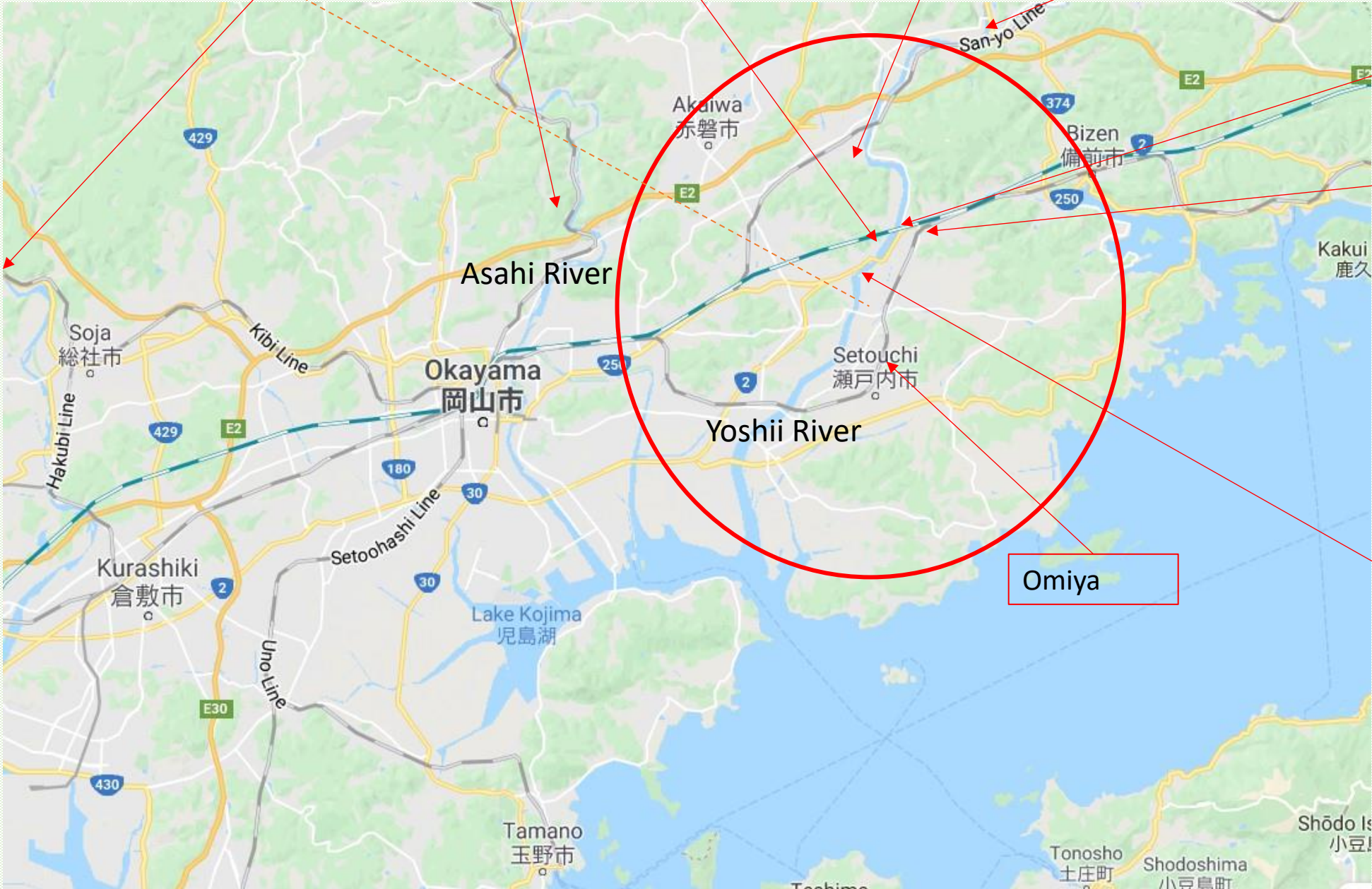
Osafune

Hatakeda

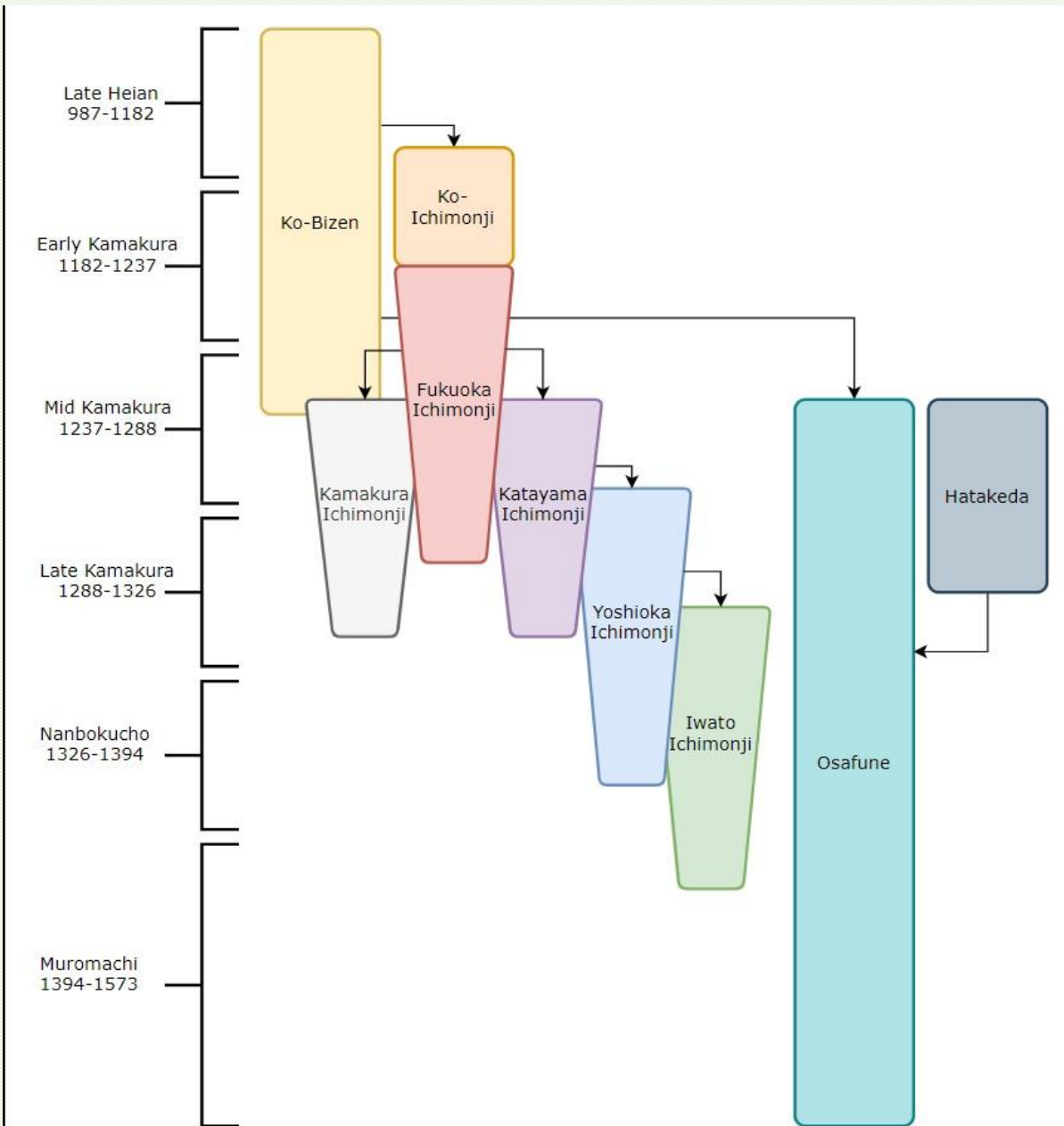
Fukuoka Ichimonji

Omiya

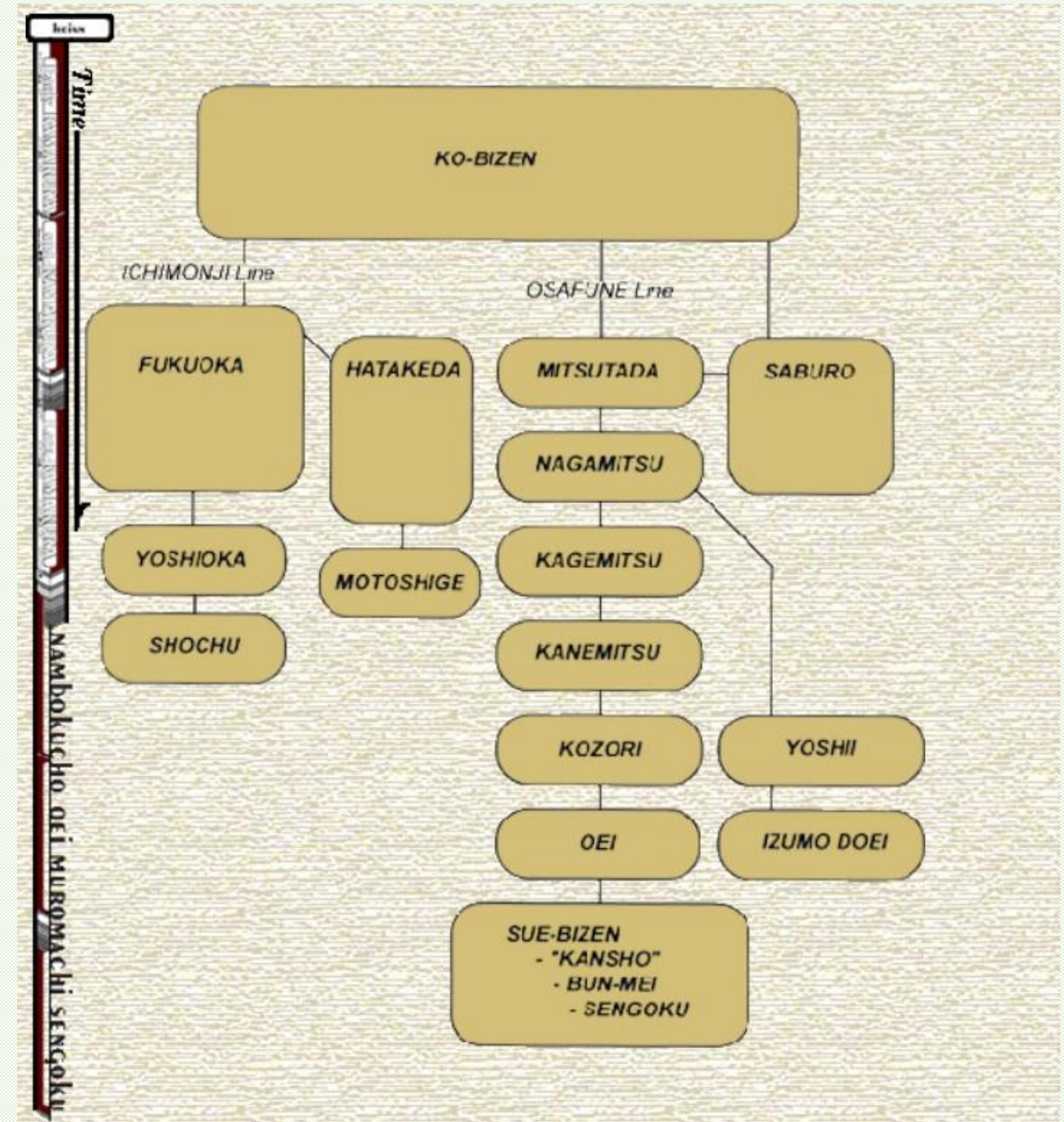
Takahashi River  
Bitchu  
Provence





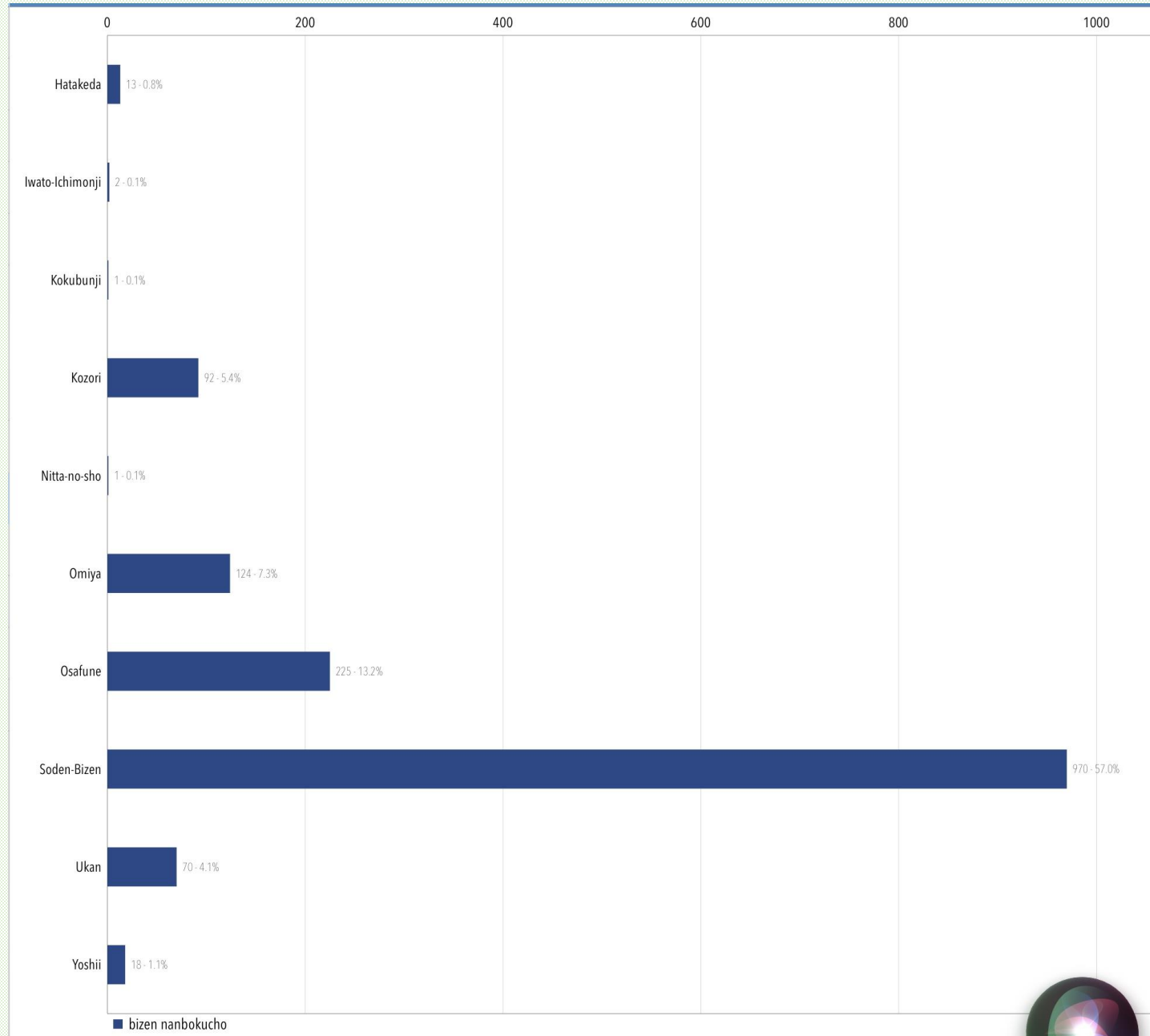


Darcy Brockbank: Yuhindo.com



Sho-shin.com

# Bizen Juyo Nanbokucho – by School



# Today's Discussion

## Bizen Nanbokucho

### 1. Late Kamakura / Beginning Nanbokucho Bizen

- Osafune
  - a) Kagemitsu – (J) Zaimei Kagemitsu
  - b) Kagemitsu – (J) Tanto Zaimei Bishu Osafune Kagemitsu , Dated Gentoku ninen Oct 1330

### 2. Nanbokucho Bizen

- Osafune School (Including Motoshige)
  - a) Motoshige – (TH) Mumei - Tanobe Sayagaki
  - b) Nagashige – (TJ) Mumei
- Kanemitsu School
  - a) Kanemitsu Daito – (TJ) Kinzogan Kanemitsu Honami (kao) (Honami Origami)
  - b) Kanemitsu Tanto (J) *Bishu Osafune Kanemitsu; Enbun yonen juni-gatsu hi (a day in the 12th month, the 4th year of Enbun, 1359).*
- Choji School
  - a) Kencho - (J) Mumei
  - b) Kencho – (J) Mumei
- Omiya ochool
  - a) Omiya – (J) Morikage
  - b) Omiya – (J) Den MOrisuke
- Kozori School
  - a) Morisuke