

## Scope & Content

The Asian Miscellany collection (bulk dates: 1894-1952) was compiled through the generous donations of Richard J. Mammana, Jr. (2012), Janice Matsumura (2014), and Suzy Cincone (2017). In addition, numerous purchases augmented the collection from 2011-2015. These purchases supported the development of image collections in both the Asian Miscellany as well as the online [East Asia Image Collection](#).

The collection (8.5 linear feet - 29 boxes) is organized into eleven series based on format. Formats include game card sets (Karuta), trading cards, postcards, photographs and photograph albums, stereocards, lantern slides, a diary, currency and stamps, publications, artwork, and sound recordings. Primary geographic locations documented in this collection include Japan, Manchuria, Taiwan, and other formerly occupied territories of Japan.

Common subjects throughout the Asian Miscellany collection include Japanese patriotic poetry; 1894 Sino-Japanese War; Imperial family; religion and religious sites; culture; and children's games. Some of these subjects may be found in multiple series (i.e., examples of Japanese patriotic poetry appear in a variety of different formats and are archived in Series I, III, VIII, IX and X).

## Series Description and Inventories

### Series I. Karuta Cards (provenance: Mammana and purchases)

*Ogura hyakunin isshu* 小倉百人一首 is a Japanese poetry anthology originating in the latter part of the Heian Period (794-1185), and repurposed at the end of the 16th century to create a native version of a Portuguese card matching game, called *karuta*. Many forms of matching games had existed in Heian period courts onward, but the repurposing of the Japanese *waka* (5-7-5-7-7 syllable) poetry from the Heian period created a game that called on skilled player to memorize full poems and beat their opponent in finding them. In 1942, a new anthology and card game with only poems with a patriotic message was created and marketed by the Army, Navy and Education Ministries. These patriotic poems form the bulk of the collection at Lafayette College.

The original poem based *karuta* is played by dividing out the playing cards into two sets - *yomifuda* (reading cards) and *torifuda* (grabbing cards). Reading cards are held by the designated poem reader, and contain the full syllabary of the poem. On the grabbing cards are only the last 14 syllables, and are divided and laid out in rows between two players who sit opposite each other. The Reader will shuffle reading cards and begin reading the poem from the beginning. Skilled players will memorize where each card sits on the floor in front of them, and will know each poem by heart. As they hear the first stanzas (or sometimes only the first letter), they will race to swipe the latter half of the poem before their opponent. *Karuta* is also

commonly used to help children practice letters, geography, history and other facts that can be read, while child players search for the first letter of the fact being read.

The twenty *karuta* cards sets at Lafayette College include nine sets of the 1942 patriotic poetry set, each with the same 100 patriotic poems. Most have color illustrations on the grabbing cards. In addition to the 100 patriotic poetry set, which would be too complicated for young children to play, the Lafayette *karuta* collection also has eleven *karuta* sets with militaristic slogans and illustrations, short geography lessons, and history facts used for practicing alphabet recognition for a child audience. The nine sets of patriotic poetry would have been for an adult or older child audience, while the alphabet cards would have been for preschool and elementary school-aged children.

For full interpretation of the Karuta card sets, descriptive metadata, and selected images, see the following resources:

[Online exhibit featuring six digitized Karuta card sets](#)

[Short history on the development of the game](#)

[Cataloging record of the \*Weekly report\* published by the Cabinet Printing Office from 1936-1945 and used to establish the standard order for the patriotic poetry sets](#)

[PDF of the above \*Weekly report\* dated 23 December 1942](#)

### Box 1

Set 1 愛国百人一首かるた (Aikoku hyakunin isshu karuta), n.d.

Patriotic poetry karuta: full color w/ illustrations, brown border, non-standard print font, full poem on single card (yomifuda), no torifuda, 100 cards

Set 2 絵入愛国百人一首 (E iri aikoku hyakunin isshu), 1942.11.20 (print date on box), 1943.09.20 (third print date on box)

Illustrated patriotic poetry: green w/ background illustrations, green border, standard print kanji, 100 yomifuda, 101 torifuda cards (two yomifuda by poet Otabeno Aramimi)

**Box 2**

Set 3 愛国百人一首繪入歌留多 (Aikoku hyakunin issyu e iri karuta), ca. 1943

Patriotic poetry illustrated karuta: full color w/ illustrations, indigo border, standard print kanji, 100 yomifuda, 100 torifuda

[Digitized Set 3](#)

Set 4 愛国百人一首 (Aikoku hyakunin issyu), 1942.11.7 (print date on box)

Patriotic poetry: B&W, no illustrations, brown border, standard print kanji, 100 yomifuda, 100 torifuda

**Box 3**

Set 5 愛国百人一首 (Aikoku hyakunin issyu), 1943.3.25 (print)

Patriotic poetry: B&W, no illustrations, brown border, standard print hiragana, 100 torifuda only

Set 6 愛国百人一首 (Aikoku hyakunin issyu), ca. 1943

Patriotic poetry: B&W, no illustrations, brown border, standard print kanji on yomifuda, slightly stylized hiragana on torifuda, 100 yomifuda, 100 torifuda (164 matched cards filed first; 36 unmatched cards filed at end)

**Box 4**

Set 7 愛国百人一首 (Aikoku hyakunin issyu), 1942.12.20 (print)

Patriotic poetry: B&W, no illustrations, beige border, standard print kanji on yomifuda, standard print hiragana on torifuda, 100 yomifuda, 100 torifuda

Set 8 [愛国百人一首 (Aikoku hyakunin issyu), ca. 1943

Patriotic poetry: B&W, no illustrations, dark green border, standard print kanji on yomifuda, standard print hiragana on yomifuda, 100 yomi, 100 tori

**Box 5**

Set 9 [愛国百人一首 (Aikoku hyakunin isshu), ca. 1943

Patriotic poetry: full color w/ illustrations in Heian style, light green border, stylized kanji on yomifuda, hentaigana on yomifuda, 100 yomi, 100 tori, one brown border torifuda in the set, plus one blank (unmatched due to complicated script)

Set 10 Empty Box (no cards), 1943.07.01 (see Box 10)

Set 11 [Patriotic alphabet karuta tags], date unknown

Alphabet practice (katakana), ethics slogans: full color w/ illustrations, blue and red borders, standard print katakana lettering, 48 lettercards, 48 slogan cards, 1 picture card all on one undivided sheet

Set 12 イロハカルタ 日本ノヘイタイ (I ro ha karuta Nihon no heitai) [Japan's soldier: alphabet karuta], 1933.11.1 (print)

Alphabet practice (katakana), military slogans: full color w/ illustrations, orange borders, standard print katakana lettering, 48 lettercards, 48 slogan cards, 2 example cards, 1 illustrated slogan card, 2 sales/print cards

**Box 6**

Set 13 軍国マンガカルタ テツカブノテツチャン (Gunkoku manga karuta Tetsukabu no Tecchan) [Military country comic karuta: Iron helmet Tecchan], 1937.10.15 (print)

Alphabet practice (katakana), military slogans: full color w/ illustrations, no borders, standard print katakana and kanji on all, 47 yomi, 47 tori, 2 printer and explanation cards

[Digitized Set 13](#)

Set 14 興亜少国民かるた (Koua shokokumin karuta) [Asian development elementary karuta], 1943.10.1

Alphabet practice (hiragana), children's moralistic slogans about war and nation: full color w/ illustrations, light blue borders, standard print kanji and hiragana on all, 48 torifuda, 48 yomifuda, 4 blanks

[Digitized Set 14](#)

**Box 7**

Set 15 少国民国史かるた (Shokokumin kokushi karuta) [Elementary national history karuta], 1942.1.05

Alphabet practice (hiragana), national history facts with dates: full color w/ illustrations, light yellow borders, standard print kanji and hiragana, 48 yomi, 48 torifuda

Set 16 [Japanese History Study Cards] from EAIC (box title: おもちゃづくし 兵隊漫画カルタ (omocha dukushi heitai manga karuta) [Toy soldier manga karuta]), 1935.10.15

Alphabet practice, patriotic/militarist slogans for children: full color w/ illustrations, no borders, standard print katakana on all, 48 yomi, 48 tori, 2 printer and explanation cards

[Digitized Set 16](#)

**Box 8**

Set 17 学習用趣味の地理かるた日本 (Gakushuuyou shumi no chiri karuta Nihon) [Japanese geography karuta for study or hobby], date unknown

Alphabet practice, geography, local characteristics: full color w/ illustrations, no borders, standard print kanji and furigana on all, 48 yomi, 48 tori

[Digitized Set 17](#)

Set 18 学習用趣味の地理かるた外国 (Gakushuuyou shumi no chiri karuta gaikoku) [Foreign geography karuta for study or hobby]

Alphabet practice, geography, local characteristics; full color w/ illustrations, standard print kanji and furigana on all, 48 yomi, 48 tori, 2 blank extras, 1 printer 金井信生堂 (Kanei shinseidou), 1 title card

[Digitized Set 18](#)

**Box 9**

Set 19 愛国イロハカルタ (Aikoku i ro ha karuta) [Patriotic alphabet karuta], 1943.11.30

Alphabet practice (katakana), patriotic slogans: full color w/ illustrations, varied border colors, standard print katakana on all, 47 yomi, 47 tori, 1 printer, 1 title card

Set 20 [War vocabulary cards], date unknown [ca. WWII]

War vocabulary, patriotic/militarist slogans: full color w/ illustrations, brown and red border colors, standard print kanji and hiragana on all, 63 yomi, 63 tori

[Digitized Set 20](#)

Set 21 明治天皇御百首 (Meiji tennou on hyakushu) [Meiji Emperor Hundred Poem Set], 1912 (the poetry set), printing date unknown

Poetry, literature: full color w/ illustrations, tan borders, hentaigana and calligraphic kanji script on all, 100 yomi, 100 tori (unmatched due to complicated script)

**Box 10**

Original storage boxes for Karuta sets

**Series II. Trading Cards** (provenance: Mammana)

**Box 11**

This 30 card set originated as a set of trading cards found in Chocolat d'Aiguebelle products.

Illustrated on these cards are the 1894 Sino-Japanese war, the Siege of Port Arthur, the Battle of Mukden, and officers in the Japanese and Russian armies.

**Series III. Miscellaneous Postcards** (provenance: Mammana and purchases)

**Subseries 1. Japan**

This series contains 352 postcards, 43 envelopes, and 2 inserts representing a broad range of topics in Japan and date from 1915 through 1936. Topics include: the 100 patriotic poems; shrines and temples; diplomacy and state visits; the military; peace; honors and awards; Red Cross; travels and transport; festivals; the 1936 Diet building completion; Women's Patriotic Leagues; the Imperial family; Christianity in Japan; the 1920 census; and miscellaneous scenery and places. The collection also includes purchased by Dr. Paul Barclay that contains

commemorative postcards of the 1936 completion of the Diet building and the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of James Watt, the Scottish inventor of the steam locomotive, also in 1936. The overall collection is populated with many highly decorative postcards combining photographs of the main subject surrounded by embossed and painted scenes.

**Box 12**

Imperial Family (97 postcards, 10 envelopes)  
Christianity (4 postcards, 1 envelope)  
Miscellaneous Scenes & Places (6 postcards)  
1920 Census (11 postcards)  
Red Cross (3 postcards, 2 envelopes)

**Box 13**

100 Patriotic Poems (39 postcards, 5 envelopes)  
Shrines & Temples (93 postcards, 10 envelopes)

**Box 14**

Diplomacy/State Visits (14 postcards, 2 envelopes, 1 insert)  
Military (45 postcards, 8 envelopes)  
Honors & Awards (9 postcards)  
Peace (10 postcards, 2 envelopes)  
Barclay Purchases (5 postcards, 1 insert)  
1936 Diet Building (3 postcards, 1 envelope)  
Festivals (8 postcards, 1 envelope)  
Women's Patriotic Leagues (2 postcards, 1 envelope)  
Travels and Transport (3 postcards)

**Suberies 2. Taiwan**

**Box 15**

65 color and black and white printed postcards depict scenes of Taipei, Taiwan and customs and dress of indigenous Taiwanese people. All of the postcards are modern reproductions, and as such have Chinese and English captions on the back side of the postcard.

**Series IV. Photograph Albums** (provenance: purchases)

There are three personal photo albums in this subseries.

**Box 16**

Brown album (orange lettering 'Photo album'); 94 photos (3 loose in sleeves)

A family album, possibly from the Tahara area near Nagoya, Japan. It includes photos of young men in army and Yokosuka naval uniforms, the Ajia train and other Manchurian scenes, a child's funeral, the Japanese Defense Women's Association gatherings and other personal photos.

**Box 17**

Deep maroon with rose pattern; 81 b&w photos

Album containing military photographs depicting the soldiers' departure from Nara 1934 and through tenure in China in 1935. These include military funeral altars, horse processions, grave digging, prisoners of war, processions, and military camp life in or near Jilin.

**Box 18**

Red cloth cover with map of Malaysia/Singapore; 140 photos (3 loose in sleeves)

Album containing military photos as well as photos of Singapore, Manchuria, Hainan Dao, Malaysia (Penang, Kuala Lumpur and Johore) in 1941.

**Series V. Stereocards** (provenance: Mammana)

**Box 19**

This is a 46 card set that depict religious sites and religious practices, Japanese daily life, farming, trades and markets, children's entertainment. Pictures in the set include photos from Kyoto, Yokohama, Nara, Nikko, Tokyo, Osaka, and Yamanashi (Mt. Fuji).

NOTE: Box 19 also houses the digital collection [T.W. Ingersoll Co. Stereoviews of the Siege of Port Arthur](#).

**Series VI. Lantern Slides** (provenance: Mammana)

**Box 20**

(11 total, 4 broken): 8 Slides of illustrations of the Sino-Japanese War and 3 of Buddhist temples and ceremonies. Slides from Schmitt Store, Tokyo and Matsuchiye Asakusa, Tokyo.



1. Coal Tunnel Fight - Soldiers fighting in a coal tunnel with guns and pickaxes (illustration)
2. Japanese Soldiers Process Through Chinese City - Japanese soldiers (flags) processing under a city gate (illustration)
3. Soldiers in a Forest - Soldiers fighting an unseen enemy behind trees (illustration)
4. Do or Die Squad Night Attack - Soldiers racing toward enemy on darkened battlefield (illustration)
5. Bailing out the Blockade Team - Sailors on a dinghy, bailing out water on rough and embattled seas (illustration)
6. Climbing the Wall - Japanese soldiers scaling a wall in battle (illustration)
7. Looking up the Mountain - Japanese soldiers at the base of a mountain, watching the battles above (illustration)
8. Scaling the Hill - Japanese soldiers under fire (illustration)
9. Gate One, Toshogu - Ichinomom gate at Toshogu Shrine in Nikko (photograph)
10. Boddhisatva in a Row - Boddhisatva statues in a Buddhist cemetery or temple ground (photograph)
11. Buddhist Funeral - Monks lined alongside a Buddhist altar (photograph)

**Series VI. Manuscript Material** (provenance: Mammana)

**Box 21**

One diary, belonging to Tanaka Katsuichi (Shoichi?) from January 1, 1944 to June 18, 1944. Mr. Tanaka, from Yoshida-gun in Fukui Prefecture (also the site of Eihei-ji, the famous Soto sect temple founded by Dogen in 1200). The author was born in Taisho 4 (July 27, 1915), so was 18 at the time the diary was kept. It notes weather, his physical condition and foods he eats. The back section contains entry space for tracing correspondence, financial ledgers, translations of Japanese words into English, Malay and Chinese. It also includes aikoku *hyakunin isshu*. Printed December 10, 1943.

**Series VII. Currency & Stamps** (provenance: Mammana, Matsumura, Kirby Museum)

**Box 22**

The stamp collection contains 2 Manchurian 'fen' stamps, 7 Japanese stamps and 87 Chinese stamps. Most are for small denominations and are from periods prior to 1945. The set includes 2 Enforcement of the National Conscription Law stamps.

The currency collection includes 93 pieces of currency from Japan, its colonies and some other Asian nations. It includes cents, yen, pesos and centavos (fractions of pesos) from occupied Philippines, rupees from occupied Burma, and various others, including the gulden from the Dutch East Indies, the won from Korea, the pound from occupied Micronesia, and yuan from China. Currency transferred from the Kirby Museum is filed at the end of this series and includes a number of unidentified, undated denominations.

**Series VIII. Japanese Poetry Publications** (provenance: Mammana)

**Box 23**

This series contains miscellaneous publications 2 pamphlets, 6 books, and 4 reprints pertaining to the 100 Japanese patriotic poems and other poems. All were published prior to 1950 and are stored in one box.

**Series IX. Artwork** (provenance: Mammana)

This series contains four scrolls, five bookmarks, and one woodblock print.

Scrolls 1-3 are related to the imperial system and scroll 4 is a calligraphic representation of the *aikoku hyakunin isshu*, or 100 patriotic poems.

**Box 24**

Scroll 1: (191.8cm x 59.2cm) Printed in 1938, this scroll depicts the Japanese Imperial line beginning with the goddess Amaterasu and ending with the Taisho emperor and his children. It also depicts the major shrines and some of the imperial seals associated with each.

**Box 25**

Scroll 2: (462.3 cm x 53.7 cm) This scroll depicts the gods and goddesses (and notes of what each god is - god of fire, god of the mountains etc), then the imperial lineage. It includes dates of ascension, birth, death, and lists all siblings, and in some cases, the concubines to whom each sibling was born. The scroll was printed in 1929.

**Box 26**

Scroll 3: (152.5 cm x 51cm) This scroll depicts both the Meiji Emperor alone and the Meiji emperor and his wife, in two color illustrations. The illustrations are accompanied by a poem written in calligraphy by the Emperor. Production date is unknown.

**Box 27**

Scroll 4: (187.7cm x 43.5 cm) This scroll is a calligraphy of the 100 poems included in the Ogura Hyakunin Isshu. Calligrapher's stamp included. Date is unknown.

**Box 28**

5 bookmarks: (12.2 cm x 3.5 cm) with five poems by the 100 Patriotic Poem authors (Nomura, Ono, Abe, Inada and Amanoinukai). Each of the blue, pink, yellow, green and purple bookmarks depict a woman, dressed in kimono or a student's uniform, and are labelled '*aikoku hyakunin isshu*' on the bottom. Each also has a small hole on the top, suggesting that perhaps it could have been used as a *tanzaku*, a hanging paper ornament with a poem written on it.

Print (29 cm x 18.3 cm): Titled 'Imperial Naval Fleet Near Weihaiwei'. Weihaiwei was the site of a battle lasting from January 20 to February 12, 1895 during the first Sino-Japanese War. The print shows barefoot Imperial sailors aiming and firing cannons aboard a Navy vessel, under the watchful eye of superior officers.

**Series X. Sound recordings** (provenance: Mammana)

**Box 29**

The collection is home to two 78 rpm records (roughly 7-10 min per side) and two 33 ½ rpm albums (average 26 min per side). The 33 records are a recording of a reading of each of the 100 Patriotic Poems, accompanied by *shakuhachi*, flutes and drums and a 17 string koto, called the *jushichigen*. The 78 rpm records are also readings of the *aikoku hyakunin isshu*.

**Series XI. Suzy Cincone Research Collection**

**Box 30**

Compiled in preparation for Dr. Cincone's dissertation at the University of California, Santa Barbara, East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies department. A collection of 89 postcards and photographs documenting the Japanese in Southeast Asia.