

片山文三郎商店

伝統絞り染め専門店  
Traditional Japanese  
shibori tie-dye items



# Katayama Bunzaburo Shoten

A shop specializing in traditional Shibori tie-dye for more than 100 years.

Katayama Bunzaburo Shoten is a Shibori tie-dye specialty shop that has been in business in Kyoto since the Taisho period (1912-1926). It had its start when Bunzaburo Katayama established a top-quality Shibori tie-dye kimono manufacturing shop in 1915, specializing in Kyoto's own "Kyo Kanoko Shibori" (Kyoto-style fawn pattern tie-dye). The Shibori kimonos produced by Bunzaburo had few patterns, and in those days were extremely simple and fashionable. The styles were ahead of the times and Katayama Bunzaburo Shoten grew from there to become known as a specialist for Shibori tie-dye.

"Kyo Kanoko Shibori" is the general term in Kyoto for the Hitta Shibori technique that creates a pattern similar to the spots on a fawn's back. Made by binding parts of the fabric with threads to resist the dye, what is most important is achieving the pattern by concentrating on how much of the cloth is left undyed. This skillful method, all done by hand, continues to be passed down through generations by Kyoto craftspeople.

In 1991, Katayama Bunzaburo Shoten created "Aimu", a glass plate which had a soft Japanese indigo-dyed piece of hemp fabric sandwiched in the middle. It won the highest award in the MADE IN KYOTO Best Design Exhibition and became the impetus to branch out into new fields. After becoming the third generation owner, Kazuo Katayama carried on making traditional Shibori kimonos, and his strong wish to present the unlimited possibilities of Shibori tie-dye to modern daily life meant positively encouraging the development of innovative products like interior goods and Western clothes. Aside from Shibori kimonos, the shop handles a variety of products such as Western clothes, scarves, accessories, hats, bags, parasols, noren (Japanese shop curtains), and Shibori lanterns. These products, with their unique and bold forms embracing the irregular textures of Shibori, appeared in the catalog of New York's Museum of Modern Art in 2005, and since then have continued to transmit their appeal around the world.



↑ Before the dyeing process, threads are bound tightly around parts of the fabric. As these threads resemble shellfish, this became known as "Bai Shibori", named after a type of shellfish called "bai". Shibori tie-dyed scarves, from ¥3,000 (excl. tax). A large variety of brightly colored scarves is available.



↑ Many gorgeous and unique fashion items and interior goods are inside, full of the world of Katayama Bunzaburo Shoten, where tradition meets modern times.



↑ The bags in the above photo are available in a variety of colors. Lightweight and cute, they are a convenient size for smartphones or purses.

↓ The brightly colored noren shop curtain in the doorway of the old Kyo-machiya townhouse built in the early Showa period welcomes visitors to the shop.



京都本店:京都市中京区蛸薬師通烏丸西入ル橋弁慶町221  
Kyoto Main Shop: 221 Hashibenkeicho, Takoyakushi-dori, Karasuma nishi-iru, Nakagyo-ku, Kyoto

TEL: +81 (0)75-221-2666 OPEN: 10:00 to 18:30 (10:00 to 18:00 on Sat., Sun. & national holidays) No regular holidays (Closed during the New Year holidays with special holidays during the summer. Please inquire for details.)  
Access: 10 min. from Kyoto Station by taxi

銀座店:東京都中央区銀座6-7-8 銀座フロンティアビル2階  
Ginza Shop: 2F Ginza Frontier Bld, 6-7-8 Ginza, Chuo-ku, Tokyo

TEL: +81 (0)3-3573-3135 OPEN: 11:00 to 19:30 (Closed Mon. and during the New Year holidays with special holidays during the summer. Please inquire for details.)

URL: <http://bunzaburo.com/en/>

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