

# “The Tale of the Heike” and early medieval Japan

The sound of Gion Temple bell tells us of the impermanence of life.

In 12<sup>th</sup> century, battles between the Heike Family and Genji clan were fought. Heike Family, once so prospered, perished in 1185, but we know that the winner of the battle, the Shogunate of Genji clan, too, came to an end three decades later.



Public domain, Battle scenes from the Tale of Heike (Heike Monogatari)

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Battle\\_scenes\\_from\\_the\\_Tale\\_of\\_Heike\\_\(Heike\\_Monogatari\)\\_-\\_Google\\_Art\\_Project.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Battle_scenes_from_the_Tale_of_Heike_(Heike_Monogatari)_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg)

Let's read several episodes from *The Tale of the Heike* and see how samurai warriors lived, fought, and loved. Also, let's learn a bit about their armors, music and dancing.



<http://www.hiroshima-bunka.jp/modules/newdb/detail.php?id=332>



<https://www.kunaicho.go.jp/culture/gagaku/gagaku-ph.html>

[Kamakura period \(1185–1333\)](#)

*Kasuga-taisha*, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Armour\\_red\\_threads\\_Kasuga\\_shrine.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Armour_red_threads_Kasuga_shrine.jpg)

## Dates & Time:

Monday 17.15

First meeting: 13 March



Public domain, Battle scenes from the Tale of Heike (Heike Monogatari),

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Battle\\_scenes\\_from\\_the\\_Tale\\_of\\_Heike\\_\(Heike\\_Monogatari\)\\_-\\_Google\\_Art\\_Project.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Battle_scenes_from_the_Tale_of_Heike_(Heike_Monogatari)_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg)

Place: Wrocław, Ul. Św. Jadwigi 3/4, pokój 102

Lecturer: MUTO Mieko (Ph.D)

Classroom language: English.

Everyone with some English knowledge is welcome.

Registration: Free for all; students could register additionally for optional classes in USOS UWr.

Questions: e-mail in English to [polyhymnia@gol.com](mailto:polyhymnia@gol.com)