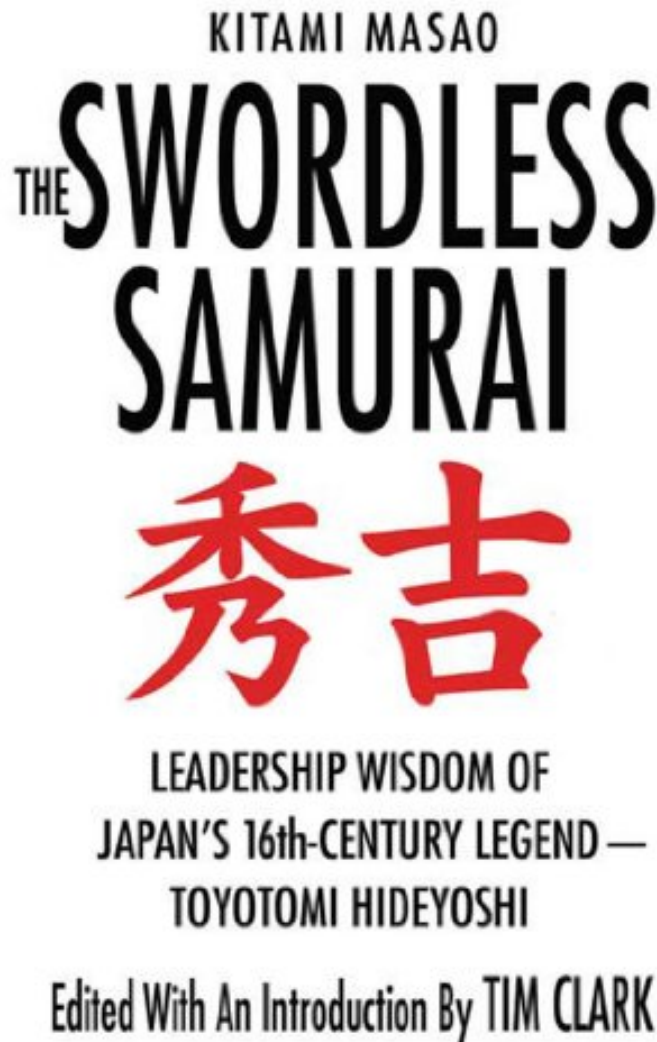


(Read now) The Swordless Samurai: Leadership Wisdom of Japan's Sixteenth-Century Legend---Toyotomi Hideyoshi

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Kitami Masao

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Kitami Masao : The Swordless Samurai: Leadership Wisdom of Japan's Sixteenth-Century Legend---Toyotomi Hideyoshi before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Swordless Samurai: Leadership Wisdom of Japan's Sixteenth-Century Legend---Toyotomi Hideyoshi:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great for any entrepreneur or leader of any organization to put into perspective humanity and how to treat those that help buildBy kodiGreat for any entrepreneur or leader of any

organization to put into perspective humanity and how to treat those that help build your business. Lessen the gap of income between CEO and employee

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Pop leadership

By Arturo I was more interested in the historical aspect of Hideyoshi, but this book came off as some kind of pop leadership training guide. It was written from a 1st person perspective, even though Hideyoshi didn't write an autobiography, with each chapter being a different lesson on leadership. It went fast, and was interesting enough, but I'd probably been happier with a different biography.

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great Book

By Ronin This is an exceptional book. It uses many examples of events in the life of Toyotomi Hideyoshi to illustrate superior leadership principles. This translation is a collection of fragments from "The Taikoki", which was the official Japanese history of Hideyoshi (d1598) written in 1625 by the Tokugawa government. There is much debate about various details of the Taikoki, but this should not be surprising consider it was composed by the victor who defeated the forces led by his Hideyoshi's son. Regardless, this book is full of great samurai stories and examples of leadership that is guaranteed to thrill any fan of this period. If you are unfamiliar with Hideyoshi, be sure to get a copy of the historical fiction masterpiece by Eiji Yoshikawa, "Taiko", I highly recommend both books.

An excerpt from 'Employ Those Whose Skills Exceed Your Own': "....A man named Hanbei was renowned for his skill in strategic warfare, and I resolved to bring him into my organization. But finding Hanbei, let alone persuading him to join me, proved a formidable task. The man was an enigma; weary of the prevailing martial chaos and disgusted with the debauched Saito Clan leader Tatsuoki, Hanbei had retired from worldly affairs. His whereabouts were a mystery." Don't want to spoil too much. Enjoy.

It was the Age of Wars, a time of endless chaos and bloodshed, when the only law was the law of the sword, and a peasant boy named Hideyoshi dreamed of becoming a samurai. He lacked size and strength and well as social status. To realize his ambition, he had to rely on wits alone. A keen student of human nature, he learned to outthink and outmaneuver every foe. Not only did he become a samurai, he also commanded vast armies, and finally, became ruler of an entire nation. Hideyoshi far surpassed his childhood ambition---this son of a penniless farmer became one of the greatest military and civic leaders the world has ever known. What enabled an unschooled peasant to usurp, outnegotiate, and conquer ruthless samurai generals? How did he recruit and retain thousands of devoted followers? The timeless leadership secrets that Hideyoshi used to reach the pinnacle of power are now available in English for the first time. Destined to take its place beside such classics as *The Book of Five Rings* and *The Art of War*, *The Swordless Samurai* is required reading for all who seek effective strategies for succeeding in business, conflict, and life.

"Hideyoshi is no typical business guru, but his lessons have inspired generations of executives. . . . I spent more than a decade in Japan, and *The Swordless Samurai* is valuable reading for anyone doing business there or looking for a deeper understanding of timeless leadership principles."

Ken Belson of *The New York Times*

"The wisdom of this sixteenth-century samurai is astonishingly prescient and pertinent for twenty-first-century leaders. Practical wisdom at its best."

Warren Bennis, Distinguished Professor of Business, USC, and author of *On Becoming a Leader*

"A must-read for anyone trying to steer their organization down the right path."

Brendan I. Koerner, contributing editor, *Wired* magazine

From the Author

Japanophiles and Japanese history buffs may bristle at some of the conventions I adopted to make this book understandable and enjoyable for lay readers. My primary aim was to entertain and enlighten such readers rather than achieve historical "accuracy." Such accuracy is impossible given the apocryphal nature of many of the stories and vignettes, which derive from mid-to late sixteenth century events. Please read the book's introduction for an explanation of these conventions and why they were adopted.