Undoubtedly, historical figures play a very important role in our life due to the fact that heroes of the past help us to find the right way and become better. As a consequence, people often used to look up to these great figures. Personally, I consider Miyamoto Musashi to be a very significant figure in the history of humankind and I take an example from him.

Firstly, his philosophical treatise «The Book of Five Rings» impressed me, and his spiritual testament «The Only Right Way» still inspires me and many people around the world. As a result, all his life is an example of a courageous and diligent man who never gives up, what influenced me a lot.

Perhaps Musashi Miyamoto is by right the most famous warrior of medieval Japan. However, to consider him only a legendary fighter who has mastered weapons perfectly would be a big mistake. In truth, I remember that Musashi explored the world in all its diversity – he became a philosopher, an artist, a writer, and even an architect.

Unfortunately, almost nothing is known about the first years of Miyamoto Musashi's life (he was born around 1584). Nonetheless, in his book, he writes that he was born in the village of Miyamoto in Mimasaka province. Musashi had his first duel and victory at the age of 13, his opponent was Arima Kihei, a samurai from the Shinto-ryu school of martial arts. Afterwards, at the age of 16, Musashi left his home and went to wander around Japan. Taking part in numerous duels, from which he always emerged victorious, he improved his skills. Nevertheless, Musashi not only fought, but also created — practiced calligraphy, painted several paintings. Furthermore, while in the service of a noble daimyo, he mastered engineering skills — participated in the construction of Akashi Castle, as well as the planning of the city of Himeji.

Finally, in 1643, the master fell ill and, realizing that his earthly journey was ending, settled in a secluded cave. Living as a hermit, meeting only with his closest disciples, he wrote «The Book of the Five Rings». In his work, Musashi outlined the strategy, tactics and philosophy of a real Japanese warrior. Eventually, the book was completed in 1645 and, together with a handwritten spiritual instruction called «The Only Right Way», was handed over to followers.

To draw the conclusion, one can say that the eventful life of one of the greatest swordsmen and philosophers of Japan, a real warrior and ronin Musashi Miyamoto was not in vain. He left his mark on world history and culture and inspired many people around the world.

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