

= Kaga Rebellion =

The Kaga Rebellion or Ch?ky? Uprising was a large @-@ scale revolt in Kaga Province (present @-@ day southern Ishikawa Prefecture) , Japan , in late 1487 through 1488 . Togashi Masachika , who ruled Kaga Province as shugo , had been restored to power in 1473 with aid from the Asakura clan as well as the Ikk? @-@ ikki , a loose collection of lesser nobility , monks , and farmers . By 1474 , however , the Ikk? @-@ ikki grew discontent with Masachika , and launched some initial revolts , which were easily quelled . In 1487 , when Masachika left on a military campaign , between one hundred thousand and two hundred thousand Ikk? @-@ ikki revolted . Masachika returned with his army , but the Ikk? @-@ ikki , backed by several disaffected vassal families , overwhelmed his army and surrounded him in his palace , where he committed seppuku . The former vassals of Masachika granted the position of shugo to Masachika 's uncle Yasutaka , but over the next several decades the Ikk? @-@ ikki increased their political hold on the province , which they would effectively control for almost a century .

= Background and initial revolts =

During the 15th century in Japan , peasant revolts , known as ikki , became much more commonplace . During the turmoil of the ?nin War (1467 ? 1477) and subsequent years , these rebellions increased in both frequency and success . Many of these rebels became known as Ikk? @-@ ikki , a collection of peasant farmers , Buddhist monks , Shinto priests , and jizamurai (lesser nobles) who all espoused belief in the J?do Shinsh? sect of Buddhism . Rennyo , the Hongan @-@ ji abbot who led the J?do Shinsh? movement , attracted a large following in Kaga and Echizen Province , but distanced himself from the political goals of the ikki , advocating violence only for self @-@ defense or defense of one 's religion .

During the mid @-@ 15th century , a civil war broke out among the Togashi clan over the position of shugo . Togashi Masachika had been driven out of Kaga by his younger brother , Kochiyo . When the ?nin War broke out in 1467 , Masachika sided with Hosokawa and Kochiyo with Yamana . In 1473 , Masachika requested aid from Asakura Toshikaga , the lord of Echizen and ally of Hosokawa , as well as from the priests of Yoshizaki , who were associated with Rennyo . Masachika promised the ikki that if restored to power , he would lift his supporters out of their poverty . Further motivating the ikki to support Masachika were the religious policies of Kochiyo : Kochiyo patronized the Takada school of J?do Shinsh? , a fierce rival to the Hongan @-@ ji for control of the Shinsh? sect , and persecuted followers of the Hongan @-@ ji . Toshikaga pledged his support , as did the Yoshizaki priests , the latter prior to any approval from Rennyo . Rennyo eventually granted his approval to the actions of the Yoshizaki priests , and with Toshikaga providing military aid and the Ikk? @-@ ikki rioting throughout Kaga , Masachika quickly overthrew his brother . But Ikk? @-@ ikki support of Masachika was short @-@ lived . By 1474 , the Ikk? @-@ ikki were in dispute with Masachika as they claimed that he did not fulfill his promises of economic reward , and they attempted a rebellion . Rennyo refused to support their actions and the rebels were quickly defeated and forced to take refuge in Etch? Province . In 1475 , Shimotsuma Rensu , a disciple of Rennyo , falsely claimed that Rennyo supported a renewed uprising in Kaga . The revolt failed , and Rennyo excommunicated Rensu . Tiring of his efforts to restrain the unruly Ikk? @-@ ikki , Rennyo left Yoshizaki for the capital region .

= 1488 revolt =

Despite the previous revolts having been easily suppressed , unrest continued to simmer in Kaga under Masachika 's governance . The Ikk? @-@ ikki who remained in Kaga grew bolder , refusing to pay taxes and even seizing tax revenue and land , despite Rennyo 's continued protestations . In 1487 , Masachika left with a large army for ?mi Province in response to a call for aid from shogun Ashikaga Yoshihisa , who was attempting to suppress the robber baron Rokkaku Tokoyori . In Masachika 's absence , the Ikk? @-@ ikki , led by Rengo , Renk? , and Rensei , three sons of

Rennyō , launched their revolt and between one hundred thousand and two hundred thousand members took up arms . Masachika quickly returned from his military expedition , and defeated the rebels in several battles . However , several vassal families , discontent with Masachika , joined with the rebels . The rebels cut off Masachika from reinforcements from his allies in the bordering Echizen , Etchū , and Noto Provinces , and besieged his castle . Masachika , trapped in a burning castle and faced with certain defeat , committed seppuku . In his place , the vassal families who rebelled against Masachika put forward his uncle and ex @-@ shugo , Yasutaka , as a candidate to be the new shugo .

= = Aftermath = =

Following the overthrow of Masachika , Kaga became known as " hyakusho no motaru kuni " (" the kingdom of peasants " , or " province ruled by peasants ") . Shogun Yoshihisa , a friend and ally of Masachika , demanded that Rennyō excommunicate the Kaga ikki . However , Hosokawa Masamoto , an influential political figure who was also a close friend and patron of Rennyō , negotiated a deal which permitted Rennyō to merely reprimand the ikki while Masamoto would join the Hongan @-@ ji . In Kaga , Togashi Yasutaka took power as shugo , ruling the province until his death in 1504 . Afterward , under the rule of his son , Taneyasu , the ikki began to assert their influence over the vassal families that supported them in the uprising . The ikki soon split into rival political factions and initiated a series of political struggles which culminated in a civil war in 1531 . The heads of the three predominant Hongan @-@ ji temples in Kaga , as well as Taneyasu , were defeated when Renjun , a son of Rennyō , brought in Ikkō @-@ ikki troops from Mikawa Province . Upon Renjun 's victory , the office of shugo was abolished and the leaders of the opposition were exiled . The Ikkō @-@ ikki would control Kaga until 1580 , when forces loyal to Oda Nobunaga defeated them .