

= Tsugaru clan =

The Tsugaru clan (津軽 , Tsugaru @-@ shi) was a Japanese samurai clan originating in northern Japan , specifically Mutsu Province (the northeast coast of Honshu) . A branch of the local Nanbu clan , the Tsugaru rose to power during the Azuchi @-@ Momoyama period . It was on the winning side of the Battle of Sekigahara , and entered the Edo period as a family of lords (daimyo) ruling the Hirosaki Domain . A second branch of the family was later established , which ruled the Kuroishi Domain . The Tsugaru survived as a daimyo family until the Meiji Restoration , when Tsugaru Tsuguakira of Hirosaki and Tsugaru Tsugumichi of Kuroishi were relieved of office . Their extended family then became part of the new nobility in the Meiji era .

= = History = =

= = = Origins through 1599 = = =

The Tsugaru clan initially claimed descent from the Kawachi Genji branch of the Minamoto clan ; in later years , this claim of origin would change to the Konoe family , which was a branch of the Fujiwara clan . It was first known as the ?ura clan (浦 , ?ura @-@ shi) , a branch family of the Nanbu clan , which ruled sections of northern Mutsu Province . Relations between the two families soured after the ?ura declared their independence from the Nanbu in 1571 , during the headship of ?ura Tamenobu . He had been vice @-@ district magistrate (郡代 , gundai hosa) under the Nanbu clan 's local magistrate Ishikawa Takanobu ; however , he attacked and killed Ishikawa and began taking the Nanbu clan 's castles . Tamenobu also attacked Kitabatake Akimura (another local power figure) and took his castle at Namioka . The ?ura clan 's fight against the Nanbu clan , under Nanbu Nobunao , would continue in the ensuing years . In 1590 , Tamenobu pledged fealty to Toyotomi Hideyoshi ; Hideyoshi confirmed Tamenobu in his holdings . As the ?ura fief had been in the Tsugaru region on the northern tip of Honshu , the family then changed its name to Tsugaru .

= = = The Tsugaru in the Edo era = = =

The Tsugaru clan sided with Tokugawa Ieyasu 's Eastern Army during the Battle of Sekigahara in 1600 . Its immediate neighbors also all supported the Eastern Army . After the Tokugawa victory at Sekigahara , the Tsugaru clan was granted an increase in territory , along with permission to keep its existing domain of Hirosaki (named for the family 's castle town) . The domain started out small at 45 @,@ 000 koku , before being increased in size to 100 @,@ 000 koku . Tamenobu remained politically active in the early years of the Edo era , mainly in the Kansai area ; he died in Kyoto in 1608 .

The early years of the Edo era were marked by a series of major O @-@ le S?d? disturbances that shook the Tsugaru family : the Tsugaru Disturbance (津軽騒動 , Tsugaru @-@ s?d?) of 1607 , K?saka Kurando 's Riot (角崎乱 , K?saka Kurando no ran) of 1612 , the Funabashi Disturbance (船橋騒動 , Funabashi @-@ s?d?) of 1634 , and the Sh?h? Disturbance (盛岡騒動 , Sh?h? @-@ s?d?) of 1647 . In 1821 , there was a foiled plot by S?ma Daisaku , a former retainer of the Nanbu clan , to assassinate the Tsugaru lord ; this stemmed from the old enmity between the two clans .

A major branch of the Tsugaru clan was founded in 1656 , which was first given hatamoto rank , before being promoted to daimyo status in 1809 ; this became the ruling family of the Kuroishi Domain , which immediately bordered its parent family 's domain . A lesser branch was founded by Tsugaru Nobuzumi , the son of the first Kuroishi @-@ Tsugaru family head ; this branch remained hatamoto through the end of the Edo period . The main Tsugaru family 's funerary temple in Hirosaki was located at Ch?sh? @-@ ji . Though neither Tsugaru daimyo family ever held shogunate office , the Tsugaru of Hirosaki (together with many of the other domains of northern Honshu) assisted the shogunate in policing the frontier region of Ezochi (now Hokkaido) . In the late Edo period , during the headship of Tsugaru Tsuguakira , the Hirosaki domain 's forces were modernized along western

lines .

== The Tsugaru clan in the Boshin War ==

During the Boshin War of 1868 @-@ 69 , the Tsugaru clan first sided with the imperial government , and attacked the forces of the nearby Shōnai Domain . However , it soon switched course , and was briefly a signatory to the pact that created the Ōuetsu Reppan Dōmei , before backing out , once again in favor of the imperial government . It did not take part in any of the major military action against the imperial army . The Kuroishi branch joined the Hirosaki @-@ Tsugaru in siding with the imperial government . As a result , the entire clan was able to evade the punishment meted out by the government on the northern domains . After northern Honshū was pacified , Tsugaru forces joined the imperial army in attacking the Republic of Ezo at Hakodate . In return for its assistance , the Meiji government granted the Tsugaru family of Hirosaki a 10 @,@ 000 koku increase to its fief . Both branches of Tsugaru daimyo were made imperial governors (??? , han chiji) of their domains in 1869 . Two years later , as with all other daimyo , both Tsugaru lines were relieved of their offices by the abolition of the han system .

== Meiji and beyond ==

In the Meiji era , Tsugaru Tsuguakira , who had been the last daimyo of the main Tsugaru family , was ennobled with the title of count (hakushaku) . Tsugaru Tsugumichi , the last daimyo of the Kuroishi @-@ Tsugaru , became a viscount (shishaku) . Tsuguakira later worked as a supervisor in the Number 15 National Bank (??????? , Dai jūgo kokuritsu ginkō) , and Tsugumichi became a member of the House of Peers in 1890 . As Tsuguakira was heirless , he adopted Konoe Hidemaro , the son of court noble Konoe Tadafusa , as his heir ; Hidemaro succeeded to headship upon Tsuguakira 's death in 1916 .

Princess Hitachi is a present @-@ day descendant of the main Tsugaru line .

== Family heads ==

== Main line (Hirosaki) ==

== Branch line (Kuroishi) ==

== Notable retainers ==

== Hirosaki ==