

= Tenjho Tenge =

Tenjho Tenge (Japanese : テンジョテン , Hepburn : Tenjō Tenge , lit . " Heaven and Earth ") , also written as Tenjo Tenge , is a Japanese manga series written and illustrated by Oh ! great . The story primarily focuses on the members of the Juken Club and their opposition , the Executive Council , which is the ruling student body of a high school that educates its students in the art of combat . As the story unfolds , both groups become increasingly involved with an ongoing battle that has been left unresolved for four hundred years .

Tenjho Tenge was serialized in the magazine Ultra Jump from 1998 to 2010 , and collected into 22 volumes by Shueisha . It was adapted into a twenty @-@ four episode anime series and aired on TV Asahi between April 1 , 2004 to September 16 , 2004 . A two @-@ episode original video animation was also made and aired on March 16 , 2005 . Both versions of the series have been licensed for release in the English language by two different companies . The manga was licensed and released by CMX beginning in 2005 , which came under criticism by fans for editing its sexual content . When CMX closed down in 2010 , after releasing 18 volumes , Viz Media picked up the rights and completed their own uncut release of the series in 2013 . The anime was licensed and released by Geneon Entertainment , also beginning in 2005 , however , it is now licensed by Discotek Media .

= = Etymology = =

The Japanese phrase Tenjho Tenge (Japanese : テンジョテン , Hepburn : Tenjō Tenge , lit . " Heaven and Earth ") also is part of the full phrase Tenjō Tenge Yui Ga Doku Son (Japanese : テンジョテン有敵尊) which can be translated literally as " There is no equal to me in this entire world (i.e. below the heaven and on this earth) " , and in daily parlance now , the shortened form (yui ga dokuson) coming to mean a heavy @-@ handed egotism . Traditionally the phrase is attributed to the Buddha Sakyamuni , purported to have said this whilst taking seven steps immediately after being born , supposed to assert his unparalleled status .

= = Plot = =

The plot begins with Souichiro Nagi and his friend Bob Makiyama going to their first day of high school at Toudou Academy . They had intended to rule the school by beating up anybody that got in their way , as they had done at their previous schools . They soon learn that Toudou is no ordinary high school , but rather a school that was founded to teach and integrate different fighting styles . Its students are skilled in the various arts of combat with some students possessing supernatural abilities , such as pyrokinesis , precognition , and superhuman strength based on the abilities to use their " spirit " or " ki " in Japanese . After an altercation with the Executive Council , Souichiro and Bob join the only surviving club that opposes them , the Juken club . As the storyline develops , both groups find they are becoming increasingly involved in a long enduring conflict that was left unresolved from the Japanese Feudal era by some of the characters ' ancestors .

= = Characters = =

Maya Natsume (ナツメ マヤ , Natsume Maya)

A third year student and the current leader of the Juken Club . She is very skilled in various martial arts , but does not possess the Dragon 's Eye like her siblings . For this reason her father entrusted her with the cursed sword Reiki . Early in the series , she would use a body manipulation technique to revert herself into her childhood form to conserve her ki . She also has an argument to settle with Mitsuomi Takayanagi .

Masataka Takayanagi (タカヤナギ マサタカ , Takayanagi Masataka)

A second year student and Mitsuomi 's younger brother . Most of the time he has an easy going personality and is somewhat shy , but his demeanor changes when he becomes angered or serious

. When this happens , he becomes a very formidable combatant .

Aya Natsume (？ ？ ？ , Natsume Aya)

A first year student and the youngest of the Natsume family . In the manga she has brown ankle @-@ length hair , although her hair is ginger for the anime . Like her brother Shin , she has the power of the Dragon 's Eye . Although she has problems consciously activating it , she seems to have better control of the power than her brother . She also is in love with Souichiro , she constantly tries to win his heart . She is mostly seen fighting with swords whenever possible .

Souichiro Nagi (？ ？ ？ ？ , Nagi Souichiro)

A first year student and self proclaimed hoodlum . He always wear a black long coat . He is very resilient and manages to surprise watchers by battling against the odds . He is the heir of the Demon Exorcist family . His family 's supernatural power is called the Dragon 's Fist , which gives them the ability to take supernatural powers from others and use it as their own . This power is often feared and misunderstood by others which caused Souichiro to be socially rejected . He is actually stronger than Bob .

Bob Makihara (？ ？ ？ ？ , Bobu Makihara)

A first year student of African descent . He has been friends with Souichiro since elementary school . He is athletic and practices the Afro @-@ Brazilian martial art of Capoeira . He often has a cool head and always looks after his girlfriend Chiaki . Chiaki is the most important person for him .

Mitsuomi Takayanagi (？ ？ ？ ？ , Takayanagi Mitsuomi)

The current president of the Executive Council and of the head of the Takayanagi family . He is a third year student and the top ranked fighter of the whole school . He is a highly skilled and dedicated martial artist . Because of an incident with Shin and the Dragon 's Eye , he is only able to use his formidable abilities for about three minutes at a time .

= = Media = =

= = = Manga = = =

Tenjho Tenge was serialized in the Japanese monthly manga magazine Ultra Jump from 1997 to 2010 . It was author and illustrator Oh ! great 's first crossover mainstream manga from writing and illustrating pornographic series . About twice a year , its publisher Shueisha compiled five of the chapters into tank?bon volumes , with the first released on May 19 , 1998 and the twenty @-@ second and final volume on November 19 , 2010 .

Tenjho Tenge was licensed for an English language publication by CMX , an imprint of DC Comics , as one of their launch titles in 2004 . Their version of the manga is heavily edited / censored in order for them to give it a Teen " rating " " ... to give it the widest possible distribution in the United States " . According to CMX , these changes were made in conjunction with Shueisha and Tenjho Tenge creator Oh ! great , who examines each of their changes . This censorship however garnered quite a bit of controversy , see Controversy section for more info . CMX released eighteen volumes in North America before the company was shut down in July 2010 .

In November 2010 , Viz Media acquired the rights to the Tenjho Tenge manga , stating that their version would be 100 % uncut and faithful to the original Japanese . From June 21 , 2011 to February 5 , 2013 , they released the series bi @-@ monthly in eleven 2 @-@ in @-@ 1 volumes , which collects two individual volumes into a single large one . Viz 's releases also includes omake , color pages from the series ' original run in Ultra Jump , and since each release will cover two volumes , the second cover will be printed in as a color page . The manga is also published in many other countries , such as in Taiwan by Sharp Point Press , in France and Germany by Panini Comics , in Mexico by Grupo Editorial Vid , in Brazil by Editora JBC , and in Spain by Norma Editorial .

= = = Anime = = =

The Tenjho Tenge anime was directed by Toshifumi Kawase , animated by Madhouse , and produced by TV Asahi and Avex Mode , the animation division of the Avex group of companies . The twenty @-@ four episodes were originally aired weekly on TV Asahi in Japan on Thursdays from April 1 , 2004 to September 16 , 2004 . These episodes were made into eight @-@ volume DVD box sets . Two additional episodes were broadcast by TV Asahi in Japan on March 16 , 2005 and released in the form of an original video animation named Tenjho Tenge : Ultimate Fight . The anime follows closely to its source material up to the manga 's eighth volume with the exception of the sexual content which was toned down . The anime has been dubbed into English , French , German and the Tagalog language . The anime series has been licensed for the English language by Geneon Entertainment , and has released all episodes except the DVD special named Tenjho Tenge : The Past Chapter , which is the back @-@ story told through flashbacks in the second half of the anime TV series condensed into the size of four episodes . The series was broadcast in North America by the cable channel Fuse TV .

Although not mentioned on the Geneon Entertainment 's website , or the Tenjho Tenge mini @-@ site , the OVA is available on the last volume , sometimes listed as Episodes 25 and 26 . In Australia and the UK , the series was released over seven volumes , and include the OVA on the seventh disc . Almost 5 years after the closure of Geneon USA , Discotek Media re @-@ licensed the series for a DVD release in 2013 .

== Music ==

The anime 's music , including the background music and theme songs , were composed and performed by various artists , such as m.c.A.T and Aiko Kayo who provided the opening and closing themes songs of the anime . In 2004 , Avex record label released the Tenjho Tenge soundtrack and a single . In 2005 , Avex released two character collection albums .

== Reception ==

== Manga ==

The Tenjho Tenge manga is described by Chris Beveridge of AnimeOnDVD as an " ... engaging mix of action and comedy together while wrapping it all up in a large plot that 's fairly dark and really violent at times " . Its creator , Oh ! great , is known to flavor his works with wanton sex and violence . Oh ! great uses sex as an important aspect of the storyline by using it as a powerful motivator both negatively and positively . He often has his characters contemplate the significance and importance of fighting as well as the meaning of strength . This conscious deliberation of subjective reasoning and objective truth between characters is the most imperative aspect of story and is considered to be rare in manga . Dani Moure of AnimeOnDVD said readers may find that Oh ! great 's narrative is occasionally hard to follow and at times the plot moves slowly . Oh ! great is known for his characters to have unrealistic body proportions , and Tenjho Tenge is no different . The majority of the female characters have " ... ultra large breasts ... " and the males characters are extraordinarily muscular , but this facilitates the characters personalities to come through in their distinctive features . Overall , the Tenjho Tenge manga is well received having sold over 10 @.@ 7 million copies , and its volumes regularly being in the top twenty best @-@ selling manga for Japanese Tohan charts and North American Diamond Comic Distributors charts .

== Anime ==

The Tenjho Tenge anime is described as a significantly toned down version of the Japanese manga , but still retains most of the spirit of its predecessor . Much of the nudity was removed by the animators , but was made up in the way of sexual innuendos , gratuitous cleavage , and panty shots . Since the anime is a close adaptation to the manga , critique of the plot is comparable to the

manga 's . Some reviewers felt that the anime was handled in a frantic and ill planned manner that made the conclusion not satisfactory even with the original video animation . The animation done by Madhouse is considered to be well done . They used bright vibrant colors , solid backgrounds and plenty of visible detail with very little pixelation or jagged movement , but at times used repeated character shots and animations . The animation done during the fight scenes is done in real time and is done as close to reality as possible while still bending , and often violating , the laws of physics . The early fight scenes are thought to be the " ... most intense seen in recent anime " by Kevin Gilvear of DVD Times . Carlo Santos of Anime News Network affirmed the quality of animation in these scenes does drop somewhat over time , but the action still looks better than the average fighting anime . Both the Japanese and English voice acting are considered to be good , but the English dub at times can be a little uneven . The English dub on occasion has poor dialogue , according to Anime News Network 's Patrick King , which causes it to lose much of the anime 's sincerity . Overall , the anime is considered to be above average , but suffers from a lack of a good ending , mainly because the anime only covered the first arc of the story .

The series ' original soundtrack is considered to be average . Most of the music does well with setting the tone within the anime , although some reviewers found it to be somewhat repetitive . Some found the drama tracks to be unsatisfactory , even though they were " well executed " . For many , the highlight of the soundtrack is m.c.A.T 's " Bomb A Head ! " , which was used as the anime 's opening song .

= = Controversy = =

CMX came under a great deal of criticism for its edits from readers . These edits included the length and breadth of the book , censoring out anything they felt was questionable for a teen audience such as covering up or removing nudity , fanservice , and sexual innuendo as well as a removal of an omake chapter . This was done by a brand whose promotional material asserts that it offers " pure manga ? 100 % the way the original Japanese creators want you to see it . " One of grievances made against CMX is that the edits are not only severe , but very noticeable . One review states it is " possibly the most heavily censored title in the history of the North American manga industry . "

In response , protesters boycott the edited version and even started up their own website . Immediately following the controversy , Jake Tarbox , group editor of CMX , resigned from the company . " Tarbox was widely blamed by the fan community for the censoring of Tenjho Tenge , although inside sources suggest that Tarbox was not responsible for the decision to censor the manga . " In the face of complaints , CMX had internal discussions about the possibility of publishing an unedited version of Tenjho Tenge , but decided to complete the current version . At the 2007 Anime Expo , CMX announced that they planned to change Tenjho Tenge 's rating to Mature beginning with volume fifteen , but warned that it still would be edited , but more lightly . Jason Thompson declared CMX 's censorship of the series one of " The Greatest Censorship Fails " in manga .