

## Hyakunin Isshu Cards

Model from the early XX century, with its box in Paulownia wood.



On the left, this Nintendo pack called "Patriotic Hyakunin Isshu" designed in 1942, is a reminder of Japan's war-time history. During that time, card manufacturers were compelled to replace the 100 poems by 100 nationalistic works. Assembled by Nabutsuna Sasaki and approved by the several Ministries of War, they were supposed to rouse patriotism and the fighting spirit of the Japanese.

They would also be used during card playing competitions.



This Nintendo pack of cards is more than 100 years old. They are labelled as suitable for official games occurring in the contests organised by the Japanese Federation. Illustrations weren't authorised.

The first official contest regulations in 1904.



Hyakunin Isshu tournament in Tōkyō during the early 1900's.



The traditional variant of Hyakunin Isshu is often called *Ogura Hyakunin Isshu*, to be distinguished from its parodic variants, such as this Mubéyama Karuta pack (early XX century) with a joker (the red car) and 100 satirical illustrations inspired from original poetry.



Takasako model (mid XX century) in its paper and fabric box.

## □ Shigureden, a museum closely linked to Nintendo

At the end of January 2006, the first museum dedicated to Hyakunin Isshu was inaugurated in the Arashiyama district in Kyōto. The Shigeruden museum was financed by a donation from H. Yamauchi, and partly designed in collaboration with Nintendo's engineers (Shigeru Miyamoto overlooked the project) and is worth a visit for its original exhibitions.

