Kaga Mizuhiki　Tsuda mizuhiki orikata

Profile

Mizuhiki-orikata is an ancient applied art of tying various knots of Japanese paper string. Around 1910, Ogasawara-style of Mizuhiki-orikata became popular. Around 1915, Mr.Soukichi Tsuda, a founder of Tsuda Mizuhiki Orikata, started the business of "Yuino", Japanese traditional engagement ceremony which both families exchange gifts, in importing this style of Mizuhiki-orikata. It was so difficult to fold the paper strings tightly and routinely, since the style should be changed for each different use. A little crease and distortion damaged its elegant taste. Mizuhiki-orikata was only valuable in the beautiful appearance. Soukichi studied Mizuhiki-orikata hard and at last he thought of one idea to modify two-dimensional tied Mizuhiki without making any fold. This style made the form of product gorgeous. It is the origin of Mizuhiki-zaiku, three-dimensional model, which has been succeeded to today. Today's beautiful Mizuhiki-orikata with atmosphere of "Kaga hyaku-man-goku"(the wealthy Kaga Domain with one million of koku of rice) came from a revolutionary idea with a lot of efforts of Soukichi, founder.

About today's Mizuhiki Orikata

The technology to produce Kaga-Mizuhiki has been inherited by Tsuda-Mizuhiki-Orikata produced in Kanazawa city, Ishikawa prefecture. Tody, after approximate 100years, this company still produce Yuino-kazari (engagement decoration), and Kinpu(envelope with decoration) made of Mizuhiki on the basis of the style that the founder, Soukichi Tsuda contrived. Now, the fourth generation, Hiroshi and Sayumi,and the fifth generation, Rokusuke and Saki have preserved the tradition not only to produce Yuino-kazari, but also to adopt new idea. The slogan of this company managed by new generation is " Familiar Mizuhiki-orikata that goes with modern life style".

It is Mizuhiki-orikata to make " consideration for others" to the physical form. Mizuhiki-orikta used for the gifts. Mizuhiki-orikata is basically composed of 3 behaviors, to wrap by Japanese papers, to tie with Mizuhiki, paper strings, and to write the reason of the gift, the feeling, and the name. Soukichi Tsuda originally created the harmony of the beautiful style of Japanese papers, the sophisticated knots of Mizuhiki, and the excellent handwriting. This is Tsuda Mizuhiki-orikata that been established under the name of "Kaga-Mizuhiki" as traditional craft products. For example, in Japan, the traditional engagement gifts are one of the measures to make each family of the bridegroom and the bride to understand each other. Each gift has a meaning. The beautiful appearance is also one of expression for respecting the partner's family. Even if we wrap the money by any paper and any envelope, the value of money is not changed. However, the feeling that we would like to wrap the money with beautiful paper for anyone is our expression of congratulating somebody truly. People tend to recognize the traditional crafts as making products to use Mizuhiki. But what we should succeed for next generation is how to express the beautiful feeling that Japanese have.

Products of Tsuda Mizuhiki-orikata

Mizuhki is a sring used to decorate wrapped gifts and made of long twisted strips of Japanese paper which have been hardened with glue. The origin of Mizuhiki crafts is three-dimensional models shaped like a crane, tortoise, and armor created by modifying two-dimensional tied Mizuhiki by Soukichi Tsuda around 1916. Now, the products of Tsuda Mizuhiki-orikata are full of variety like a special envelope for a monetary gift, interiors, and accessory which go with today's life style. Tsuda-mizuhiki uses the high quality handmade Japanese paper called " Danshi" for their special envelope for a monetary gift. So, at the moment when you touch it, you can see the difference of the quality from the general ones sold in the super markets and convenience stores. The envelopes decorated with Mizuhiki are Japanese traditional formal package for gift. The several knots of Mizuhiki and each folding style of paper have various meanings and each wish.