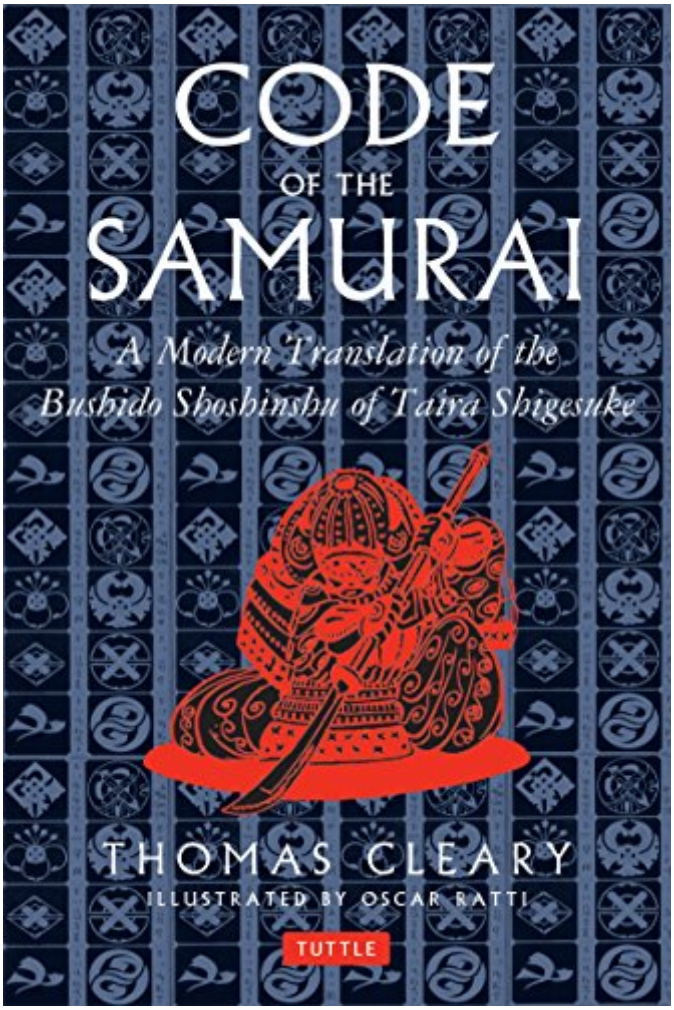
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Code Of The Samurai: A Modern Translation Of The Bushido Shoshinshu Of Taira Shigesuke: A Contemporary Translation Of The Bushido Shoshins




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Synopsis

Learn the ways of the Japanese Bushido Code with this very readable, modern translation of the Bushido Shoshinshu.Code of the Samurai is a four-hundred-year-old explication of the rules and expectations embodied in Bushido, the Japanese Way of the Warrior. Bushido has played a major role in shaping the behavior of modern Japanese government, corporations, society, and individuals, as well as in shaping modern Japanese martial arts within Japan and internationally. The Japanese original of this book, Bushido Shoshinshu, (Bushido for Beginners), has been one of the primary sources on the tenets of Bushido, a way of thought that remains fascinating and relevant to the modern world, East and West. This handbook, written after five hundred years of military rule in Japan, was composed to provide practical and moral instruction for warriors, correcting wayward tendencies and outlining the personal, social, and professional standards of conduct characteristic of Bushido, the Japanese chivalric tradition.With a clear, conversational narrative by Thomas Cleary, one of the foremost translators of the wisdom of Asia, and powerfully evocative line drawings by master illustrator Oscar Ratti, this book is indispensable to the corporate executive, student of the Asian Culture, martial artist, those interested in Eastern philosophy or military strategy, as well as for those simply interested in Japan and its people.

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Customer Reviews

Wonderful read, and unlike such weightier classics as THE ART OF WAR or THE BOOK OF FIVE RINGS, this one is readily accessible to the western mind.After reading it twice, I came to think that everything after the first chapter -- nay, after the first two paragraphs -- was mere repetition. This is because all the behaviors and philosophies the author recommends would be the natural consequence if one truly were to "keep death in mind at every possible moment."The book is a series of short chapters like "Loyalty," "Finances," "Personal Appearance;" each describing the ideal behavior of an ideal samurai with respect to each.I can’t comment on the organization or skill of Cleary’s translation, though, since I know of no other version of this book. However I am inclined to think it is adept, since the nature of the work suggests the original Japanese would be extremely stiff. This is not the case with the English.Gripes:1. Note that this is a thin book; you can read it in about an hour. I was expecting something much thicker, at least the size of THE UNFETTERED MIND, say.2. Oscar Ratti’s illustrations will be disappointing to those familiar with his work in SECRETS OF THE SAMURAI and AIKIDO: THE DYNAMIC SPHERE. There are only a handful of them, and that handful isn’t very interesting.3. The binding of this book came apart rather quickly, after just the first read. Perhaps just my copy, though.4. Sadly, the introduction by Cleary is completely forgettable.

One of the best books I have ever read. If you want to earn the respect of your superiors, read this. If you want to be a better leader, read this. If you want to become a better worker, read this.

for anyone who lives japan in everyway and wants to have a book that helps to show you an ancient world of people who commit there whole lives to self mastery and building strong character and will power then this is what you want :)

Just as described! Nice edition I’ll keep always. Good reading nicely binded

Well worth the read, especially if you are a Japan enthusiast.

Great book

A mind opener to so much more about life lessons and diverse culture. Most importantly, this book and is like it aids with building self discipline, wisdom, and respect more for the human race, nature,

and self

A classic in the Samurai literature. A bit slow and dry, but worth a read.

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