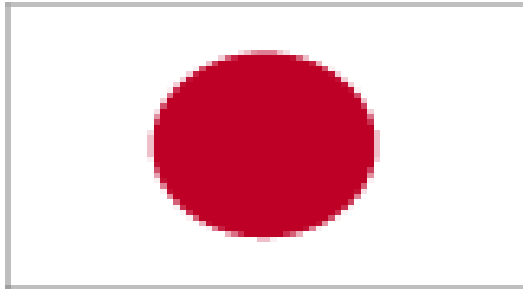


Japanese Tradition



Japan is a country, an island of lush landscapes and grand sites
Since 300 BC, 127 million people continue to rise to new heights

Buddhism was adopted, and broken into sects
Religion and culture hold the population it protects

Thousands of temples, monestaries and shrines
Gardens and castles, festivals and cherry blossom defines

Hirohito was an emperor, victories in war chose to defy
Kamikaze was a typhoon that became a man who would die

Tokyo is its capital, Hiroshima the target of the first atomic bomb
Mt. Fuji, Kyoto, Yokohama, cities that promote peace and calm

Pay with the yen for Ryokan's which are Inns and Minshuku's a B&B
No matter where you sleep, you'll find it heavenly

From rice, seafood, noodles, soya and sashimi
Eaten with chopsticks and saki, you'll find their food just dreamy

Geisha girls and kimonos, Sumo wrestlers and samurai swords
Bonsai trees, calligraphy, oragami and haiku bring zen rewards

3 character sets, Kanji, Hiragana and Katakana make writing complicated
women speak differently than men, multiplying what needs translated

First names come after their last, reversing what we know
Sensei is used for teachers, volcanoes and earthquakes wait to blow

Steeped in etiquette and superstition, there are rules you must abide
Visit Japan the gracious nation, that embraces respect, family and pride.

