

Illness and Epidemics in Premodern & Early Modern Japan

Primary Sources

Textual Sources

Nara Japan, 749–770: A Study and Translation of Shoku Nihongi, Tenpyō Shōhō 1-Hōki 1, 4 vols. Translated by Ross Bender. CreateSpace, 2015–2016.

See particularly entries surrounding the death of Retired Emperor Shōmu in 756:

- *Tenpyō Shōhō* 8.4.29 壬子 *mizunoe-ne* [June 1, 756]
- *Tenpyō Shōhō* 8.5.23 丙子 *hinoe-ne* [June 24, 756]
- *Tenpyō Shōhō* 8.5.24 丁丑 *hinoto-ushi* [June 25, 756]
- *Tenpyō Hōji* 2.8.18 丁巳 *hinoto-mi* [September 24, 758]
[Emperor recommends chanting the *Perfection of Wisdom Sutra* as a prophylactic measure against disease in all provinces.]
- See 737, 6th–9th months for devastation of the smallpox epidemic that killed the heads of the four branches of the Fujiwara house (Fusasaki, Maro, Muchimaro & Umakai).

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Ippen hijiri-e (ca. 1299). *Shinshū Nihon emakimono shūsei*, vol. 11, and *Nihon emakimono zenshū* vol. 10.

Yamai no sōshi, reproduced in full in *Nihon emakimono shūsei*, v. 9, and *Nihon emakimono zenshū*, v. 6. Also available [online](#).

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Notes

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