

# KAITOKUDO

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## History of Kaitokudo

Kaitokudo was founded in the ninth year of the Kyoho era as an academy, which, for the subsequent 140 years of the Edo period, contributed to the development of scholarship and the nurturing of business ethics in Osaka.



Kaitokudo-fuku

It is told that for a time it shared a prosperity not unlike that enjoyed by Shoheizaka Gakumonjo in Edo, and the school produced such luminaries as Nakai brothers Chikuzan and Riken, Tominaga Nakamoto, Yamagata Banto, and so on.

## Kaitokudo and Osaka University

After closing its doors in the second year of the Meiji era (1869), Kaitokudo was rebuilt in the fifth year of the Taisho era (1916). The restoration of Kaitokudo and the efforts to raise public awareness of its merits were carried out by the foundation Kaitokudo Kinenkai.

Thus rebuilt Kaitokudo continued to function as Osaka's civic, liberal arts college, frequented and loved by many until it was lost in a fire during the great Osaka air raid of the last war in 1945 (the twentieth year of the Showa era).



Entrance of Choken-Kaitokudo

Thirty six thousand items from the school which fortunately survived the fire were donated by the Kinenkai to Osaka University on the occasion of the creation of the faculty of letters. Since then, the Kinenkai, in collaboration with Osaka University, has been engaged in various projects and events.



Library and the Research Wing of Choken-Kaitokudo



## Restoration of Choken-Kaitokudo

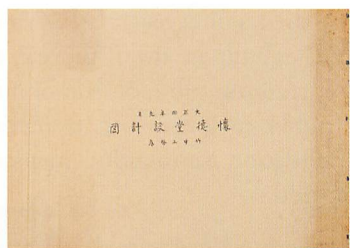
When a comprehensive study of the material preserved as Kaitokudo library had begun in the early 1990's, amongst the valuable data was discovered a blue print for the floor plan of Choken-Kaitokudo.

Upon contacting the Takenaka building company which originally designed and built the school and asking them for confirmation, the Osaka University faculty of letters obtained the information to the effect that indeed the discovered blue print is the very original which was drawn up at the time of the restoration, that similar documents are no longer extant at the company, and that it is possible to construct a reduced scale model of the school based on the document.

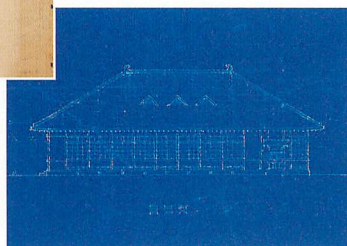
Thus, upon negotiation, the Takenaka building company

was kind enough to build a minutely precise model, one fiftieth the actual size, and two models, one hundredth the actual dimension, and to donate them to Osaka University. On October 11, 2005, the Faculty of Letters conducted a ceremony to mark the reception of these generous gifts, and currently the larger model is displayed in the foyer of the entrance to the faculty whilst the smaller two are exhibited, one in the principal's office, the other in Osaka University's Nakanoshima office.

We hope these models help to impart some of the enthusiasm the people of Osaka shown to scholarship throughout her history and make the cultural vitality of the city all the more palpable for us.



The Plan of Choken-Kaitokudo  
(the front cover and the side view)



a scene  
from the reception ceremony



### Related Links

◇Osaka University ◆<http://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/>

◇Osaka University Kaitokudo Center ◆<http://www.let.osaka-u.ac.jp/kaitoku-c/>

◇Kaitokudo Electronic Exhibition(Osaka University Library)

◆<http://www.library.osaka-u.ac.jp/tenji/kaitokudo/kaitoku.htm>

◇Kaitokudo and the Realm of Chinese Classics(Osaka University Department of Chinese Philosophy)

◆<http://www.let.osaka-u.ac.jp/chutetsu/>

◇WEB Kaitokudo (a comprehensive homepage for Kaitokudo-related research) ◆<http://kaitokudo.jp/>

◇Kaitokudo Kinenkai ◆<http://www.aianet.ne.jp/~kaitoku/>



The Photo of the Model of Choken-Kaitokudo



left: the office wing / center: the lecture hall / back: library and research wing





## Ideals of Kaitokudo

The school character of respect for high ethical and moral standard, the open civic environment, and the emphasis on freedom and creativity, which were passed down ever since the school's very first founding, are something that is consistently and unwaveringly pursued throughout the time of the rebuilt Kaitokudo and throughout the various projects led by Kinenkai in the post-war period.



Sadamegaki



Nyutokumonren

## Chronology of Kaitokudo

- 1724 (Kyoho 7) Founding of Kaitokudo
- 1726 (Kyoho 11) Official recognition by the Edo Shogunate as 'Osaka Gakumonjo'
- 1838 (Tenpo 9) Establishment of 'Tekijuku' by Ogata Koan
- 1869 (Meiji 2) Closing of the original Kaitokudo
- 1910 (Meiji 43) Founding of Kaitokudo Kinenkai
- 1913 (Taisho 2) Kaitokudo became recognized as a non-profit corporation
- 1915 (Taisho 4) In June, the reopening of Kaitokudo was decided. In October, a Shinto ceremony was conducted on the planned site.
- 1916 (Taisho 5) In September, the construction of Choken-Kaitokudo began. The opening ceremony took place on October 15.
- 1926 (Taisho 15) On October 31, the construction of the three-storied library and research wing with reinforced concrete began.
- 1945 (Showa 20) On March 14, during the Osaka air raid, the lecture hall and the office wing were lost in fire. The library was spared.
- 1949 (Showa 24) Kaitokudo Kinenkai donated thirty six thousand pieces of rare and important material to Osaka University. This collection was named 'Kaitokudo Library' and henceforth the research and investigation of its material began.
- 1976 (Showa 51) Publication of "Kaitokudo Bunko Tosho Mokuroku" (Catalogue of the Books from the Kaitokudo Library) by the Faculty of Letters of Osaka University.
- 2000 (Heisei 12) Digitization of the material from the Kaitokudo Library began.
- 2001 (Heisei 13) As a part of the commemoration activities of the seventieth anniversary of the Osaka University, and to honor the Kaitokudo and its history, multimedia presentations were given such as the demonstration of the old Kaitokudo school buildings using computer graphics, and the public exhibition of the data base of the rare material from the Library.
- 2005 (Heisei 17) The reconstructed model of Choken-Kaitokudo was completed.



### ■ Choken-Kaitokudo

- Address / 19 Bungo-cho, Higashi-ku, Osaka City  
( today's chuo-ku honmachibashi,  
Osaka Chamber of Commerce )
- Size of the lot / 361 tsubo ( 1 tsubo = 3.3m<sup>2</sup> )
- Buildings / Lecture Hall ( wooden and one-storied ),  
Office ( wooden, two-storied )  
Library and Research Wing  
( reinforced concrete, three-storied )
- Dimension of the Lecture Hall /  
length 26m x breadth 16.4m, floor  
area 425m<sup>2</sup> ( 126 tsubo )

### ■ Plan

- Five pages long. Each leaf is 51.5cm long and 74.5cm wide.
- On the cover is written "The plan of Kaitokudo. Takenaka Building Company. The fourth year of Taisho in the month of September."

### ■ Choken-Kaitokudo Reconstructed Model

- ( scale of reduction 1:50, measurement given in mm )
- Exterior Dimension ( Lecture Hall, Gate, the Lot, and the outer walls included ) : 1200 × 900.
- The size of the clear acrylic container : 1230 × 930 × 430
- Main material used : Hard Paper, modeling board, plastic, wood.