Transmission of "Myō" in Old Area of Ōta-no-shō

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In the old area of Ōta-no-shō, the former Bessako village located in the northeast part is an area where the name of Bessaku (newly developed lands under the direct control of "Ryōke") in the Ōta-no-shō period, and "Kōjin" festivals by neighborhood groups or the same families, the so-called the customs of "Kōjin-myō", have been transmitted up until now. In the names of "Kōjin-myō", a quite a few names of "Geshi-myō" in the Ōta-no-shō period such as Fukutomi, Shigemitsu, etc. and "Hyakushō-myō" such as Hisanaga, Sadakiyo, Munetomo, etc. have been transmitted and the old systems in the middle ages seem to have been inherited.

Harima district in the former Bessako village have six "Kōjin-myō" (also called as "Kumi" or "Kōjū") and each "Kōjin-myō" consists of six to thirteen families. "Kōjin" is in general enshrined at the back of the house, a big tree like a cedar tree at the boundary of the mountain, a forest or in a shrine, and the festivals to rejoice on the rich harvest are held once or twice a year, mainly in November or December in autumn. In the past, a festival of large-scale was held once in ten years. On such occasion, six "Kōjin-myō" joined together and performed "Kagura". A sign of "Myō" in the middle ages may still subsist in these "Kōjin-myō".