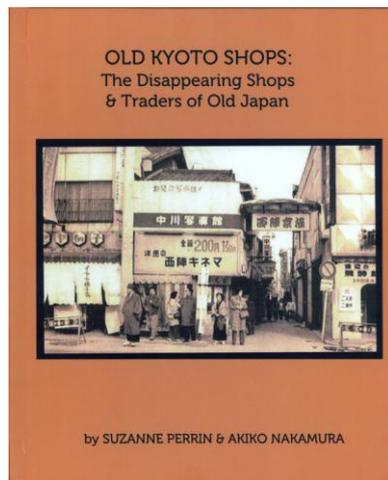


OLD KYOTO SHOPS:

The Disappearing Shops & Traders of Old Japan

PREVIEW BOOK by Suzanne Perrin & Akiko Nakamura



Suzanne Perrin and Akiko Nakamura have been conducting a survey on the traditional shops and traders of Kyoto since 2003, interviewing shop proprietors and workers, and assessing the status of their trades in a rapidly changing world.

Many small businesses are being forced to close for a variety of reasons, whether due to declining orders for traditional items, competition from overseas, technological changes to production, or an ageing population of craft workers with few apprentices willing to learn a demanding process.

The book covers an introduction to the history of Kyoto, its craftspeople and licenced artisans, a compilation of statistics on the rate of declining small businesses in the Kyoto area, and focuses on different groups including textile workers, wood workers, metal workers, food suppliers, some ryokan and coffee houses, and general goods stores.

The surveys highlight the problems of economic growth versus the decline in crafts and traditional suppliers, analysing solutions and successes where businesses have survived and prospered, or problems and difficulties where businesses have closed. The surveys were conducted between 2003 and 2016, and are on-going.

We will be concluding our researches in 2016 with a view to publishing the completed book in 2017. We aim to provide updates on the project via the Japan Interlink website and social media links. For info see: www.japaninterlink.com/kyotoshopsproject or www.oldkyotoshops.com

Suzanne Perrin B.A.; M.A.

Independent researcher, lecturer in Japanese history, art and culture for universities and museums; founded **Japan Interlink** in 1995, and published *Bridges: Anglo-Japanese Cultural Pioneers 1945-2015* in 2016 available online at

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Akiko Nakamura

Professional artisan, fourth generation weaving expert in Nishijin textiles, founded **Ever Koubo** in 1999, a weaving workshop for teaching younger artisans; works with her son producing fashion design clothing and is a registered Kyoto guide and textile consultant.

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September 2016