## Purify and recharge your spirit for the summer -This year, we need this more than ever! -

From ancient times, the Japanese people practiced 夏越之祓 Nagoshi-no-Harae, a prayer to purify and to rid themselves of the first half of the year's 厄難 vakunan (illness, accident, injury, fight etc...) or "bad luck" and *kegare*, or "withered spirit". Over the course of the first half of the year, the energy of a person's spirit is diminished by tiredness, stress, and other pressures, so Nagoshi-no-Harae rituals are performed every June to cleanse and refresh this energy and recharge the spirit. Shinto Shrine of Shusse Inari in America provides these traditional ceremonies with mystic rituals that have been passed down through the generations of our shrine.

One such ritual is the use of 人形 hitogata on which have been written the mystic words,

"十種神宝 Tokusa-no-kamdakara." Hitogata are slips of paper cut into the shape of a person, and it is believed that the hitogata represents the person concerned. In the Nagoshi-no-Harae ceremony, the *hitogata* is thought to carry all of that person's kegare.

## [How to use *hitogata/katashiro*]

- 1. Download and print out hitogata and/or katashiro from our website.
- 2. Cut out the *hitogata* and/or *katashiro* along the outline.
- 3. Write your name, street address (not PO Box) and age\* on the front of hitogata and/or katashiro.
- 4. Wipe on the body part one wishes to improve or renew with the *hitogata/katashiro*.
  - For example:

To use hitogata/Pet katashiro, one suffering from knee pain would wipe the hitogata on their knee, or, if they wish to be smarter, on their head while saying your wishes like "please heal my knee pain, please be smarter." etc. For pet, rub the pet with the katashiro if possible.

To use vehicle *katashiro*, wipe the steering wheel while you are saying your wishes like "please no accident, no mechanic issues." etc...

- 5. Breathe upon the hitogata/katashiro. (For pet, the pet itself or owner may breathe upon the katashiro. For vehicle, owner or driver should breathe upon the katashiro).
- 6. Download the application form from our website, complete it, and select the package plan.
- 7. Prepare the donation ceremony fees. Check: Payable to Shinto Shrine of Shusse Inari in America PayPal: https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/3405572
- 8. Mailed (it must reach us no later than June 27th) Mailing address: 9854 National Blvd., #284, Los Angeles, CA 90034

### \*Eastern Age Count.

We will hold the Nagoshi-no-Harae ceremony on June 30th with your hitogata (and katashiro), and notify you of the completion of the ceremony. We will then send your package if you requested one.

人形(ひとがた) Hitogata



*Katashiro* for pet





**QR** Code

# *Hitogata ritual for Nagoshi-no-Harae* Package Plan List

Please select one of following plans and mail *hitogata* (and *katashiro*), application form and pay the ceremony fee via check or PayPal https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/3405572.

We will hold the *Nagoshi-no-Harae* ceremony on June 30<sup>th</sup> with your *hitogata* (and *katashiro*) and notify you of the completion of the ceremony.

We will then send your package if you requested one.

#### Hitogata Plan \$10.00

#### (The Hitogata plan is included with membership fees).

Nagoshi-no-Harae rituals ceremony which is using hitogata/katashiro.

A Shinto Priest will read each person's name (or pet name for pet katashiro) during the ceremony. Following the ceremony, you will receive a certification of your participation by email.

#### Nagoshi Plan \$20.00

Hitogata plan's benefits and a pouch of purification salt.

#### Nanjo plan \$40.00

Nagoshi plan's benefits and a Nanjo Ofuda (protective charm against ill fortune).

#### Chinowa plan \$50.00

Nagoshi plan's benefits and receive a mini Chinowa (ceremonial grass ring).

#### Kitsune plan \$60.00

*Nanjo* plan's benefits and two bags of blessed Yaki Be-fun (from Kenmin Foods. <u>https://yaki-be-fun.com/</u>).

#### Inari plan \$70.00

Nanjo plan's benefits and a box of Blessed Rice.

#### Premium plan \$100.00

*Nanjo* plan's benefits for up to four family members (including pets, vehicle, roommates) and receive a mini *Chinowa* (ceremonial grass ring), a box of Blessed Rice, and two bags of blessed Yaki Be-fun.

**Blessed Rice** 

www.ShintoInari.org





Mini Chinowa

難除の神札 *Nanjo Ofuda* 

Blessed Rice 1lb. (454g)



Ceremony fee donation QR Code

**Dear international participant(s),** we kindly ask that you cover shipping costs for your plan (*hitogata* plan excluded). Thank you for your understanding. Please note that local customs regulations may prohibit the shipping of *Chinowa* and rice to some countries.

Yaki Be-fun 2.29oz. (65g)