

謹賀新年

令和參年(西曆2021年)辛丑元旦



左: 歌川國貞,「江戸名所百人美女—小石川牛天神(1857)」の挿絵, 東京都立図書館。右: 源頼朝が夢に見たと傳はる牛石 (2020.07.27. 愚生撮影)。



小石川, 北野神社牛天神, 社殿を守る一対の牛像 (2020.07.27. 愚生撮影)。

由緒[北野神社牛天神境内揭示抄]: 壽永三年(1184)春, 右大將源頼朝卿東國追討の折, 此處の入江の松に船を繋ぎ和波を待つ間, 夢に菅原道眞公神牛に乗りて現はれ, 頼朝卿に二つの幸あらんと告ぐ。頼朝卿夢覺めて傍を見れば, 一岩石ありて夢に見し菅神の牛に似たり。果して同年秋頼家卿誕生あり, 翌年平家の追放, 國の鎮定なる。而して此處に天満宮を勸請, 御神領等を寄進す。時に元暦元年(1185)なり。

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A Happy New Year

2021 AD, The 3rd year of Reiwa, The year of Gold-younger/Ox



Left: An illust. in “One hundred beauties at famous spots in Edo: Koishikawa Ushi-Tenjin” by Kunisada Utawaga 1857. Right: The ox-shaped rock which Yoritomo of Genji saw in his dream (Photographed by M. Iguchi, 27/07/2020).



A pair of ox statues which guard the hall of Kitano Shrine-Ushi Tenjin (Photographed by M. Iguchi, 27/07/2020).

Legend (from the signboard in the precinct of Kitano Shrine): In the spring of 1184, the 3rd Year of Juei Era, when General Lord Yoritomo of Genji was waiting for the calm of the sea on the estuary near by during his campaign to the north-east Japan, Godly Michizane Sugawara on the back of a divine ox appeared in his dream and told him he would have two fortunes. When he awoke, beside him was a rock which resembled the ox. In fact a son, Yori-ie was born in autumn and the archenemy Heike was defeated next year to restore peace. Then, Lord Yoritomo built this Tenjin Shrine for Godly Sugawara and contributed a land in the 1st Year of Genryaku Era (1185).

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