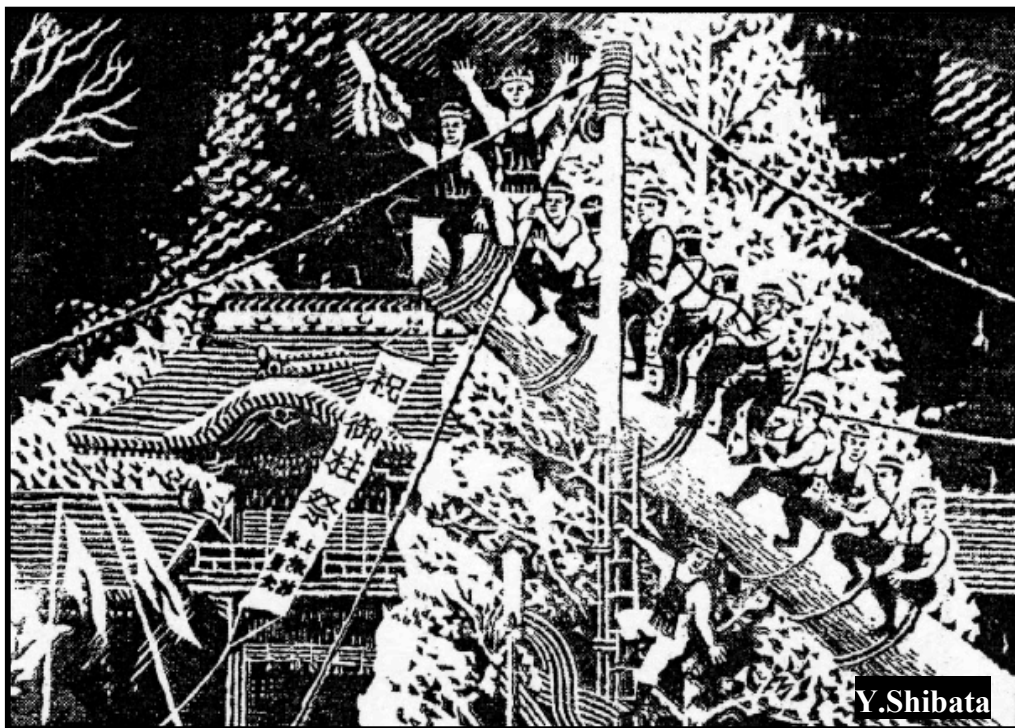


## THE ONBASHIRA FESTIVAL

## 御柱祭

## OUR GREAT SEPTENNIAL FESTIVAL

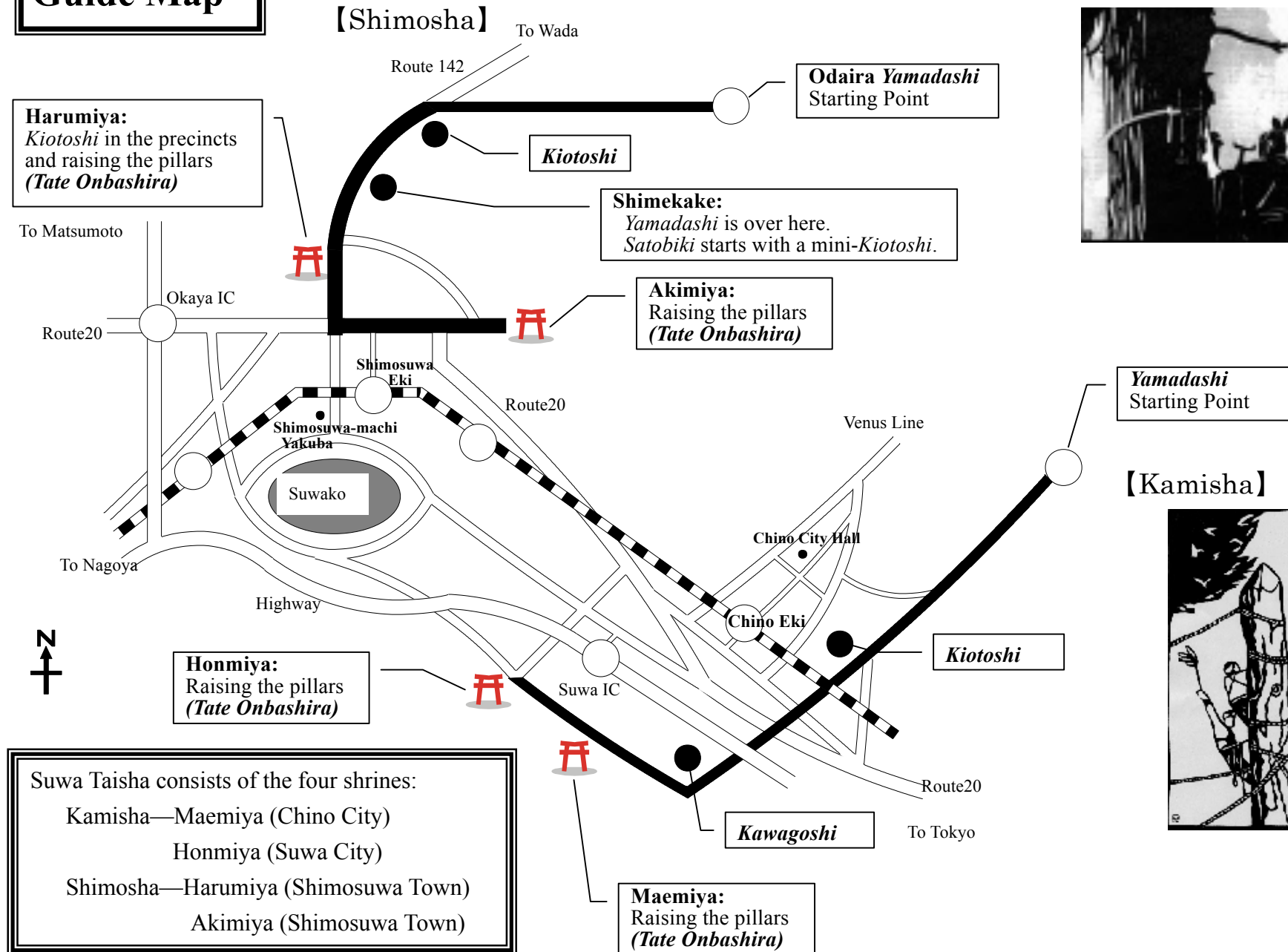
Onbashira is considered one of Japan's three most unique festivals. It has been held every seven years, at Suwa Taisha Shrine, for the past 1,200 years. During Onbashira, four huge logs, the largest measuring 16m long, 1m wide, and weighing 10 tons, are cut in the mountains and brought by hand to the Shrine. The people guiding the logs sing *kiyariuta* as they go, and when they reach the Shrine, they plant the logs upright in the ground, one at each of the Shrine's four corners. It is believed that the place gets spiritually renewed by the raising of these natural pillars, as divinities are supposed to dwell in the trees. *Kiotoshi*, the sliding of the logs down the hill, and *kawagoshi*, their crossing over the river, are highlights of the festival.

**NOTICE:**

Vehicles are NOT allowed in festival areas.

We recommend that you use public transportation getting to the festival, then join everyone on foot.

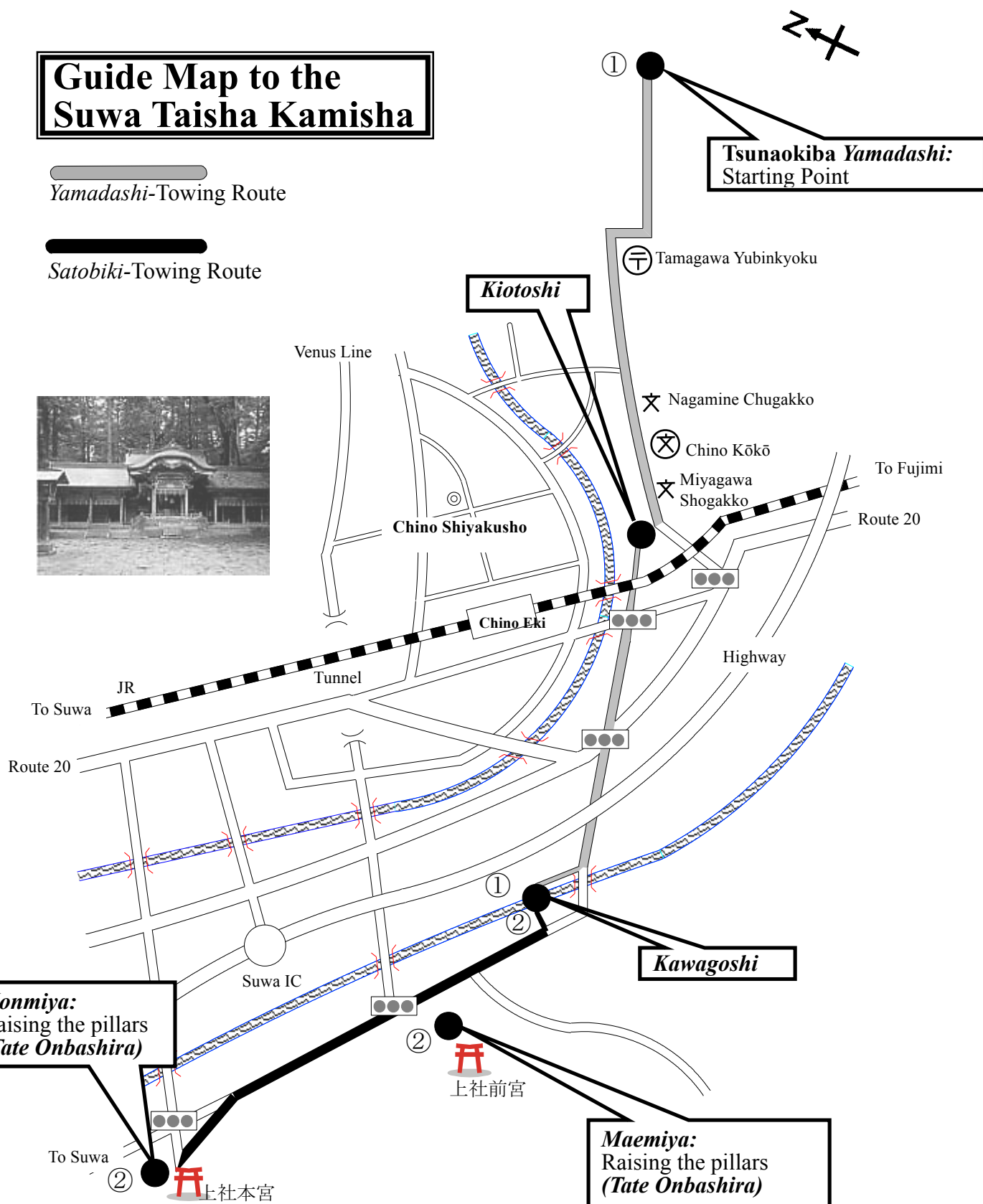
# Guide Map



# Guide Map to the Suwa Taisha Kamisha

 Yamadashi-Towing Route

 Satobiki-Towing Route

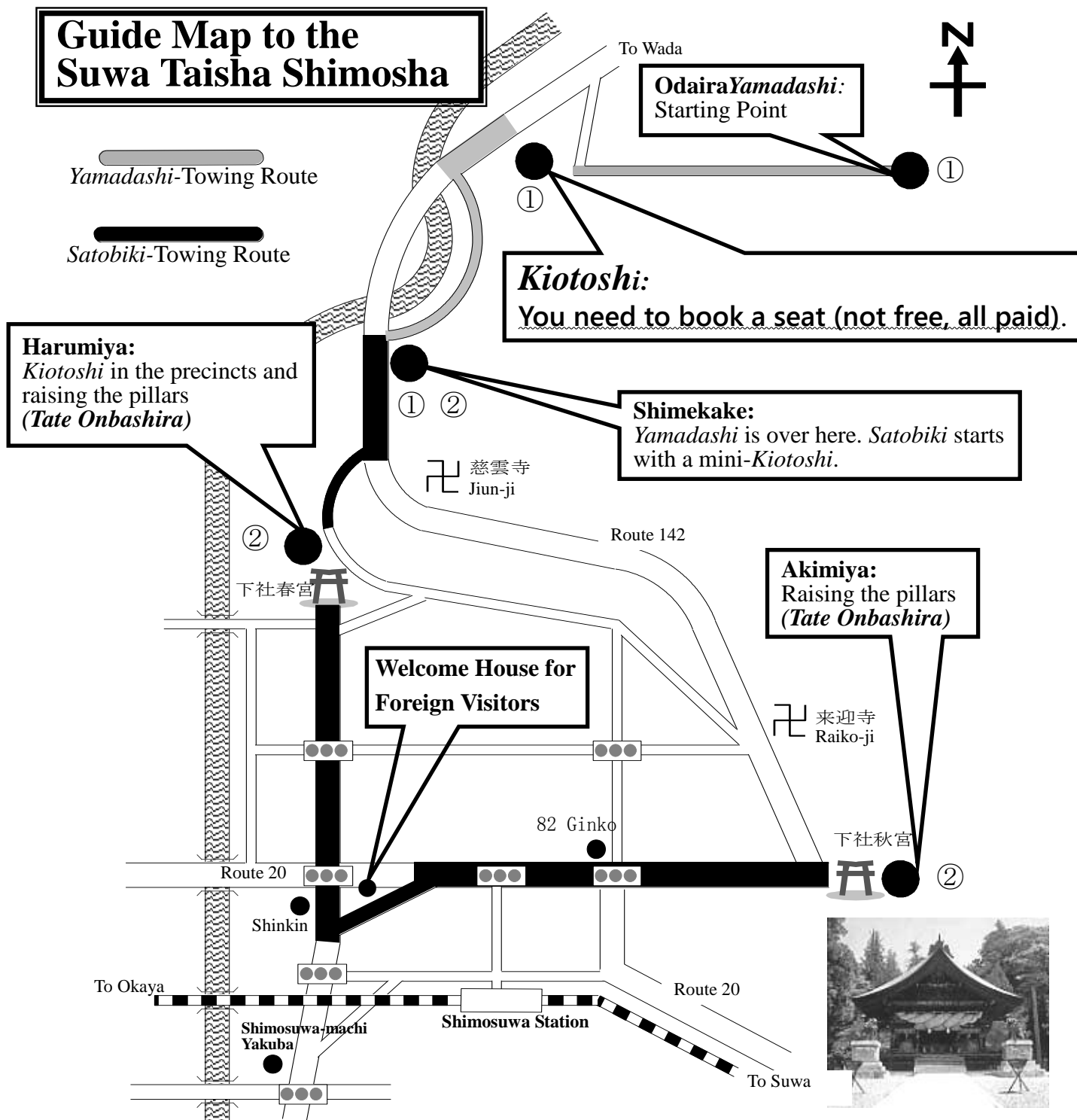


## Schedule of the Kamisha Onbashira Festival

①Kamisha: Yamadashi (Bringing the logs down the mountain)  
April 2 (Sat), 3 (Sun), 4 (Mon), 2016

②Kamisha: Satobiki (Entering the Shrine, Raising the Pillars)  
May 3 (Tue), 4 (Wed), 5(Thu), 2016

# Guide Map to the Suwa Taisha Shimosha



## Schedule of the Onbashira Festival

- ① Shimosha: Yamadashi (Bringing the logs down the mountain)  
April 8 (Fri), 9 (Sat), 10 (Sun), 2016
- ② Shimosha: Satobiki (Entering the Shrine, Raising the Pillars)  
May 14 (Sat), 15 (Sun), 16 (Mon), 2016