

Samurai typically carried two swords, one long and one short. The shorter sword is called a *wakizashi*, which means “inserted at the side.” The second lord of the Sendai domain, Date Tadamune (1600–1658), had this heavy ceremonial *wakizashi* made in honor of his father Masamune (1567–1636) on the twentieth anniversary of his death. It was originally bequeathed to Zuihoden, the Date family mausoleum in Sendai, but it was returned to the family during the Meiji period (1868–1912). After World War II, the family donated the sword to Zuiganji. The sword is a Miyagi Prefecture Designated Cultural Property.