

Illustrated Account of the Mongol Invasions, Volume 2 Sections 18 through 20

This scene depicts groups of warriors in boats rowing out to meet the invading Mongol fleet. Takezaki Suenaga (b. 1246), the primary figure in the narrative, is not depicted as he has already sailed ahead according to the text. The lack of a scene showing Suenaga in a boat headed towards the Mongol fleet suggests that the section of the volume that included his ship has been lost. Notice the considerable attention to detail given to the armor and facial expressions of the warriors.

The handscrolls were likely commissioned by Suenaga to be an illustrated historical record of his valor and bravery in battle against the Mongols. Made only a few years after the actual Mongol invasions, the illustrations are an invaluable contemporaneous record of the battle.