

The history of Tengu Ren for 50 years (1)

Momentum for independence, KIRAKU became TENGU

The Awa Odori, which started in the youth club of the current Koenji Pal Shopping Street, has grown into a big event after overcoming numerous crises. In the meantime, volunteers from the former "Kiraku-ren" (directly affiliated with the Koenji Minami Shosei-kai) decided to start an independent "Ren" (means "group"), which led to the establishment of the Tengu Ren.

In Aug., members of the former Kiraku Ren started a new "Ren" which became present "Tengu Ren".



In Aug., they unveiled dance costumes with their names as a full-fledged independent "REN". Men, women, and instrument team wore these costumes until 1969.



Won the Gold Prize in the 1st Koenji Awa Odori Dance Photo Contest. (Dancer: Shindo Hatsuie)

In Apr., met with Heiwa Ren at the Shikoku Expo.

In Aug., one representative danced in front of City Hall with Heiwa Ren.

In Apr., created emblem of Ren. (nine feather fan on a circle).
In Aug., new costume with 4 colors completed. (Photo : In front of TANAKA UNAGI)



In Nov., completion of the Ren flag and a consecration ceremony conducted.



In Aug., 6th anniversary event at Koenji Hall.



The mayor of Tokushima city presented the first championship flag. Co-starred with actor Ryotaro Sugi.



In Sept., performed at Nakamurabashi Awa Odori (Nakamurabashi, Nerima-ku).
The following year, the Nakamurabashi Ren was formed and became a sister group.

Nakamurabashi Ren
(Currently, Nakamurabashi Shin Ren)



Chairman
Yoshihiko Ida

Representative
Masayoshi Hasegawa

Participated in the reception for the International Petroleum Congress. (Hotel Chinzanso)

"Rencho Kai", the forerunner of the current Koenji Awa Odori "Ren Association", was established. (Photo : In front of Shindo Fruit and Vegetable store)



10th anniversary show

On 22nd Aug., the 10th anniversary show was held at Nakano Sunplaza. In attendance were Heiwa Ren, a sister group from Tokushima, as well as Mr. Ono, Aoren, director of the Tokushima Awa Odori association, and Mr. Ota, head of the Manji Ren. The event was also supported by the Tokushima shimbun.



Upper: Ticket for the 10th anniversary show
Left: Pamphlet cover

1965

1966

1967

1968

1969

1970

1971

1972

1974

1975

1976

1977

The first representative of Tengu Ren
Kazuo Nakamura
Inaugurated in 1965



Shirasagi Ren



Representative
Toshiko Ikeda



In Aug., as a youth development organization, "Wakaba-kai Tengu Ren" created a constitution and expanded its activities beyond Awa odori, and this spirit is still alive in the Tengu Ren today.



In Mar., formed a sister relationship with Tokushima "Heiwa Ren". (Photo : Tokushima central park)

In Aug., the first joint performance at Konya-machi, Tokushima preparing with TAKAHARI and Ren flag.



Performing with Heiwa Ren in front of Koenji Station and holding a reception. (Photo : South Plaza)



Unveiled new costumes for women's dance at the south plaza of Koenji Station. (The color was orange)



Performed at the reception for the IPU world parliamentary union conference at hotel Chinzanso, wearing the costume of Heiwa Ren.

Participated in the 3rd Kagurazaka Awa Odori Festival for the first time. In the same year, became a sister group of Kagura Ren.

Kagurazaka Kagura Ren



Chairman
Yohkichi Ishii

(Kagurazaka Awa Odori festival executive committee chairman)

Representative
Goichi Iso



In Aug., performed at the 1st Yamato Awa Odori. (Yamato city, Kanagawa Pref.)

Establishment of Koenji Awa Odori promotion association. (Currently, "NPO Koenji Awa Odori promotion association")

Costume with "Lemon yellow", the symbol color of Tengu Ren was born.

1st costume
Until 1966



2nd costume
Until 1969



3rd costume
Until 1969



Men's costume Woman's costume

Blue happi /
Instrument team
costume
Late 1965s



Woman's
costume
Since about 1977



White happi /
2nd blue happi
Mid 1950s



The history of Tengu Ren for 50 years (2)

In 1979, performed at the first Kasei-Ginza Awa Odori (Currently, "Kasei Awa Odori"). At the 3rd event, became a sister group after establishing Kasei Ren.

Kasei Ren



Advisor to the Executive Director, Toritsukasei shopping St.
Koichi Akashi

Representative
Hiromi Kubota

In June, Gymnastics World Cup Tokyo (Yoyogi Stadium: Ren association joint performance by 600 participants from Koenji and 150 from Tokushima).

1978

Birth of "Little Tengu".
At that time, the group had only six members.



In Nov., performed at Paradiratan in Paris, France. After that, traveled to Germany and have an exchange program with Hamburg city. Jointly performed in the Folk Parade. (Ren association joint performance)

New deep red costume for Little Tengu
Since 1978



The second representative of Tengu Ren
Shinichi Shindo
Inaugurated in 1980



In Aug., participated in the location shooting of TV Asahi's drama "Tokuso saizensen" at Koenji Awa Odori festival.

In Oct., Yachiyo Shinkin Bank (Currently, Yachiyo Bank) support. All executives at the time attended, in front of Odakyu Machida Station.



1981

1985

"Rencho Kai" was dissolved and "Koenji Awa Odori Ren association" was formed newly.



At the central performance street



The third representative of Tengu Ren
Keiji Fukushima
Inaugurated in 1981



In July 1989, Kanagawa Yamato Shinbashi Ren became a sister group of Tokushima Helwa Ren as well as Tengu Ren.

Yamato Shinbashi Ren



Chairman
Hideo Nishikawa



Representative
Yasutoki Takei

Official American football game ceremony. (Meiji Kinenkan)

The first performance in Otowa, Bunkyo-ku.



The first solo participation of our sister group, Helwa Ren at Momozono street, Koenji.



Kaisei-cho Awa Odori started (Ashigarakami-gun, Kanagawa Pref.). Performed in it from the first time.

1989

Tengu Ren 30th anniversary summer in Tokushima

In 1995, on the 30th anniversary, we raised our own TAKAHARI as a solo group in Tokushima for the first time and danced at the Konya-cho stage. That excitement was engraved in the hearts of each members who support current Tengu Ren. After 20 years, Tengu Ren returned to Tokushima and danced in various stages such as Konya-cho and Alba-hama to leave a new legacy for the next generation. In the Koenji festival, we started from the central performance street on the first day and were able to play a part of the opening ceremony and ribbon-cutting.



In Sept., performed at the closing ceremony of the 3rd World Athletics Championships and danced with Carl Lewis. (National Stadium / Ren association joint performance)



1990

1991



Tengu Ren 25th anniversary party at Queen's Gallery in Koenji (Photo: In front of the headquarter)



Performance in Sayamagaoka (Photo: 2014)

In Dec., jointly performed at NHK KOHAKU annual singing contest as a Ren association



In Nov., jointly performed in Hong Kong (Ren association)

1995

1998

Year of Little Tengu breakthrough

In 1990, at Tengu 25th anniversary, we held a farewell party for the 6th graders of Little Tengu, which has become a regular event since then. In the same year, a parents' meeting was started and the back up system for Little Tengu was in place. Little Tengu drove their activities drastically in this year. (The 4th representative, Kiire take a role of Little Tengu leader in this year. Second from the right in the photo).



Little Tengu danced for the first time at the Tengu's familiar dance part "Curtain call".

Little Tengu costume
Since about 1990



AMESHIKO costume
*For 4 man dancers
Since about 1994



Paper fan (Adult, Little Tengu) Inro
Since about 1995



Man dance Yukata and instrument team costume
Since about 1995



4th costume
Since about 1985



Yukata for man's dance



Instrument team



Inro

The history of Tengu Ren for 50 years (3)



The fourth representative of Tengu Ren
Yoshitada Saito
Inaugurated in 2002



As the Koenji Awa Odori festival approached, Little Tengu practice began in front of the representative Saito's store (The headquarter at that time). After practice, he would hand out souvenirs to kids.

Performed at Waterfront festival in Tsukushima for the first time.



Wrap-up party at Monja Mutsumi, the annual regular event after the performance at Waterfront festival.



Performance in Australia (Ren Association joint event)



2001

2003

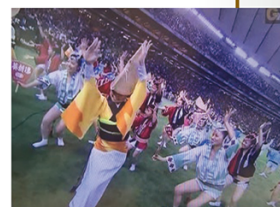
2005

2006

2008



Performance in Greece (Odeon of Herodes Atticus : Ren Association joint event)



Performed at MLB opening match ceremony (Tokyo Dome : Ren Association joint event)



Performed at Town-center festival (Kohoku new town in Yokohama) for the first time

Performed at "Ringo EXPO 08 by Ringo Sheena Ringo" (Saitama Super Arena : Ren Association joint event)

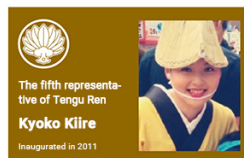
Awa Odori Hall completed in Koenji!

In July, Suginami ward Suginami arts hall "ZA-KOENJI Public Theatre" opened, and the "Awa Odori Hall" was completed on the second basement floor. At the same time, the free magazine "ZA-KOENJI" was published and featured Awa Odori in the second issue. Tengu Ren members including representative Saito and Kiire also often appeared in the magazine.

Brown Happi
Since about 2000



Man dance costume and Paper fan
Since 2008



The fifth representative of Tengu Ren
Kyoko Kiire
Inaugurated in 2011



In Aug., awarded the first Tokushima Mayor's Prize. (At the 56th Tokyo Koenji Awa Odori festival)

The 1st Tengu training camp at Lake Hotel Saiko, 2 days 1 night. And held at Kujukuri, Chiba from the following year. (Including BBQ)



2009

2012



Performed at Furusato Festival Tokyo, and it became regular event. (Tokyo Dome : Ren Association joint event)



People from the Shinjuku ward Medical association formed "Hakui Ren". Tengu Ren have watched and lead their practice every year from May to July.

The summer of 50th anniversary. Tokushima and Koenji Awa Odori festival

In Aug. 2015, we raised our own TAKAHARI and performed as a solo group at Tokushima expedition for the first time in 20 years, to celebrate 50th anniversary. Moreover, Heiwa Ren showed solo performance at Koenji Awa Odori festival after 25 years.



At Shinmachi stage, in front of Mt. Bisan.



Ribbon cutting ceremony at Koenji Awa Odori Festival.



On 29th-Aug., Heiwa Ren at Central performance St.

From Oct. onward, performed at Shinjuku Awa Odori twice a month. (Until Sep. 2015)



Performance in Hong Kong. (Ren Association joint event)



Performance in Taiwan. (Ren Association joint event)



2013

2014

2015



Performance in Macao. (Ren Association joint event)



50th anniversary executive committee established.



In Oct., held the event of potatoes and peanuts digging for Little Tengu at Ren member's fields. From the following year, the event expanded to the all Ren members.



Practice on Christmas by dressing up as Santa Claus.

Woman dance Lemon Yellow costume renewal
Since 2008



Woman dance pouch and hair ornaments / Little Tengu hair ornaments
Since 2011



50th anniversary T-shirt
In 2015

