



Ceremonial Rituals for Construction

Pillar/Ridgepole Raising Ceremonies

By the contractor, *Ritchu-shiki*, a pillar raising ceremony, was held before the pillars were erected, and *Joto-shiki*, a ridgepole raising ceremony, was performed when the ridgepole was attached to the pillars and beams. On the occasion of the ridgepole raising, a building tag was made, and everyone involved in the construction celebrated as well as prayed for the safe completion of the construction. The carpenters involved in the construction played a central role in the ritual.



Pillar Raising Ceremony



Building Tag for Sakura Gomon



Ridgepole Raising Ceremony