## CONTENTS

On the occasion of the publication of the English translation ..... 9
Preface: Seeking the soul of mathematics ..... 13
CHAPTER
Ont Mathematics Fever ..... 17
Sangaku ..... 22
Early mathematical traces ..... 26
The Jinkōki and the development of wasan ..... 28
Numeration systems in the Jinkōki ..... 33
Multiplication table ..... 36
A "division table" ..... 39
$\pi$ as 3.16 is divisible by 4 ..... 42
Fun calculations (Josephus problem/mamakodate) ..... 46
Challenge problems (idai) ..... 53
Eighth-order equations and the non-professional ..... 61
Seki Takakazu ..... 66
The Bernoulli formula ..... 70
"Obeying the soul of mathematics leads to good" ..... 73
A new notation for Japanese people ..... 76

## CHAPTER Umo Wasan enthusiasts and $\pi$

"Prove that $\pi$ is greater than 3.05 " 81
The history of $\pi 86$
Irrational and transcendental numbers 88
Napier's constant 90
Is $\pi$ the ultimate "random"? 95
Muramatsu Shigekiyo and $\pi 98$
Seki Takakazu and his "acceleration method" 100
Zero and infinity 103
Takebe Katahiro 105
The Basel problem 109
Euler's work on infinite series 111
Matsunaga Yoshisuke and his 52 digits 115

## CHAPTER <br> ©hree <br> Wasan, alive today

The bane of entrance exams 123
Schools of mathematics: sūgakujuku 125
Yamaguchi Kazu and Chiba Tanehide 128
Other streams of wasan 131
Wasan's demise 136

> Wasan mathematicians and the introduction of the Gregorian calendar 139

Fukuda Riken and the introduction of Western mathematics 141
Wasan and the development of Western mathematics in Japan 144
Takahashi Tsumitane, the last wasan mathematician 146
Loving and hating mathematics, two sides of the same coin 148

## Exercises

1 The crane-tortoise calculation (tsurukame-zan) 152
2 The calculation of crows (karasu-zan) 156
3 The calculation of travelers (tabibito-zan) 158
4 Rice bale calculation (tawarasugi-zan) 160
5 Guessing number calculation (sassadate) 162
6 Silk thief calculation (kinunusubito-zan) 164
7 The Yakushi calculation (yakushi-zan) 166
8 Arithmetical restorations (mushikui-zan) 170
9 Freight cost calculation (unchin-zan) 172
10105 subtraction (hyakugozen-zan) 174

