

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910968660603321
Autore	Isomae Jun'ichi <1961->
Titolo	Japanese mythology : hermeneutics on Scripture / / Jun'ichi Isomae ; translated by Mukund Subramanian
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; , New York : , : Routledge, , 2014
ISBN	1-134-94908-1 1-315-53908-X 1-134-94901-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (190 p.)
Collana	Nichibunken Monograph Series ; ; Number 10 Religion in Culture: Studies in Social Contest and Construction
Disciplina	299.56
Soggetti	Mythology, Japanese
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	First published 2010 by Equinox, an imprint of Acumen.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages [156]-174) and index.
Nota di contenuto	ch. 1. National history, shintao, and myth : general remarks on the history of the interpretation of the Kiki -- ch. 2. The canon and variants : an examination of the mythology of Susanowo -- ch. 3. Myth in metamorphosis : ancient and medieval versions of the Yamatotakeru legend -- ch. 4. Myth and rationality : understanding God in the early-modern and modern periods -- ch. 5. Myth and nationalism : Motoori Norinaga's creation myths -- ch. 6. The space of historical discourse : Ishimoda Shao's theory of the heroic age.
Sommario/riassunto	Before the westernisation of Japan, mythological events were treated as national history. Two key documents have contributed to this history, both written over 1300 years ago: 'Kojiki', the Tale of Old Age, and 'Nihonshoki', the Chronicle of Japanese History. Both the Imperial Court and the general public searched for the origin of their identity in these documents, which took on the central and sacred role of scripture. Through the act of commentary and interpretation, the sacred books connected interpreters to their historical origins, authenticating where they came from, the emergence of the Japanese archipelago, and the uniqueness of the Japanese people. 'Japanese Mythology' explores the nation's attraction to this act of historical grounding and the varying identities that emerged during different historical periods. The study

reveals that, rather than having any clear and unified substance, Japanese mythology has always been the result of a nostalgic desire to retrieve historical origins.

---