

恵比寿神

Ebisu jin Machida Tenmangu Shrine

God of Fortune in Business

Ebisu is the God of Fortune in business. The common image of him is a man holding a fishing rod in his right hand and a red snapper in his left. (He used to be more a god of fishery. He was regarded as a God of the Sea)



福禄寿

Fukurokuju Machida Chamber of Commerce

God of Protection for Assets

Fukurokuju protects property. He represents three wishes from the belief of Taoism: prosperity, assets, and longevity. In China, he is believed to be an incarnation of the southern polar stars. Sometimes he is perceived as the same person as Jurojin.



原町田七福神

Haramachida's Seven Lucky Gods



Who are the "Seven Lucky Gods"?
The seven lucky gods are mythological deities that represent seven important qualities of human nature. (ie. longevity, wealth, popularity, integrity, charm, authority, and quantity) The worship of the seven lucky gods is believed to have started during the Muromachi era (1336-1573 ACE). Townsfolk in the Edo period (1603-1867 ACE) cemented the custom of visiting the seven lucky gods to gain good luck throughout the year.

Machida City Tourism and Convention Bureau

布袋尊

Hotei son Souhoin Temple

God of Household Harmony

Hotei is supposed to be a monk who existed during the Tang dynasty of China. He is depicted as a man with big belly, holding a large bag. (The Chinese character for hotei means "cloth bag"). In China, he is regarded as the same person as Maitreya.



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寿老人

Juroujin Shorakuji Temple

God of Youth and Longevity

Jurojin is the God of Youth and Longevity. He is usually depicted as a tall man with a long beard, accompanied by a deer. A deer is a symbol of longevity. He also holds a staff wrapped with scrolls. There are several other versions of what he holds, but they all represent longevity.



毘沙門天

Bishamonten Jounji Temple

God of Prosperity and Longevity

Bishamonten is the God of Prosperity and Longevity. He always follows the way of Buddha, and for that reason, he is called "Tamonten", or "deity who hears much". He was also worshipped by many feudal lords as a God of War.



弁財天

Benzaiten Mochio Shrine

God of Art and Property

Benzaiten is the Goddess of Art and Property. She was originally an apotheosis of rivers. Later on she was considered to be a goddess of art, eloquence, prolongation of life, avoiding troubles, victory of battle, etc. Through history, she has covered more aspects than any of the others!



大黒天

Daikokuten Carillon Plaza

God of Abundant Harvest

Daikokuten is the God of Abundant Harvests. He is depicted as a man sitting on straw-bags of rice, holding a lucky sack and mallet of fortune. Sometimes he is treated as a syncretistic fusion of himself and another Japanese mythological god, Okuninushi no Mikoto, an ancient Shinto god.



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