



# SENGOKU

The Megagame of Power Politics in Old Japan

## TEAM BRIEFING - SAITO CLAN



Saito is an ancient daimyo family originally coming from Echizen. The clan's home province is Mino, worth 5 points of rice tax.

### Recent History

Born in Kyoto, the current clan Lord was at first a priest, but returned to the secular world, becoming an oil merchant for a while.

He joined the service of Nagai Nagahiro and was eventually adopted by the Nishimura samurai family and took on the name of Hidemoto. He killed Nagahiro and changed his name to Nagai Toshimasa. He then expelled Toki Yoshiyori, the then governor of Mino province and adopted the name of Saito and made war against the late Oda Nobuhide of Owari.

Fearing defeat Toshimasa made peace with the Oda Clan and gave his daughter in marriage to Oda Nobunaga.

### Team Players

SAITO TOSHIMASA (57) Lord of Mino and leader of the Saito clan.

AKECHI MITSUhide (25) Loyal vassal to the Saito clan & Clan General.

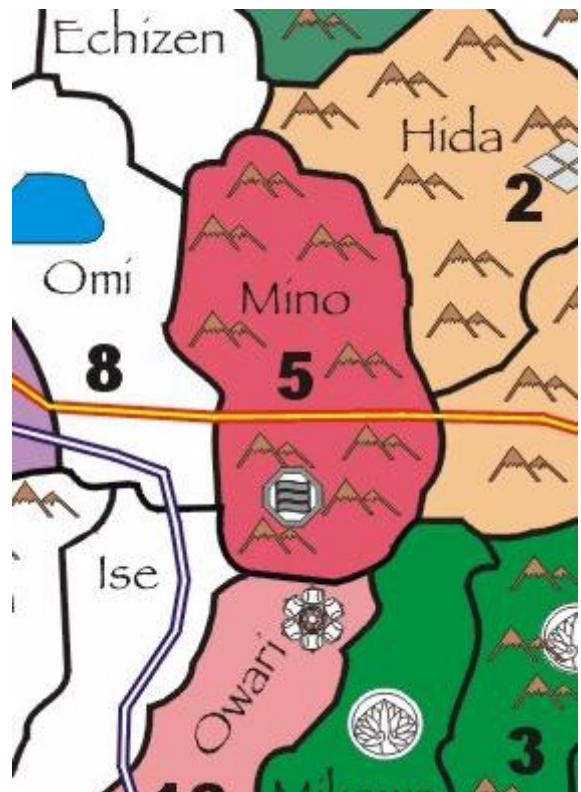
SAITO YOSHITATSU (24) Son of Toki Yoshiyori, and adopted by Saito Toshimasa as his clan heir.

KAMIYAMA SOJIN (54) A loyal samurai who has taken holy orders and is currently Clan Chamberlain.

HIGASHIRO EIJIRO (51) Old retainer & friend of Toshimasa.

### Dynastic Information

Toshimasa's daughter has recently married Oda Nobunaga, the young lord of Owari province.





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## Personal Briefing: Daimyo Saito Toshimasa

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You are a ruthless and ambitious leader, who has had a bit of bad luck recently.

The Oda clan have proved a bit too tough, so you have made an alliance with them. Their new young lord, Oda Nobunaga, seems to be at least as tough as his father, and should go far.

You hope to either use Nobunaga to further build your power, or, gain greater status by backing Oda in his actions, should he decide to expand.



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## Personal Briefing: General Akechi Mitsuhide

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Times are hard for the samurai class, and this clan in particular. Merchants and peasants seem to grow fat while the honest warrior risks his life defending them and their homes in the many wars. The common folk do not understand the privations of the warrior - they think that because you have a mansion and servants and horses and followers that you are a

rich man - but what are riches? Only fleeting things that pass only too quickly (especially when you have a mansion, servants, horses etc. to maintain).

You feel that the commoners are getting rich on these wars, and that you should join in on this general atmosphere of wealth creation. Your personal objectives are therefore:

- a. To ensure that you clan becomes and remains very wealthy.
- b. To ensure that you personally become very wealthy.
- c. That samurai from other clans become poorer (preferably in meeting objective b. above).



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## Personal Briefing: Clan Heir Saito Yoshitatsu

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You know that now is a time of great danger to the clan. The lack of strong central control from the Shogun has meant that powerful and aggressive Daimyo are constantly fighting amongst themselves, often to extinction. You do not want this to happen to your clan - the destruction of your clan by one or more of these rapacious warlords would not only be a bitter thing, but would disgrace the names of your ancestors. You do not wish this.

Your personal objectives are therefore:

- a. To ensure that the clan survives at all costs.
- b. To encourage your Lord to avoid all adventures that might put the clan and its current holdings at risk.
- c. To ensure that the clan does nothing that would disgrace the names of its ancestors.
- d. You would like to increase your standing in the clan also - but obviously this should not be at the expense of the greater good of the clan itself.



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## **Personal Briefing: Chamberlain Kamiyama Sojin**



Despite what is said about the hard and sombre life of the samurai, you have always fought hard and played hard. You feel that it is up to the samurai class to outshine the old and decadent nobility in terms of patronage of the arts, plays and buildings, so that the legacy of the samurai will last for thousands of years - and you will have a good time in the here and now

also.

Your personal objectives are therefore:

- a. To ensure that your clan becomes famed for its lavish patronage of the arts, if not the most famous clan in the land.
- b. to make sure that you yourself patronise the arts to the greatest possible extent.
- c. To improve your personal standing within the clan.



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## Personal Briefing: Veteran Samurai Higashiro Eijiro

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You are a great traditionalist. You believe in the absolute power of your Lord, have total loyalty to him, and through him to the Emperor (may he live for 1000 years). Honour is not just the most important thing, it is the *only* thing. You avoid the dishonourable, do the honourable, and be ready to die at all times.

Your personal objectives are:

- a. Obey your Lord in all things - no matter what.
- b. Gain honour for your Lord by your actions.
- c. Gain honour for your clan by your actions
- d. If necessary, die an honourable death rather than be dishonoured, or fail in your objectives.