

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT JAPANESE LAST NAMES



FACTS ON JAPANESE LAST NAMES



There are more than **138,000** Japanese family names.

In the early days, clan names were referred to as **Uji** and were used as family names.

Uji



The clan names were based on **habitats and occupations**.

The Japanese follow the East-Asian style of naming – **family name** followed by given name.



星

Japanese usually do **not** have middle names.

Japanese who live in western nations may follow **western** naming traditions



RARE JAPANESE LAST NAMES



Ichibangase = first rapids, first shoals



Jinja = Shinto shrine

Ikari = 50 villages



Myoga = Japanese ginger

Kai = sea



99

Tsukumo = 99 or incomplete

Shio = salt



References:

Understanding Japanese Names; Family Search; Genealogical Society of Utah