Comparisons Mori Nizaemon Telescopes



Mori Nizaemon Comparison

Mori Nizaemon Masatomi森仁左衛門正富

· Mori Nizaemon Masakatsu森仁左衛門正勝

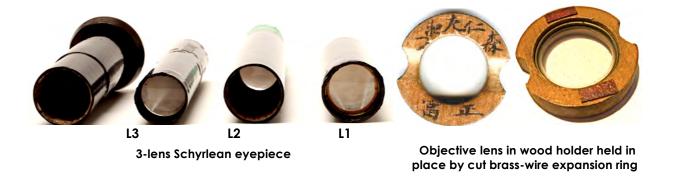


91-mm Mori Nizaemon Masakatu refracting telescope, c. 1717. Telescope owned by Ginrei Restaurant located at the Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture, Nagasaki, Japan. Photo: Courstesy of Prof. Tsuko Nakamura who took the original photo.



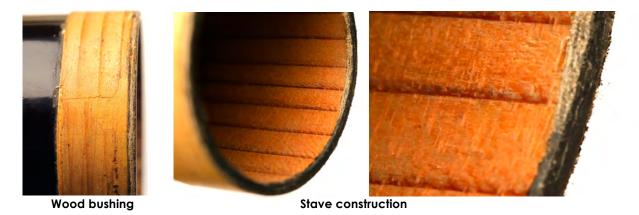
17-mm Mori Nizaemon Masatomi refracting telescope, c. 1690-1840? (Wolf Collection HRA28)

Some details of construction





All three eyepiece lenses are held in position by two brass-wire expansion rings within the parchment tubes.



Stave construction of the main tube and 3-draw tubes is suggestive of an early origin perhaps late 17th century?

Comparisons with 78mm Mori Nizaemon Masakatsu Telescope, Kobe City Museum

This telescope is owned by Kobe City Museum.

Photos of this telescope courtesy of Prof. Tsuko Nakamura, Japan, who also took the photographs.

The Masatomi photos are enlarged relative to actual size comparison with Masakatsu telescope which is a much larger telescope



Masatomi: Eyepiece lenses held by 2 brass wire expansion rings



Masakatsu: Eyepiece lenses held by twisted two-wire brass expansion ring



Masatomi Hand brush-stroked signature



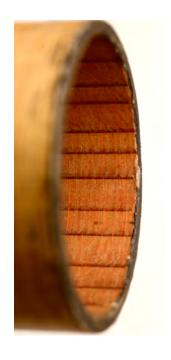
Masakatsu stamped signature

Comparisons with 91mm Mori Nizaemon Masakatsu Telescope

This telescope is owned by Ginrei Restaurant located at the Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture, Nagasaki, Japan.

Photos of this telescope are presented here and in the following page courtesy of Prof. Tsuko Nakamura, Japan, who also took the photographs.

The Masatomi photos are enlarged relative to actual size comparison with Masakatsu telescope which is a much larger telescope



Stave construction of tubes

Masatomi



Non-stave construction of tubes

Masakatsu

Masatomi Telescope WOLF TELESCOPES ID#HRA28

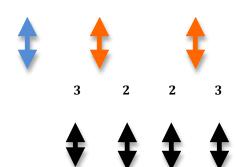
[Similarities with Mori Nizaemon Masakatsu Telescope, Ginrei Restaurant, Nagasaki]



Masakatsu (mid-tube decoration)

Same main pattern, Botan-Karakusa. Same patterns within 2 of 3 bands

Same number of rings within a 3-band decoration





Masatomi (end of tube decoration)

WOLF TELESCOPES ID#HRA28 Mori Nizaemon Masatomi, c. 1690 -1740

Mori Nizaemon Family Time Line

Mori Nizaemon (elder)		<u>speculation by author</u>	
		Grand Father of Masakatsu? Father of Masatomi?	
? 1690	6		
		Son of the elder Mori?	
Mori Nizaemon Masatomi		Father of Masakatsu?	
?	?		
Mori Nizaemon Masakatsu		Grandson of the elder Mori?	
(Lived 58 years beyond elder Mori)		Son of Masatomi?	
		>I	
1673		1754	

* Source: Shishi Hensankai, Nagasaki City Office, which is the repository for the compilation of city history. The late Prof. Kyoto Iryie Selden, East Asia Program, Cornell University, discovered this information in March 2012. Subsequently several individuals made multiple requests during 2013 and 2014 to the Head Priest, Kodai-ji Temple in Nagasaki where Mori Nizaemon and Mori Nizaemon Masakatsu are buried, and where the Mori family records are kept, but no reply has been received as yet. Professor Tsuko Nakamura believes that telescope HRA28 may be an important telescope in the history of Japanese telescopes. However, closure on just when Mori Nizaemon Masatomi worked, and what his relative position within the Mori Nizaemon family was, remain unknown. A future reading of the Mori Nizaemon family record at the Kodai-ji Temple may provide this information.

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Mori Nizaemon family tombstone, Kodai-ji Temple, Nagasaki, Japan. The elder Mori Nizaemon died 11th day of 10th month 1696. Masakatsu (died 8th day 6th month 1754, age 81); Masatomi perhaps Masakatsu's father? (Photo: Courtesy Dr. Tsuko Nakamura)

