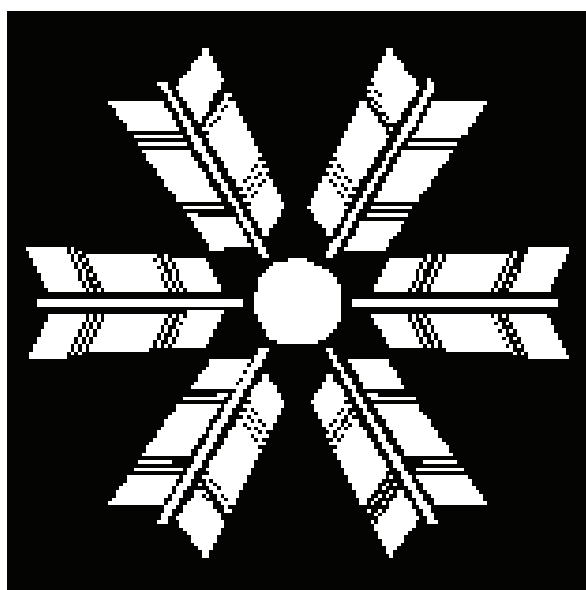


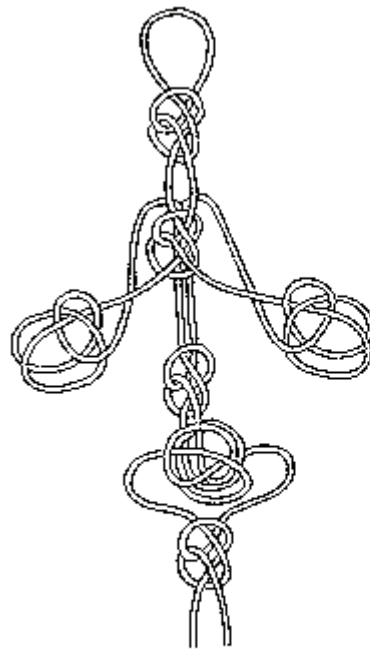
神伝不動流

Shinden Fudo Ryu

Hojojutsu



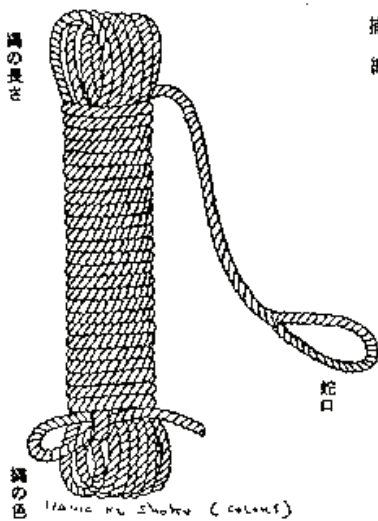
Hojojutsu (Rope tying art)



図解 捕縄術 藤田西湖著



Kuden and History



The Hojo rope was usually of good quality made from very strong softly entwined fibres that were then twisted three together into a thin rope. Furthermore, it was considered very good to let the rope soak in blood. Such a blood soaked rope could be kept for years without rotting as long as it was kept from salt water. It was also very good for extensive tying.

Another method was to soak the finished rope in the astringent juice of unripe persimmons. This was a gentler tying rope but they tended to rot quickly and had a tendency to come apart. So this would have been used to secure the old or very young, or ladies. It would not have been left on for very long.

Silk was also used but although strong the fibres had a tendency to burst apart.

During the Tokugawa Era (1600 - 1868) ropes manufactured by the monks of the Sanshuhozo temple were highly prized.

The length of the Rope

Rope lengths depended on which Ryu the techniques came from. Each school had different methods, it was not until the advent of the Shinobuka (Ninja Police) of the Tokugawa that methods began to be standardised. However a Basic rope was between 6.5 and 20.0 metres, whilst a quick rope ranged from 4.5 to 6.5 metres. Some of the quick ropes had a hook on the end of them. This is a general guide some schools used considerably shorter ropes as well.

The hooked ends could be single, multiple or be fashioned for climbing walls.

Finally there were ropes of 9, 15 and 21 metres.

The Colour of the Rope

In the old days the colour of the rope was changed according to the four seasons. Besides which you wore the rope turned in the appropriate direction.

During the spring the rope was turned to the East and a blue-green colour was used.

In the summer, a red rope was worn facing the South.

In the autumn months the rope faced West and was white in colour.

Finally a black rope was used in winter turned toward the North.

There was also a complicated system of using a different colour for different offences or even for the type of day. Here are some examples: -

During a “Dog day” a yellow rope was worn and was used. Apart from this you used a white rope for small crimes and a blue rope for serious crimes. For people of rank it was customary for a purple rope to be used (I can just imagine a policeman apologising to a high ranking Samurai for using the wrong colour rope!). The lowest classes got tied up with a black rope. Those who were in-between were tied with red, yellow and light blue according to their social status.

This confusion was further compounded by the practice in Edo of using Government coloured ropes called Yokome nawa (side-glance rope) or Shirushi nawa (symbol rope). It was normal for an arresting officer from the northern municipality, to arrest someone with a white rope. Whilst the same arrest in the south would be conducted with a navy blue rope. This colour was also used in Prisons. The Treasury investigators and Tax collectors used a white rope of three cords.

From the start of the Meiji era (1868-1926) coloured ropes were no longer used, neither were ropes with spikes or hooks on one end. Only two ropes were used, one for arrest - the old quick rope; and one for escorting - the old basic rope.

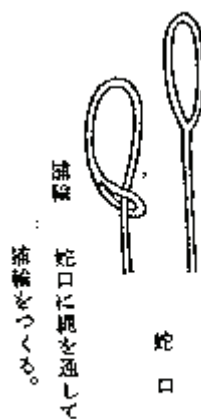
The forms of binding were now being standardised, as were the lengths of the ropes. The escort's rope was now 7 metres long with a diameter of 4-5mm: and the arrest- ing rope was fixed at 5 metres long with a diameter of 3-5mm.

The Ends of the Rope

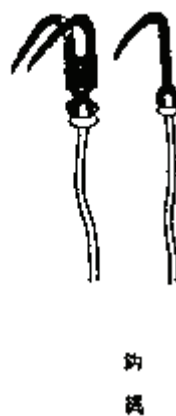
All schools had a loop, hook, weight, ring or spike fitted to the end of the quick rope. The basic rope did not have these, just the ends spliced or whipped to stop fraying.

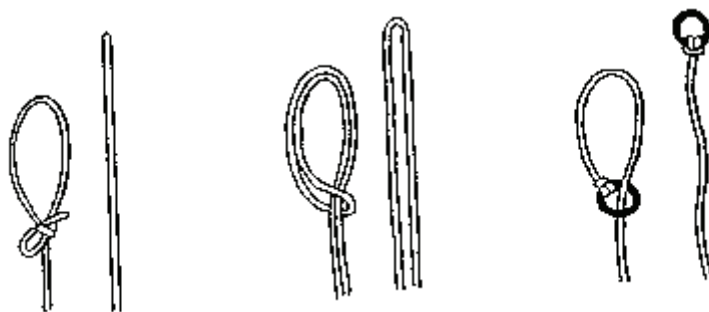
Loops and Hooks

Catching loop



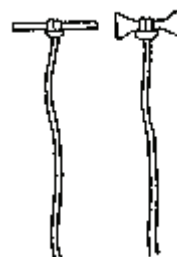
Ropes with Hooks



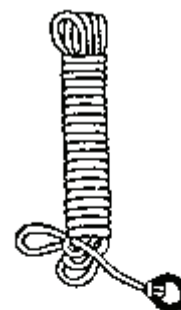


A casual knot A folded rope A rope with a ring
(The ring helps the rope run easily)

Ropes with weights, quick handcuffs

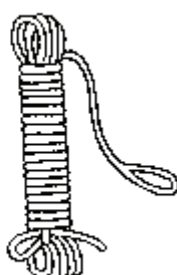
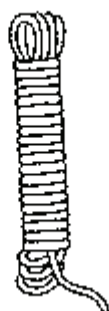
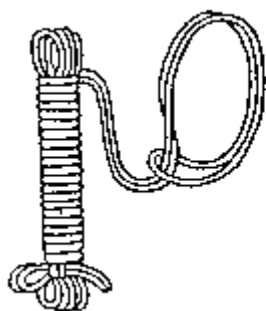


A rope with a spike (this would be inserted into armour or clothing)



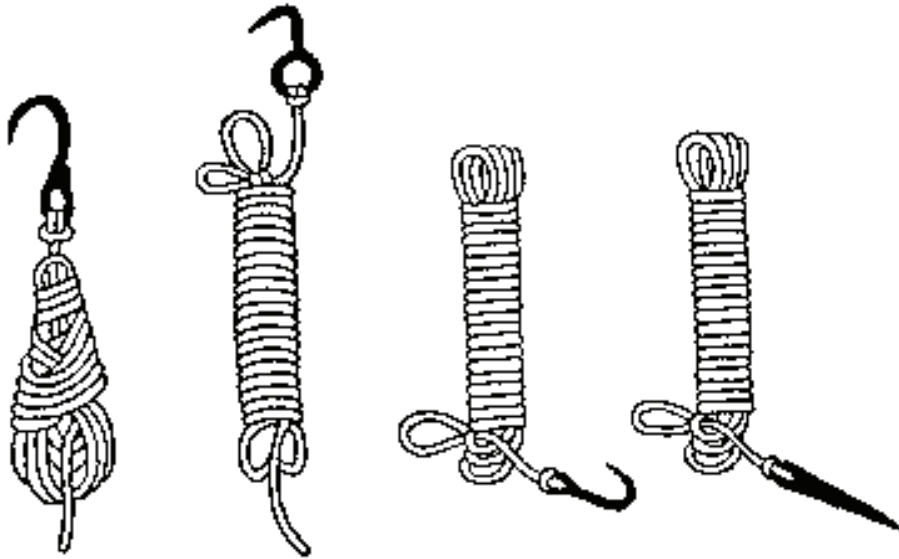
早繰用

Different Ways of Folding the Rope



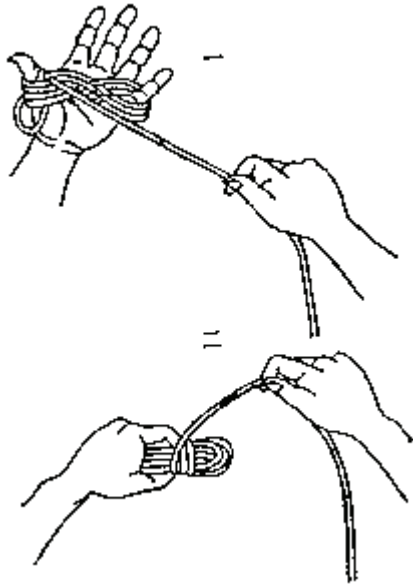
Basic ropes





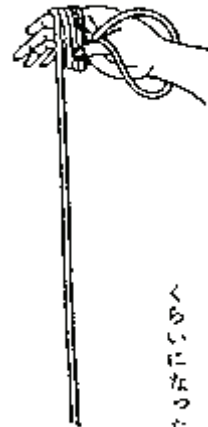
Quick ropes

The Methods of Winding up the Quick Rope



The loop is wound around the left thumb once, then the rope is brought around the little finger and then around the thumb again. This is continued until about 1.5 metres are left. The remainder is wound around the bundle to tie it into a hank. The ring, hook, etc., is left out to facilitate withdrawal.

Another method, if you have a large loop, is to slip the loop over your wrist and wind the rope over your hand. When there is an arm's length left, wind this around the bundle as before. This method would be used for the shorter ropes.



おさを手首にはめ、
くらしいになった時、

Examples of Wrist Control using the Rope



蛇口



蛇口

Tied loop

Looped loop



かもさげ



蛇口



Kamosage (Duck knot)

Tied loop Loop



一筋五行結



一筋叶結

Hitosuji Kanai Musubi

Hitosuji Gogyo Musubi

(Straight forward five-element knot)



Hibari musubi (Skylark knot) If you catch an opponent's fingers with the skylark knot it is difficult for them to free themselves.



Folded rope



要雀結びを
相手の指に
かけると容
易にはずれ
ない。



Hibari Musubi (skylark knot)

真鍮か竹で長さ二寸一、三分強三分
分くらいの棒状の物をつくり、それ
を長さ六寸五、六分の縄でつなく。



引立用器 早手
錠ともいう。

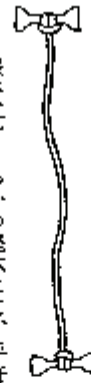
早手錠



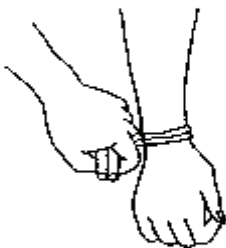
Rope with Ring



長さ二寸くらいの堅木にて、手杖
のようなもの二個造り、一尺七、八
寸の縄でつなく。



早手錠



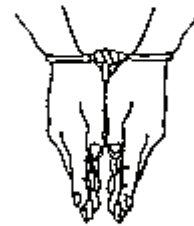
手首に図の如くかけて引き締める。

Quick Handcuffs

From Hardwood you make two grips with a length of 6cm and connect these with a rope of 50-55cm.

As with the quick rope you wind around the wrists, make space between the hands, and having tightened the rope you wind it around itself a few times before tucking in the grips between the wrists.

From brass or bamboo you make a pair of cylinders with a length of



早繩同様小手を巻き、両手の間へ
引込みを入れて締めつけた後を幾回も捲
り、分銅を小手の間へ挟んで置く。

6.5-7cm with a diameter of 9mm. These are connected to a piece of rope 19-20cm long. This is passed around the wrists as shown, then the captive can be marched off.



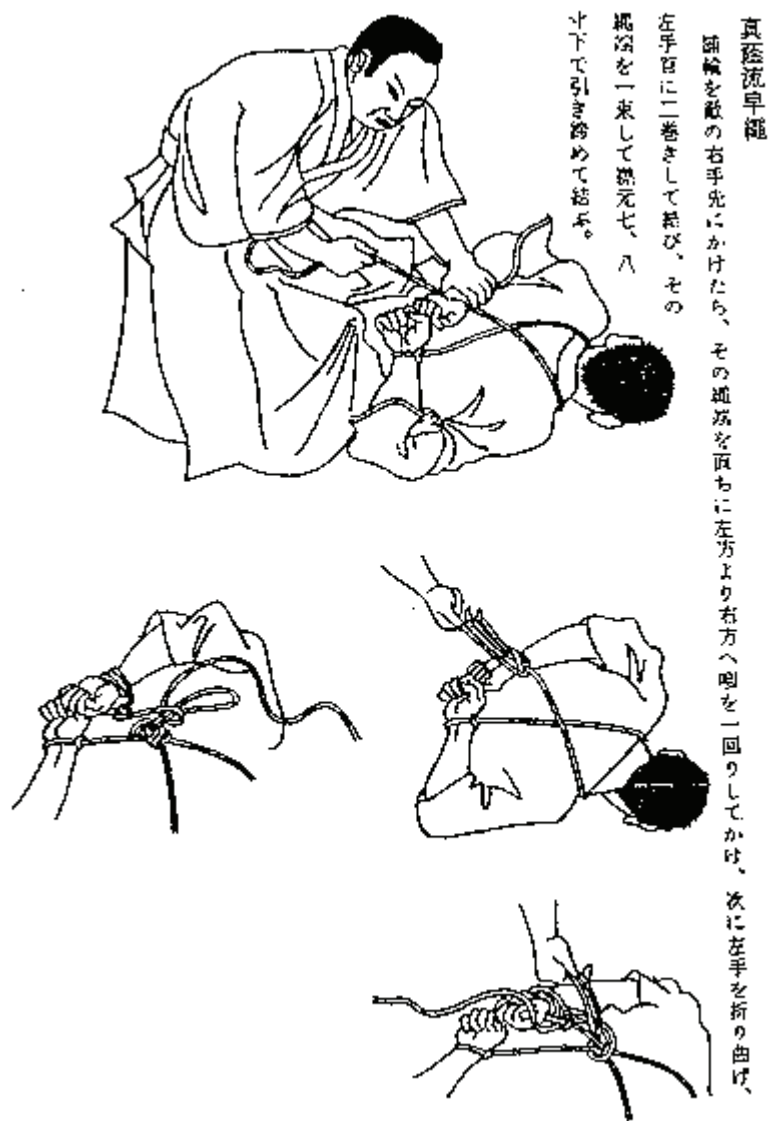
How to Capture

Apply Take Ori or Ura Gyaku and take the opponent down. Holding the opponents elbow, slip a sliding loop (which is hanging over your right arm), over the opponents right hand.

The loop would be hanging over your own wrist with the hank up your sleeve or on your belt. Use Taijutsu to hold the opponent as you transfer the loop.

Use the left hand to slip the loop over. Above are several examples of how the rope is carried and attached. Always control the opponent with the left hand, the knees or the feet before you commence tying.

Yagyū Shinkage Ryū Quick Rope Technique

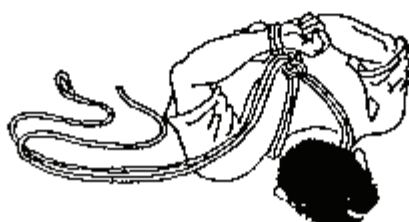
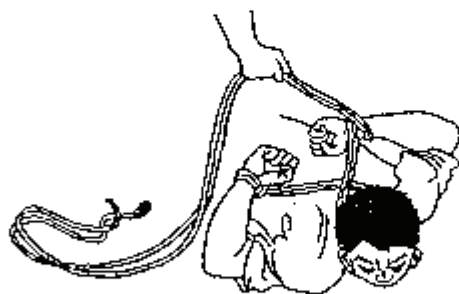


When the loop is secured onto the right hand, tie the rope around the neck from the left to the right. Having done so secure the left hand with several twists, then tie the rope off where the rope forms an 'X'. This should be about 25cm below the collar line.

Kanko Ryu Quick Rope



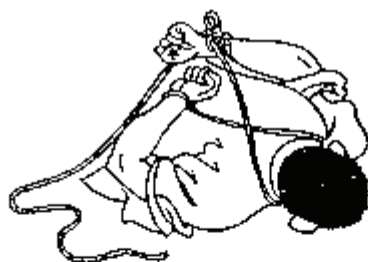
関口流早縄
縄端を折半した真中を手首にかけ、縄端を左方より右方に首を一回りさして引き締め、左手を曲げて縄を手首に巻き付け、膝下八寸くらいのところで結ぶ。敵を倒し、その上に馬乗りにながり、暴れる時は右耳下の急所缺骨を親指の先にて強く押し付け、左手を曲げて痛縛す。



Immobilise the opponent with O-gyaku then using the folded rope tie the right wrist. As in the Yagyū Ryū, take the rope around the neck and secure the left hand. Straddle the opponent like a horse, then tie both wrists together at the 'X'. If the opponent resists strike or press to the Kyusho point *Dokko* just below the ear with the thumb.

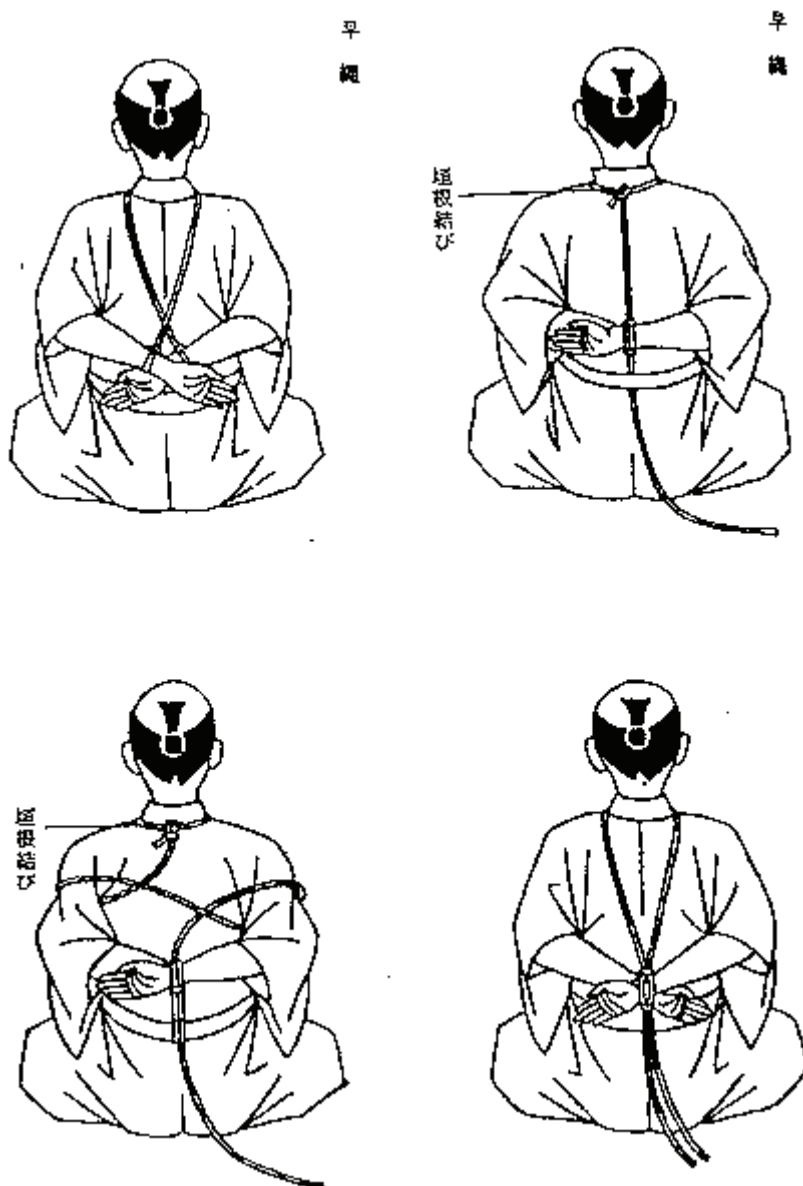
Tatsumi Ryu Quick Rope

After grounding the opponent, step on their arm and take the rope around the neck. Tighten the rope before securing the left hand. The captive can be left to calm down, but if he becomes wild you must immediately tie up either the left or right foot. If the captive is barefoot, tie the big toe.



立身流早縄
敵を俯伏せに倒し、左足にて二の腕を強く踏みつけ、左手首にかけた縄端を左肩口より喉へ回して引き締め、左手を曲げてその手首に二巻回して結ぶ。敵穏かなる時はそのままにしておいてよいが、もし乱暴をなす時は直ちに縄の渡りを以て左右の内の足の親指一本を結びつけて置く。

Quick Rope Ties

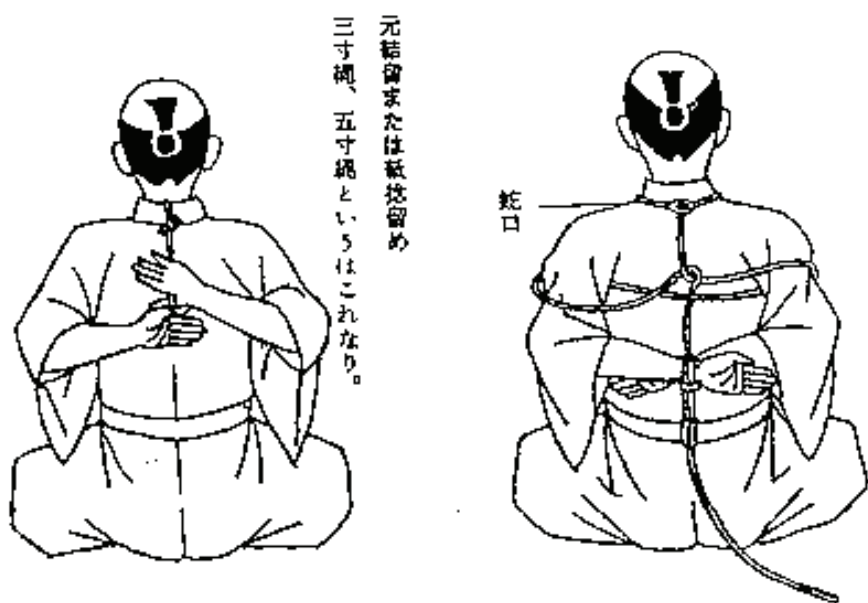


Kakine Musubi (fence knot)

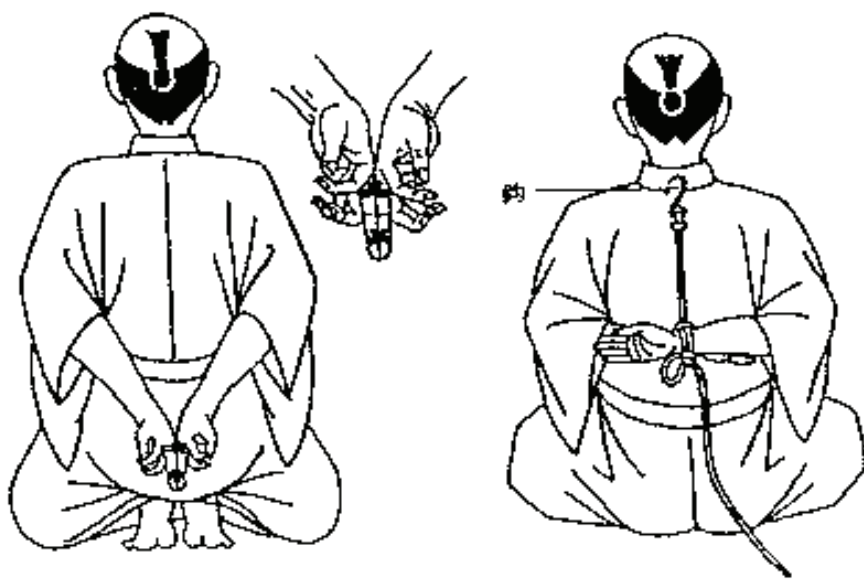
Motoyui / Motoi or Koyori

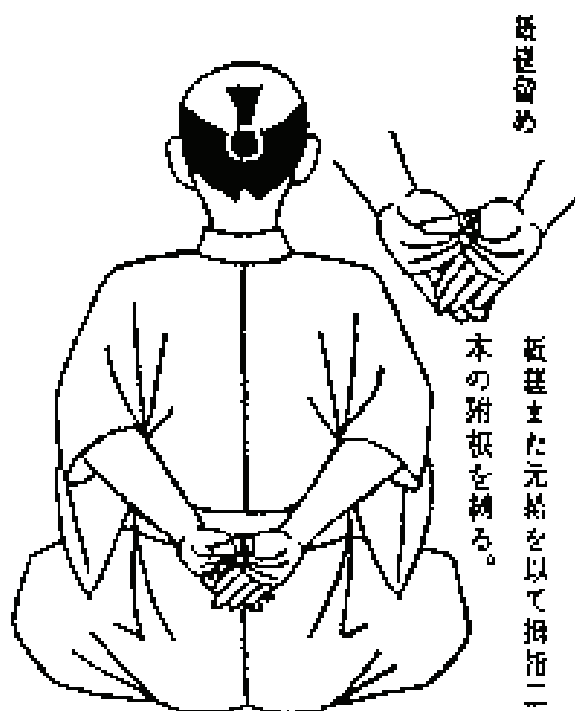
This is what the 9 and 15cm ropes are called. Motoyui / motoi is a paper cord for tying up one's hair. Koyori is a twisted paper cord. The two examples on the left utilise the cords.

Loop



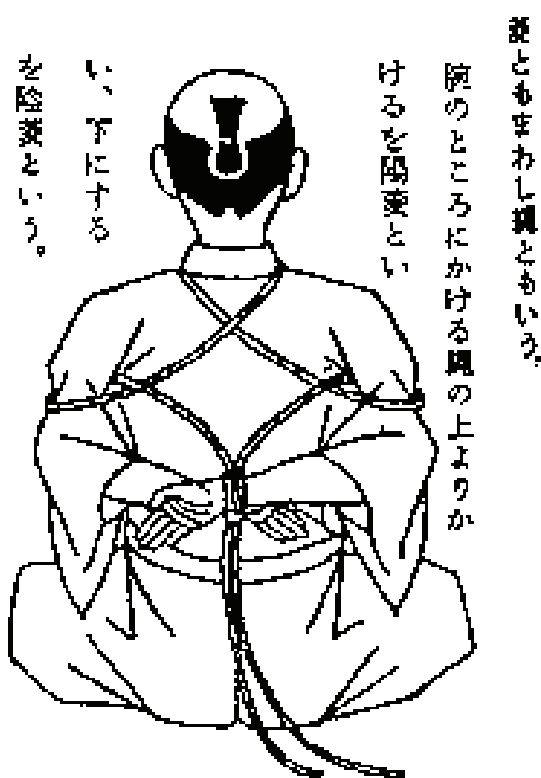
Hook





Tying with Koyori

Using Koyori or Motoi the thumbs are tied together around the base.



Hishi or Mawashi-nawa

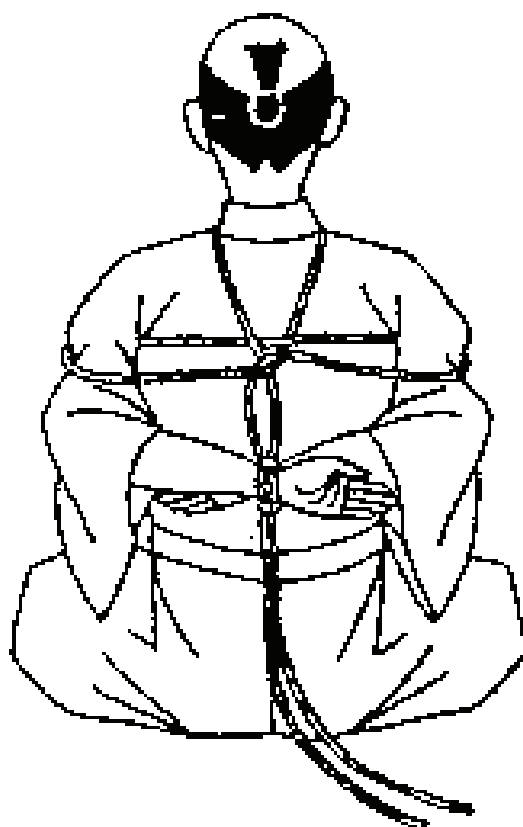
This is called both Hishi (diamond shape) and Mawashi-nawa (twirling rope).

The rope hanging from above is called Yoryo – the upper diamond shape.

The rope hanging below is called Inryo – the lower diamond shape.

十文字

Jumonji (cross)



籠手の



Bujinkan Okabe Dojo

Bujinkan Okabe Dojo

Bujinkan Okabe Dojo