

Rules of Obou-san Mekuri (Pick-up Priests)

How to Play:

Lay cards face down on a floor or on a table, mix them up well, and divide into five decks. Place the decks in a circle.

Players draw one card at a time. He/she draws one card from any of the five decks and turns it face up. Then he/she follows the rules, below, which depend on what kind of card is drawn. (You can play rock/paper/scissors to decide who draws first). Flow of play is clockwise.

The game continues until the last card is drawn. The player with the most cards at the end is the winner.

Rules:

What happens to the cards in your possession depends on the character depicted on the card you draw.

Note: Among the 101 cards, there is one *Tengu*, one *Semi-maru*, 12 priests, 21 ladies (including one empress and one princess), seven emperors and one prince.



Gentleman

Keep the card.



Gentleman from Imperial Family*
(Emperor or Prince)

Keep the card.
Take all cards held by the player to your right.



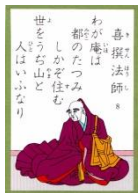
Lady

Keep the card. Take all cards in the "pot" between the five decks. If there are no cards in the pot, draw once more and follow the rule of that card. If the card is again a Lady, draw another card.



Lady from Imperial Family*
(Empress or Princess)

Keep the card. Take all cards held by the player to your left. Take all cards in the pot. If there are no cards in the pot, draw once more and follow the rule of that card. If the card is again a Lady, draw another card.



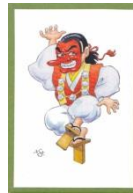
Obou-san, Priest

Put the card you drew along with all the cards in your possession into the pot.



Semi-maru, a hooded hermit

Put the card you drew along with all the cards in your possession into the pot. The players to your right and to your left also must put all their cards into the pot.



Tengu, a long nosed goblin

Keep the card. Take all cards from the players to your right and to your left. Take all the cards from the pot.

If you draw the Tengu card, say a wish aloud. It may be fulfilled

* Imperial family members sit on a beautiful mat called *Ungenberi* tatami, which has a striped edge.

Players:

Three or more. It's more fun if there are at least five players. If you don't have enough people, you can use stuffed animals or dolls as additional players. (Please help them to draw a card!)



To order the cards and for inquiries, please contact us by fax or email:

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