



SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE 81ST OKA SHO (JAPANESE 1000 GUINEAS, G1)

The Oka Sho, which is the first of the five JRA Classics held during the year, determines the champion three-year-old filly possessing the fastest speed running over 1,600 meters and serves as an opportunity to scout potential broodmare talents. The Japanese equivalent to the One Thousand Guineas originated in England, the Oka Sho was first held at Nakayama Racecourse in Chiba, run over 1,800 meters and under the name “Nakayama Yonsai Himba Tokubetsu”, then changed its distance and venue under the new name, “Oka Sho” (Oka, meaning cherry flower which is in full bloom at this time of the season). With the entire graded races opening its doors to foreign-trained horses in 2010, the three-year-old Classics including this race entered a new phase with international G1 status. While speed is a much required ability to win this race, the extension of the homestretch as well as a deeper turf surface and an uphill stretch at Hanshin after the track renovation in 1991 has added “stamina” as an added qualification—a newly added outside turf track further extended the homestretch in 2006.

The Oka Sho, together with the Yushun Himba (Japanese Oaks, G1, 2,400m) and the Shuka Sho (G1, 2,000m), is also widely considered as the fillies’ version of the “Triple Crown”, a title which has been claimed by six fillies in the past including Almond Eye (JPN, by Lord Kanaloe) who concluded her stellar career with her ninth G1 triumph in the Japan Cup (G1, 2,400m) and Daring Tact (JPN, by Epiphaneia) who became the first undefeated filly to complete the sweep last year.

2020 Best Two-Year-Old Filly **Sodashi** and **Satono Reinas**, who finished first and second, respectively, in the Hanshin Juvenile Fillies (G1, 1,600m, Dec.13), commenced the current season with this race. Those who earned their tickets to run the first leg of the fillies’ Triple Crown in three trials were: from the Tulip Sho (G2, 1,600m; Mar.6), **Elizabeth Tower** and **Meikei Yell** (dead-heat 1st), and **Stutti** (3rd); from the Anemone Stakes (Listed, 1,600m, Mar.14), **Ginestra** (2nd); and from the Fillies’ Revue (G2, 1,400m, Mar.14), **Shigeru Pink Ruby** (1st), **Yoka Yoka** (2nd) and **Minnie Isle** (3rd). The field also included **Fine Rouge**, winner of the Fairy Stakes (G3, 1,600m, Jan.11), **Akaitorino Musume** and **Art de Vivre**, the top two finishers of the Queen Cup (G3, 1,600m, Feb.13) in that order, and **Ho O Ixelles**, victor of the Flower Cup (G3, 1,800m, Mar.20).

THE 81ST OKA SHO (JAPANESE 1000 GUINEAS, G1)

3-year-olds, Fillies, 1,600 meters (about 8 furlongs), turf, right-handed

Sunday, April 11, 2021 Hanshin Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 226,800,000 (about US\$ 2,160,000 <US\$1=¥105>)

3-y-o: 55kg (about 121 lbs), 2kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2018

Course Record: 1:31.1 Race Record: 1:31.1 [Sodashi (JPN, by Kurofune), 2021]

Safety factor: 18 runners Going: Good to Firm Weather: Fine

FP	BK	PP	Horse Jockey	S&A Color Wgt	Odds (Fav)	Margin (L3F)	Sire Dam (Dam's Sire)	Owner Breeder Trainer
1	2	4	Sodashi (JPN) Hayato Yoshida	F3 w. 55.0	3.6 (2)	1:31.1 (33.8)	Kurofune Buchiko (King Kamehameha)	Kaneko Makoto Holdings Co., Ltd. Kaneko Makoto Holdings Inc. Naosuke Sugai
2	8	18	Satono Reinas (JPN) Christophe Lemaire	F3 b. 55.0	3.3 (1)	Neck (32.9)	Deep Impact Balada Sale (Not For Sale)	Satomi Horse Company Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Sakae Kunieda
3	1	2	Fine Rouge (JPN) Yuichi Fukunaga	F3 b. 55.0	15.3 (8)	1/2 (33.7)	Kizuna Passion Rouge (Boston Harbor)	Genichi Mutsui Northern Racing Tetsuya Kimura
4	3	5	Akaitorino Musume (JPN) Takeshi Yokoyama	F3 d.b. 55.0	10.5 (4)	Neck (33.9)	Deep Impact Apapane (King Kamehameha)	Kaneko Makoto Holdings Co., Ltd. Kaneko Makoto Holdings Inc. Sakae Kunieda
5	5	10	Art de Vivre (JPN)	F3 b.	11.8	3	King Kamehameha Isabel	Hideko Kondo Hideko Kondo

			Mirco Demuro	55.0	(5)	(34.1)	(Deep Impact)	Teiichi Konno
6	4	7	Kukuna (JPN) Yusuke Fujioka	F3 d.b. 55.0	41.9 (9)	Neck (33.2)	King Kamehameha Culminar (Deep Impact)	U. Carrot Farm Northern Farm Toru Kurita
7	3	6	Stutti (JPN) Yasunari Iwata	F3 b. 55.0	84.8 (14)	Neck (34.9)	Maurice Lilavati (Zenno Rob Roy)	U. Carrot Farm Northern Racing Yutaka Okumura
8	5	9	Enthusiasm (JPN) Mirai Iwata	F3 b. 55.0	106.6 (15)	1/2 (34.3)	Deep Impact Zealous Cat (Storm Cat)	Teruya Yoshida Shadai Farm Shogo Yasuda
9	8	17	Ho O Ixelles (JPN) Kyosuke Maruta	F3 b. 55.0	111.4 (16)	3 (34.2)	Rulership Mejiro Audrey (Special Week)	Yoshihisa Ozasa Lake Villa Farm Mizuki Takayanagi
10	7	14	Minnie Isle (JPN) Kota Fujioka	F3 g. 55.0	163.0 (17)	Nose (34.6)	Mikki Isle Island Fashion (Petionville)	Tsuyoshi Ono Northern Racing Koshiro Take
11	6	11	Ginestra (JPN) Hiroshi Kitamura	F3 b. 55.0	61.3 (12)	1/2 (35.4)	Lord Kanaloa Happy Path (Sunday Silence)	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Yuichi Shikato
12	1	1	Stripe (JPN) Hironobu Tanabe	F3 d.b. 55.0	63.6 (13)	Nose (34.6)	Rulership Grace Flower (Daiwa Major)	Hisao Sato Hisao Sato Kazuyuki Ogata
13	7	13	Elizabeth Tower (GB) Yuga Kawada	F3 d.b. 55.0	12.5 (6)	Nose (34.7)	Kingman Turfdonna (Doyen)	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm Tomokazu Takano
14	2	3	Blue Bird (JPN) Daichi Shibata	F3 b. 55.0	266.6 (18)	2 (35.0)	Reach the Crown A Shin Veterinary (Elusive Quality)	K. Thoroughbred Club Ruffian Mizumaru Bokujo Yoshiyasu Takahashi
15	8	16	Songline (JPN) Kenichi Ikezoe	F3 br. 55.0	14.7 (7)	1 (35.0)	Kizuna Luminous Parade (Symboli Kris S)	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Toru Hayashi
16	7	15	Shigeru Pink Ruby (JPN) Ryuji Wada	F3 ch. 55.0	56.0 (10)	2-1/2 (36.0)	Maurice Moonlight Bay (High Chaparral)	S.Morinaka Amaba Bokujo Kunihiko Watanabe
17	6	12	Yoka Yoka (JPN) Hideaki Miyuki	F3 d.b. 55.0	57.2 (11)	3 (36.7)	Squirtle Squirt Honey Dancer (Danehill Dancer)	Koji Oka Tsuchitoshi Honda Kiyoshi Tani
18	4	8	Meikei Yell (JPN) Norihiro Yokoyama	F3 b. 55.0	6.4 (3)	Head (37.2)	Mikki Isle Shiroinger (Harbinger)	Nagoya Keiba Northern Racing Hidenori Take

FP: Final Position / BK: Bracket Number / PP: Post Position / S&A: Sex & Age / Wgt: Weight (kg) / L3F: Time of Last 3 Furlongs (600m)

Color: b.=bay / bl.=black / br.=brown / ch.=chestnut / d.b.=dark bay / d.ch.=dark chestnut / g.=gray / w.=white

NOTE 1: No Foreign Contenders

NOTE 2: Figures quoted under Odds are shown in form of decimal odds (single unit is ¥100), and Fav indicates the order of favorites.

Turnover for the Race alone: ¥ 18,289,067,300

Turnover for the Day: ¥ 27,170,124,600

Attendance: 3,137

Pay-off (for ¥100)

Win	No.4	¥ 360	Bracket Quinella	2-8	¥ 520	Quinella	4-18	¥ 670
Place	No.4	¥ 140	Quinella Place	4-18	¥ 290	Exacta	4-18	¥ 1,280
	No.18	¥ 130		2-4	¥ 1,030	Trio	2-4-18	¥ 2,660
	No.2	¥ 350		2-18	¥ 950	Trifecta	4-18-2	¥ 10,400

Winner= 5 starts, 5 wins / Added money: ¥ 131,859,000 / Career earnings: ¥ 266,232,000

Sodashi Captures Oka Sho Title—First Fillies' Classics of 2021

2020 JRA Award Best Two-Year-Old Filly **Sodashi** claimed the first jewel of the fillies' Triple Crown, the Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas) with intimidating speed at 1:31.1, breaking the track record set by Black Moon in 2017. The undefeated daughter of Kurofune, who has extended her winning streak to five, is the first white horse in JRA history ever to claim a classics title while she becomes the first Best Two-Year-Old Filly in 11 years to win the Oka Sho. This is the first JRA-G1 title for both trainer

Naosuke Sugai and jockey Hayato Yoshida since their triumph with the filly in last year's Hanshin Juvenile Fillies. While Sugai now boasts 13 JRA-G1 wins and Yoshida has now three, Yoshida also celebrates capturing his first classic title.

Sent off a close second favorite, **Sodashi** broke sharply but settled patiently on the rails behind the pace briefly set by **Stutti** and then **Meikei Yell** who soon took over the lead. After entering the straight still in third, the Hanshin Juvenile Fillies victor had no trouble pinning the two in front and easily powered clear 300 meters out, holding off the fierce challenges from **Satono Reinas** and **Fine Rouge** for a neck victory.

"It's a great feeling. There was a lot of pressure with many doubting how strong a white filly could be, so I'm thrilled we were able to prove them wrong. I was a bit worried that the fast track would be a disadvantage, but she responded beautifully and ran well holding off the others closing in on us which I saw and made me drive her to the wire. Her potential is limitless and I look forward to her future starts," jockey Hayato Yoshida commented after the race.

Race favorite **Satono Reinas** was off slow after breaking from the farthest outside stall and sat near the rear unable to improve position in tight quarters. As the field straightened away, the Hanshin Juvenile Fillies runner-up finally found room shifting to the outside before the furlong marker and with an explosive turn of foot, closed furiously with the fastest stretch speed in threatening the winner but was a neck too late at the wire and was second.

Eighth pick and Fairy Stakes winner **Fine Rouge** closely stalked **Sodashi** running the rails and chasing her into the stretch, and accelerated powerfully but was caught by the fast-closing **Satono Reinas** in the final strides to finish a half-length behind the runner-up in third.

Other Horses:

4th: (5) **Akaitorino Musume**—sat outside winner around 3rd, chased front two runners in last 100m but overtaken by **Satono Reinas** before wire

5th: (10) **Art de Vivre**—raced around 8th, switched to outside, showed effort but no match for top finishers

6th: (7) **Kukuna**—trailed in far rear, showed 2nd fastest late kick but belatedly

7th: (6) **Stutti**—set pace early until first 700m, led again at early stretch, outrun in last 200m

8th: (9) **Enthusiasm**—traveled around 11th, driven and sustained bid but unable to threaten

9th: (17) **Ho O Ixelles**—positioned 3-wide around 15th, angled out, passed tired rivals

10th: (14) **Minnie Isle**—settled around 13th, showed effort until 100m marker

11th: (11) **Ginestra**—tracked leader in 2nd or 3rd, gradually fell back after final corner

12th: (1) **Stripe**—saved ground around 15th, lacked needed kick at stretch

13th: (13) **Elizabeth Tower**—raced 4-wide around 8th, checked by rival at early stretch, even paced

14th: (3) **Blue Bird**—took economic trip around 13th, failed to respond along rails

15th: (16) **Songline**—traveled 4-wide around 11th, never fired at stretch

16th: (15) **Shigeru Pink Ruby**—prominent early around 3rd, fell back after final corner

17th: (12) **Yoka Yoka**—sat 3-wide around 3rd, tired at top of stretch

18th: (8) **Meikei Yell**—was off a bit slow, advanced to lead, faded after 300m marker

Fractional time (sec./furlong): 12.1 - 10.8 - 11.2 - 11.1 - 11.6 - 11.2 - 11.2 - 11.9

Last 4 furlongs: 45.9 Last 3 furlongs: 34.3

Positions at each corner: 3rd corner 6,11(**4**,5,12,15,8)(2,10,13)(9,16)(3,14)(1,18,17)-7

 4th corner 8,6(**4**,11,12)(2,5,15)(9,10)(3,14,13)(1,16)(18,17)

NOTE 1: Underlined bold number indicates the winning horse.

NOTE 2: Horse numbers are indicated in the order of their positions at each corner, with the first position listed first. Two or more horses inside

the same parentheses indicate that they were positioned side by side. Hyphens between the horse numbers indicate that there is distance between the former and the latter. The asterisk indicates a slight lead.