



10. Female Samurai, Tomoe Gozen

Tomoe Gozen is shown at the battle of Awazu in 1184. Her courage and skill in horseback riding, archery, and sword fighting are legendary. She was well respected by men and fought alongside them. Though female warriors were not

uncommon in Japan at the time, Tomoe Gozen is one of very few females to earn the rank of samurai. She has remained a favorite in Japanese literature and lore to the present day.