Frontispiece

Katsushika Hokusai, Dragon

Japan’s creation mythology, as recorded in the eighth century Kojiki and Nihongi chronicles, depicts Owatatsumi (大綿津見) as the first god born of the country’s founding brother and sister, Izanagi and Izanami. Owatatsumi is the lord god of the sea, sometimes called Ryujin or dragon god (龍神). Master of the sea and its denizens, Owatatsumi appears in the shape of a dragon.

Source: http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/fc/Hokusai_Dragon.jpg
This text taken from *The Tools of Owatatsumi: Japan’s ocean surveillance and coastal defence capabilities*, by Desmond Ball and Richard Tanter, published 2015 by ANU Press, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia.