

06-ÉCONOMIE

COMMERCE

JAPON

07-
COMMUNICATION

APPARENCE

TEXTILE

itoya

The itoya 糸屋, or thread merchant, plays a vital role but is often less visible than the fabric merchant (orimono donya). In a textile economy, thread is the fundamental resource on which the entire production chain depends. The itoya specializes in the purchase, storage, preparation, and distribution of silk, cotton, and more modern fibers. His trade requires a precise understanding of material quality, price fluctuations, and the needs of workshops. He ensured continuity between raw material producers and weavers. His work reminds us that behind every fabric lies a complex economy of supply and commercial trust.