



# The Zen of Naka: The Journey of a Japanese Genius

By Martin Greig

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## The Zen of Naka: The Journey of a Japanese Genius By Martin Greig

Since his move to Celtic in the summer of 2005, Shunsuke Nakamura has become a cult hero in both Scotland and the Far East. From the wonderful goal in his Champions League debut against Manchester United in 2006 to the strike against Kilmarnock that secured Celtic's league win in 2006-07, Nakamura has firmly established himself as a Celtic legend.

Nakamura's ability to confront and overcome adversity has been the key to his success. From his rejection as a youngster by home-town club Yokohama Marinos to his omission from the 2002 World Cup squad by Philippe Troussier and his struggle to adapt to the defensive nature of Italian football, Nakamura has bounced back stronger every time.

*The Zen of Naka* is a comprehensive, revealing account of Nakamura's career to date. It explores his development from the early stages of his footballing journey to his time with Celtic at present, and looks ahead at what the future may hold for the star.

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"Martin Greig's revealing book is a chronicle of rejections surmounted" The Guardian "A fine piece of work" Sunday Herald "[A] well-written and refreshingly detached biography, which shines a light on the enigma without shattering it. We catch glimpses of Nakamura that tantalise, intrigue, and sustain interest" Scotland on Sunday "A thoughtful and sensitive book about a thoughtful and sensitive man ... many of the quotes in the book are utterly fascinating [and] make for entertaining and thought-provoking reading." -- Harry Reid, football writer "Meticulously researched ... tightly-written and thoroughly entertaining" Irish News

#### **About the Author**

Martin Greig is a senior sports writer at The Herald. He has written extensively on all aspects of British football and has interviewed Shunsuke Nakamura on several occasions during his time in Scotland with Celtic.

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