

A new dawn

425 Years of Exchange
between Japan and the Netherlands

on common ground



大坂市立美術館
425 Years of Exchange
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Looking forward begins with looking back. History doesn't just tell us where we've come from—it quietly points us toward where we might go. In today's world of growing uncertainty and global challenges, Expo 2025 offers a rare and hopeful moment: a place where the world gathers not to compete, but to collaborate—to share ideas and imagine solutions together.

This exhibition was born from that same spirit. The story of the Dutch in Japan begins in 1600, when the ship *De Liefde* arrived on these shores. What followed was not conflict, but connection with an amazing encounter in Osaka Castle that developed in a magnificent way over time. For centuries, we found *common ground*: through trade, through dialogue, through curiosity. Always exchanging ideas. Always together. In a world that often seems divided, that shared history feels more relevant than ever.

This project is the result of extraordinary collaboration. Starting with an idea, following a brainstorm session with the distinguished Professor Frederik Cryns of the International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken). Then a wonderful in-depth conversation with the Director of Osaka Castle Museum who—together with Osaka City—not only gave us permission to organise this exhibition, but took the lead in

organising a parallel exhibition on how international exchange had changed the world of the samurai.

And from there it took off: from the National Archives in The Hague to the Matsura Museum in Hirado, from Nichibunken in Kyoto to the National Museum in Tokyo, from Dejima to Usuki and Tekijuku—so many have contributed their knowledge, time, and inspiration. The result is this exhibition, and the catalogue in your hands.

Last but definitely not least: this exhibition and the catalogue have received messages of support from many friendship associations both in Japan and the Netherlands. This underlines the importance that many people in our two countries attach to the relationship between Japan and the Netherlands. May it remind us that the past holds not only lessons, but a path toward a future we can build together.

Marc Kuipers
Commissioner General for the
Netherlands at Expo 2025 Osaka,
Kansai, Japan
Consul-General for the Kingdom of
the Netherlands in Osaka

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3



タイムトラベル漫画でアドベンチャーに出かけよう！

日文版の三浦さんが描く独自の漫画で、歴史の中に足を踏み入れてみませんか？日本人とオランダ人のハーフの好奇心旺盛な少年が、オランダババリアオンのシンボル「ゴモン・グランド」にそっくりの不思議なうつろの木を偶然発見。しかし、この木は普通の木ではないのです。

こうして2人は日本とオランダの深いつながりを発見していきます。楽しい話題展開、わくわくする冒険、わかりやすい解説で、新しい世代に生き生きと歴史を伝えます。過去を探し、歴史がどのように私たちの未来を形作るのかを探る旅に出かけよう！

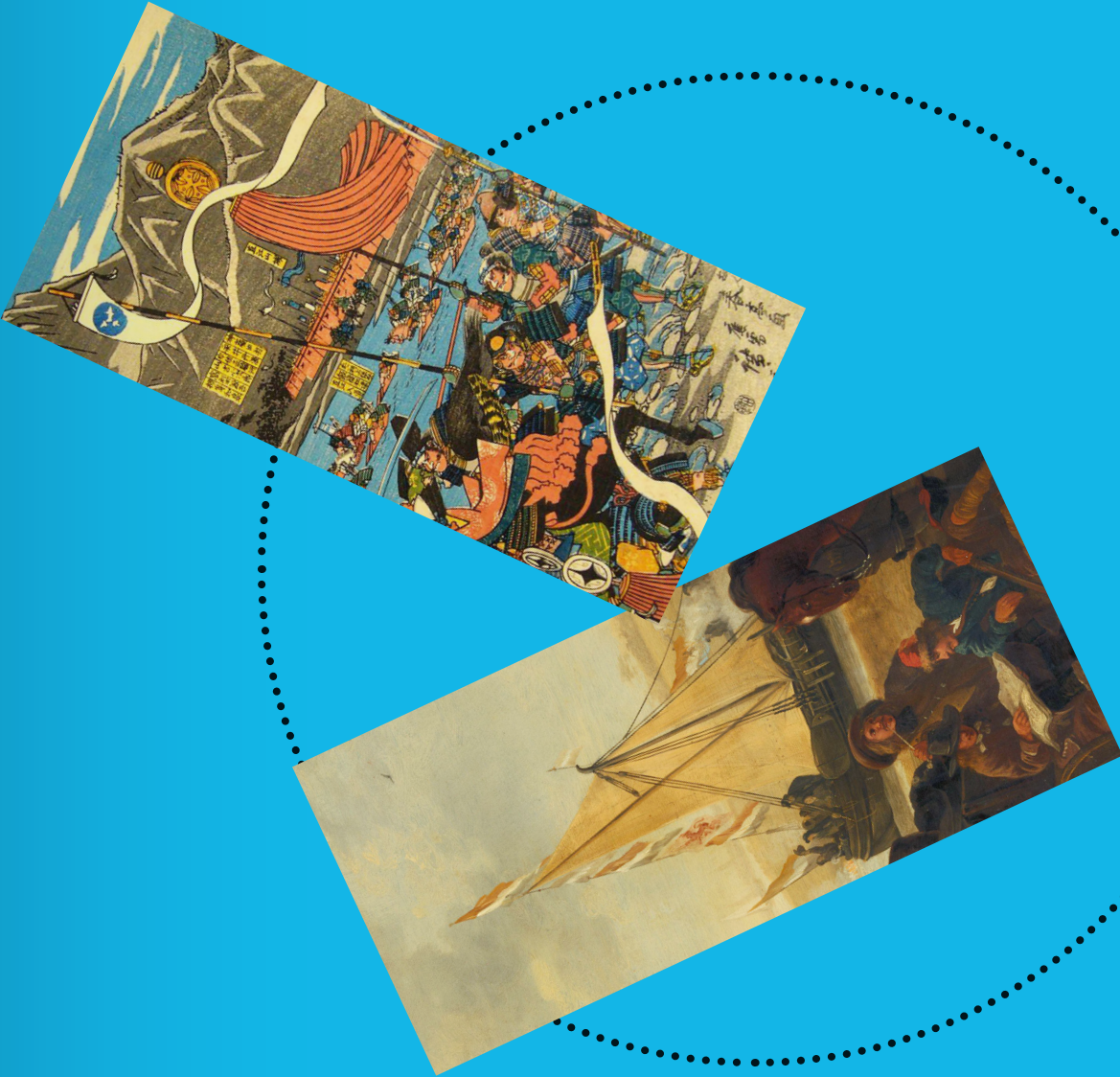
詳細はこちらのウェブサイトで。

www.orandaexpo2025.nl

出典：国際日本文化研究センター（日文版）による日本とオランダの歴史対流を記録した映画プロジェクト。漫画：三浦麻矢、歴史監修：このナリツク・ケル・インス

A TIME-TRAVELING MANGA ADVENTURE!
Step into history with a special manga created by Nichibunken artist Miura-san! Follow a curious boy—half Japanese, half Dutch—who stumbles upon a mysterious, fluffy dog that looks just like the Common Ground symbol of the Netherlands Pavilion. But this is no ordinary dog... it can talk! Together, they embark on a thrilling journey through time, discovering the deep connections between Japan and the Netherlands. With fun storytelling, exciting adventures, and clear explanations, this manga makes history come alive for a new generation. Get ready to explore the past—and find out how it shapes our future! Please keep an eye on our website for more information:
www.orandaexpo2025.nl

A collaborative project of the International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken) documenting the historical connections between Japan and the Netherlands. Manga created by MIURA Asano with historical supervision by Frederik GRYS.



JAPAN IN THE 16TH CENTURY

An Era of Turmoil and Change

In the 16th century, Japan was in a period of constant warfare and political fragmentation, known as the *sengoku jidai* or Warring States Period. Powerful regional warlords (*daimyo*) fought for dominance, while samurai armies shaped the country's ever-shifting landscape of power. Meanwhile, Portuguese traders and missionaries introduced firearms, Christianity, and new trade networks, marking Japan's first encounters with the wider world. By the late 16th century the Portuguese were exerting increasing influence over local rulers through commerce and missionary activity.

As the century progressed, notable figures like Oda Nobunaga and Toyotomi Hideyoshi began the unification of Japan, setting the stage for the country's transformation. This was the Japan that *De Liefde*, the first Dutch ship to reach Japanese shores, would encounter in 1600 — a nation on the brink of a new era.

THE NETHERLANDS IN THE 16TH CENTURY

In the 16th century, the Netherlands were part of the vast Spanish Empire, but tensions were rising. The Protestant Reformation clashed with Catholic rule, leading to the outbreak of the Eighty Years' War (1568–1648)—a long and brutal struggle for independence from Spain. This period of conflict fueled a growing sense of national identity in what would become the Dutch Republic.

Meanwhile, the Treaty of Tordesillas (1494) had divided the world between Spain and Portugal, restricting Dutch access to overseas trade. However, the fall of Antwerp (1585) triggered a wave of wealthy merchants and skilled workers fleeing to the northern provinces, particularly Amsterdam and Rotterdam. This influx of capital and knowledge, combined with a fierce determination to bypass Iberian control, set the stage for Dutch global expansion. By the end of the century, the Dutch were ready to challenge the Spanish and Portuguese at sea — marking the beginning of their rise as a major maritime power.”

16世紀のオランダ

[illegible]

16 混亂と変化する時代の日本

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時代の幕開けに立ち上つてゐた。



出典：歌川広重「川中島合戦」（1845年）

historical perspective

DR. FREDERIK CRYNS
Professor of Japanese history
at the International Research Center
for Japanese Studies, Kyoto, Japan

The 17th century was a transformative period for both Japan and the Netherlands. Japan entered an era of peace and stability under the Tokugawa shogunate, experiencing remarkable urban growth and cultural flowering. Similarly, the Netherlands enjoyed its Golden Age, having secured independence from Spain and emerging as a major trading power. During this pivotal century, these two nations established a unique relationship. Following Japan's implementation of its isolation policy, the Netherlands became the only European nation permitted to trade with Japan, replacing Portugal's previous near-monopoly on Japanese trade.

This exclusive relationship granted the Dutch a unique status in Japan, where they were known as *kōmōjin*, or “red-haired people”. Despite strict limitations on their presence, the Dutch served as Japan’s only direct link to European developments for more than two centuries.

The first encounters between the Dutch and the Japanese occurred by chance. In the late 16th century, the Dutch began dispatching fleets to Asia in search of trade opportunities. One such expedition involved the *Liefde*, a ship that drifted to Bungo, now Ōita Prefecture on the island of Kyushu, in April 1600. Its arrival was nothing short of dramatic—of the 110 crew members who had set sail from Rotterdam, only 18 survived the harrowing journey.

The arrival of this battered ship would prove to be a pivotal moment in Japanese history. Two crew members, Jan Joosten Lodensteijn and William Adams, were granted an audience with Tokugawa Ieyasu, the de facto leader of Japan and soon-to-become shogun. Ieyasu showed great interest in their knowledge and trading potential. Both Lodensteijn, a Dutchman, and Adams, an Englishman, became trusted retainers of the shogun, advising him on diplomatic matters. Their legacy lives on in modern Japan, with the Yaesu district in Tokyo taking its name from Joosten, while the Anjinzuka train station honours Adams' Japanese name, Miura Anjin.

In 1609, ships from the Dutch East India Company arrived for the first time in an

[illegible]

出典:「1645年11月5日のスペイン軍によるバルスト市の包囲と占領」ヘンドリック・デ・マイヤー。
アムステルダム国立美術館蔵 収蔵品番号 SK-A-251。

"The Siege and Capture of the City of Hulst from the Spaniards, November 5, 1645" by Hendrick de Meijer. Rijksmuseum object number SK-A-251.

and waterway development, was crucial to Japan's industrialisation.

This relationship faced a severe test during World War II. The Japanese occupation of the Dutch East Indies resulted in the imprisonment of many Dutch citizens in internment camps. The effects of the war lingered for years. However, through diplomatic efforts, such as the Protocol for Dutch War Victims in 1956 and the Peace, Friendship and Exchange Initiative in the 1990s, relations gradually improved, enabling both nations to restore their historically close ties.

New forms of cooperation, including cultural and academic exchanges, emerged during the postwar period, paving the way for today's strong bilateral relationship, characterised by significant economic ties and regular royal visits.

The story of Dutch-Japanese relations, which began with a chance encounter and developed into one of the most significant channels of knowledge exchange between East and West, is truly unique in world history. From the dramatic arrival of the *Liefde* in 1600 to the celebration of 425 years of Dutch-Japanese relations in 2025, these ties have demonstrated remarkable resilience and adaptability. Through periods of isolation and openness, and of war and peace, the relationship has evolved from an exclusive trading arrangement into a modern partnership encompassing technology, culture and diplomacy. As both nations confront 21st-century challenges, their historical connection remains a strong foundation

through the Dutch connection led to innovative developments in Japan. A new style of painting emerged, called Nagasaki-e, which incorporated Western techniques of perspective. Artists such as Shiba Kōkan even adopted Western techniques to create copperplate prints and oil paintings, marking a significant shift in Japanese artistic expression.

The role of the Dutch in Japan's modernisation accelerated after Japan opened to the West. In 1855, the newly founded Nagasaki Naval Training Centre brought Dutch naval instructors to teach shipbuilding technology and maritime skills to Japanese students. By 1861, Dutch medical expertise contributed to the creation of Japan's first Western-style hospital, marking a significant step in the country's rapid modernisation. These institutions exemplified how centuries of Dutch-Japanese relations were evolving from trade-based exchanges into broader technical and scientific cooperation.

The exchange between the Dutch and Japanese in Dejima came to an end in 1863 when the Dutch consul-general moved from Dejima to Yokohama. However, friendly relations between the two countries continued. Despite losing their exclusive trading position, the Dutch continued to play an influential role in Japan's modernisation. Dutch experts, particularly in civil engineering, made vital contributions to Japan's technological development. The work of Dutch engineers on infrastructure projects, such as river improvements, harbour construction

the Dutch residents occupied themselves with various activities, such as cultivating medicinal herb gardens, caring for exotic animals brought by ships, playing billiards, performing music together and conducting scientific observations. Japanese interpreters, doctors and scholars regularly visited to learn about Western developments, creating a unique cultural exchange despite the island's physical restrictions.

By the late 18th century, Dejima had evolved beyond its role as a trading post and became a vital gateway for acquiring Western scientific and medical knowledge. The Dutch influence on Japanese intellectual life was significant, giving rise to rangaku, or Dutch learning (the study of Western science and knowledge transmitted via the Dutch trading post in Dejima), as a formal field of study. Japanese scholars painstakingly translated Dutch books about medicine, science and technology. In 1796, the completion of the first Dutch-Japanese dictionary opened new paths for knowledge transfer. Through Dutch books, Japan gained access to European advances in medicine, astronomy, geography and military science, all while maintaining its policy of isolation.

The cultural impact of this relationship was reciprocal. Japanese art, particularly Arita porcelain, became highly prized in Europe through Dutch trade, with Dutch merchants transporting these exquisite ceramics along extensive maritime routes. At the same time, exposure to Western art

official capacity and established a trading post in Hirado. This event marked the beginning of formal trade between the Dutch and Japanese. Tokugawa Ieyasu issued vermilion seal letters, known as *shuinjō*, authorising Dutch ships to visit and trade freely. This issuance also initiated cordial diplomatic correspondence between both nations' rulers, namely Tokugawa Ieyasu and Prince Maurits.

Dutch-Japanese trade grew significantly in the 1630s, prompting the expansion of the Dutch trading post in Hirado. However, in 1641, the post was relocated from Hirado to Dejima in Nagasaki due to shogunate policies.

Dejima was a fan-shaped artificial island where the Dutch continued their trading activities under restricted conditions. Every summer, Dutch East India Company ships arrived from Batavia, now Jakarta, and trade took place over approximately three months. Major imports included silk products, cotton goods, medicines and, later, sugar, while Japan exported copper, lacquerware and ceramics.

Each year, the Dutch chief merchant undertook a journey to Edo, known as the *Edo sanpu*, to have an audience with the shogun. During this three-month expedition, they presented the latest Western goods as a tribute to the shogun, but they also brought back information about Japan's political and cultural situation.

Life on Dejima was strictly regulated but culturally rich. Between trading sessions,

てし強固な関係が築かれた。この関係は、江戸時代を通じて、両国間の貿易を促進し、文化の交流を促した。特に、オランダの医学や天文学の知識が、日本の知識階級に広く受け入れられた。また、オランダの絵画や工芸品の輸入も、日本の美術界に大きな影響を与えた。このように、オランダとの関係は、日本の文化や科学の発展に重要な役割を果たした。この関係は、17世紀から18世紀にかけて、両国間の貿易を促進し、文化の交流を促した。特に、オランダの医学や天文学の知識が、日本の知識階級に広く受け入れられた。また、オランダの絵画や工芸品の輸入も、日本の美術界に大きな影響を与えた。このように、オランダとの関係は、日本の文化や科学の発展に重要な役割を果たした。

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for cooperation and mutual understanding, proving that meaningful international relationships can transcend centuries and cultural differences.

The Journey of de Lisboa: A Voyage to the Unknown



THE JOURNEY OF DE
LISBOA: A VOYAGE
TO THE UNKNOWN

A FLEET BOUND FOR ASIA

The Ambitious Voyage of 1598

In June 1598, a fleet of five ships set sail from Rotterdam, embarking on an ambitious expedition to Asia. The fleet was commissioned by a group of independent merchants. It was one of the various trading companies that were established in different cities across the Netherlands before the formation of the Dutch East India Company (VOC) in 1602. Each ship carried a name reflecting ideals of virtue, faith, and fortune: *De Hoop* (Hope), *Het Geloof* (Faith), *De Trouw* (Loyalty), *De Liefde* (Love), and *De Blijde Boodschap* (The Good Message). Notably, *De Liefde* was originally named *Erasmus*, after the famed Dutch philosopher. Its stern bore a wooden carving of Erasmus, symbolising wisdom and humanist ideals—a fitting emblem for a ship venturing into the unknown.

A HARROWING JOURNEY

The Trials of *De Liefde* and Its Crew

Among those on board were several figures who would leave a lasting mark on history. Jacob Quaeckernaek, the captain of *De Liefde*, was an experienced navigator charged with leading the ship through perilous waters. Jan Joosten van Lodensteyn, a Dutch merchant, was eager to establish new trade opportunities in Asia. Perhaps most notably, William Adams, an English pilot aboard *De Liefde*, would go on to become one of the most influential foreign figures

in Japan. The voyage, however, proved disastrous. After a brutal crossing of the Strait of Magellan, the fleet fell apart—some ships were wrecked, others captured by the Spanish and the Portuguese. *De Liefde*, battered by storms and disease, was the only ship to continue across the vast Pacific.

AN UNEXPECTED ARRIVAL

De Liefde Reaches Japan

By the time *De Liefde* reached the shores of Japan in April 1600, only 24 of its original 110 crew members had survived. The once-proud ship, its wooden Erasmus figure still affixed to the stern, was barely afloat when it drifted into Bungo Province (modern-day Ōita Prefecture). The arrival of these desperate sailors marked the beginning of Dutch-Japanese relations. For Adams, it was the start of an extraordinary new life as a trusted advisor to Tokugawa Ieyasu, the future shōgun. What had begun as a voyage to Asia to obtain spices had instead opened the doors to a completely different world.



▲ DE LIEFDE PLATE

The De Liefde Museum in Usuki displays this donated plate featuring the Dutch ship *De Liefde*, symbolising the inception of Japan-Netherlands relations in 1600. According to records, it was donated to Usuki City.

◀ DE LIEFDE REPLIC

The *De Liefde* Museum in Usuki honours the 1600 landing of the Dutch ship, featuring a small replica of the vessel and monuments to its crew.

*De Liefde Museum, Usuki.
Photo: Louis Smit.*

[◀ ｺｰﾅﾙﾄｵﾍﾞﾙ](#)

臼杵にあるリーフデ号資料館では、リーフデ号を描いた皿の寄贈品が展示されている。リーフデ号は1600年の漂着から生まれた日蘭交流を象徴している。記録によると、この皿は臼杵市に寄贈された。

▼リーフlet号の複製

日杵市のリーフデ号資料館は、1600年
のオランダ船上陸を記念して、船の小さなレプリ
カと乗組員の記念碑を展示している。

出典：臼杵市リーフデ号資料館。写真：ルイ・スミット

LANDMARK 16TH-CENTURY
MAP OF JAPAN BY LUIS TEIXEIRA

This map, titled "Japoniae Insulae Descriptio", was published by Abraham Ortelius around 1595, based on information from Portuguese cartographer Luis Teixeira. It holds the distinction of being the first separate map of Japan published in a European atlas, specifically Abraham Ortelius's *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*. This work provided Europeans with their initial detailed representation of Japan, significantly enhancing Western understanding of East Asian geography.

"Japoniae Insulae Descriptio" by Ludovico Teixeira, map of Korea and the Japanese main islands Honshū, Shikoku and Kyūshū. 1598-1602. The National Archives of the Netherlands, Maps, Prints and Publications Hens and Eva Kok, record group 4.HEK, inventory no. MC025.



ルイス・テインエイラによる16世紀の画期的な日本地図

「JAPONIAE INSVLAE DESCRIPTIO」と題されたこの地図は、ポルトガルの地図製作者ルイス・テインエイラからの情報に基づき、アブラハム・オルテリウス1595年にかけて刊行したものである。この地図は、ヨーロッパの地図帳『てまりアブラハム・オルテリウスの『THEATRUM ORBIS TERRARUM』に掲載された最初の日本地図として知られている。この作品は、ヨーロッパ人に初めて日本の詳細な姿を紹介し、東アジアの地理に関する西洋の理解を大きく深めた。

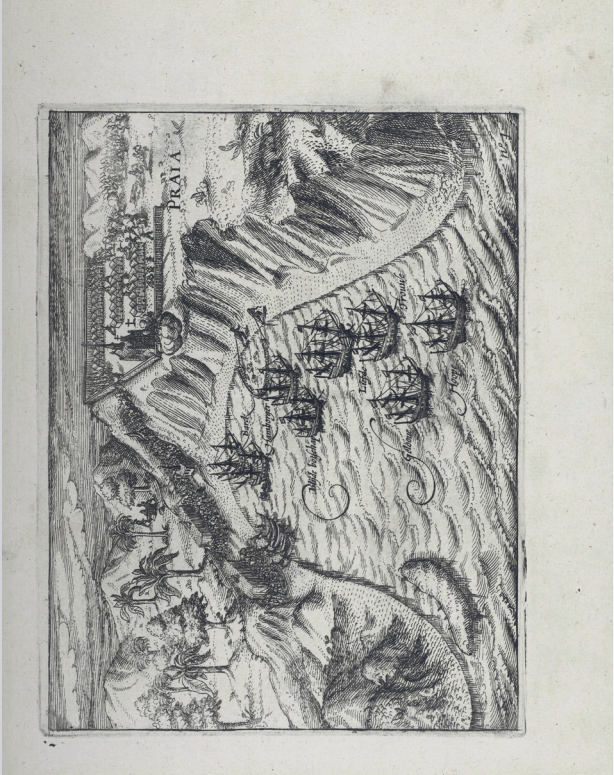
出典：ルドウイコ・テインエイラによる「Japoniae Insulae Descriptio」朝鮮年表と日本の本州・四国・九州の地図 1598年〜1602年。オランダ国立文書館・地図・版画・出版物ハンス・ドハース・コック、記録グループ4.HEK「目録番号」MC025

FOUR REPRODUCTIONS OF
DEPICTIONS OF THE JOURNEY
OF DE LIEFDE

De Liefde traveled a long way to reach Japan. In several prints from the era, various episodes from its journey are described.

- ◀◀The fleet's attack on the Portuguese settlement of Praia (Cape Verde islands) in search of food.
- ◀The ships Hoop and Liefde approach the town of Santiago (now Cidade Velha) in search of food.
- ◀◀ The crew of Het Geelof and De Liefde hunts penguins in the Strait of Magellan.
- ◀Envoys of admiral Simon de Cordes negotiate with ruler at Cape Lopez (Gabon).

Anonymous / Potgieter, Barent Jansz. Rijksmuseum object numbers RP-P-OB-80.279 to 281, RP-P-OB-80.286



リーフデの旅を描いた4枚の複製画

リーフデ号は長い道のりを経て日本に到着した。当時のいくつかの版画には、その旅の様々なエピソードが描かれている。

- ▶左上：食料を求めてポルトガルの人権地ブラリア(ゾエルテ岬諸島)を攻撃する船団。作者不明／バレント・ヤンツ・ポトヒター
- ▶右上：ホープ号とリーフデ号が食料を求めのサンティアゴの町(現在のシタデー・ヴェーリヤ)に接近する。作者不明／バレント・ヤンツ・ポトヒター



▶左下：マゼラン海峡でペンギンを狩るヘローン号とリーフデ号の乗組員たち。作者不明／バレント・ヤンツ・ポトヒター

▶右下：ロベス岬(カボン)で支配者と交渉するシモン・ド・コルニス提督の使者たち。作者不明／バレント・ヤンツ・ポトヒター

出典：アムステルダム国立美術館 複製品番号 RP-P-OB-80.279〜281, RP-P-OB-80.286

ERASMUS: A SYMBOL OF KNOWLEDGE AND EXPLORATION

Desiderius Erasmus (1466–1536) was one of the most influential humanist thinkers of the Renaissance, advocating for reason, education, and religious tolerance. His philosophy of intellectual curiosity and critical thought made him a fitting symbol for a ship embarking on a journey into the unknown. The stern figure of Erasmus on *De Liefde* was more than just decoration—it embodied the ideals of wisdom and exploration, guiding the ship across uncharted waters.

Against all odds, the wooden stern figure of Erasmus survived *De Liefde*'s perilous journey. While the ship itself was dismantled, the figure was preserved as a rare artifact of this historic encounter. Over the centuries, it became a symbol of the first Dutch-Japanese relations. Today, this remarkable piece of maritime history is housed in the Tokyo National Museum, where it serves as a tangible reminder of early global connections and cultural exchange.

Wooden Stern Sculpture of Erasmus from De Liefde, made in the Netherlands in 1598. Previously held at Ryukyu-In, Tochigi Prefecture, now at the Tokyo National Museum. Owner: Ryukoin



18



知識と探求のシンボル、エラスムス

デジデリウス・エラスムス（1466年〜1536年）は、理性、教育、宗教的寛容を唱え、最も影響力を持ったルネサンス期の人文主義思想家の一人である。知的好奇心と批判的思考を信条とする彼は、未知への旅に乗り出す船のシンボルとしてふさわしい人物だった。リーフテ号の舟尾に掲げられたエラスムスの像は、単なる裝飾ではなく、知恵と探求の理想を表現し、未知の海を渡る船を導いた。

エラスムスの木像は、どんな困難にも負けず、リーフテ号の危険な旅を生き延びた。船自体は解体されたが、この像はこの歴史的な出会いの貴重な遺物として保存された。何世紀にもわたり、それは日蘭関係の始まりのシンボルとなった。今日、この驚くべき海洋史の作品は東京国立博物館に収蔵され、当時の世界のつながりと文化交流を伝える具体的な証しである。

出典：1598年にオランダで制作されたリーフテ号の木造エラスムス像。以前は栃木県日光院に所蔵されていたが、現在は東京国立博物館に収蔵されている。
所有者：日光院

We simply need more of Erasmus

DR. JOHN THOLEN
Conservator, Erasmus Collection at
Rotterdam City Library

ROBBERT NESSELAAR MSc.
Consultant

If he were alive today, Desiderius Erasmus of Rotterdam (1466-1536) would likely be a big fan of Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan. Why? It's a global event, filled with cross-border dialogue and the exchange of ideas and innovations, all aimed at societal progress. These issues were also close to Erasmus' heart!

Erasmus' relentless advocacy for progress-oriented dialogue couldn't be more topical and relevant today. He was a true polymath—philosopher, priest, educator, author of several bestsellers (including *In Praise of Folly*), scholar, social entrepreneur, and much more. Erasmus is synonymous with tolerance and respect for others. He strived for societal progress and peace. What can we learn from this bridge builder? Although Erasmus lived some 500 years ago, many of his ideas remain highly relevant and connect well with the challenges and opportunities we face today.

NEXT GENERATIONS

Erasmus was clear: young people are the future. Through good education and upbringing, children and young people would eventually make the world a better place when they grow up—as compassionate human beings and active participants in society. Intergenerational collaboration plays an important role in this notion. Erasmus emphasised the ideal relationship between adults and young people: adults are responsible for raising and educating the young, while the young are obliged to carefully listen to and absorb the wisdom of the adults.

Erasmus was convinced that people “were not born, but formed”. He believed that it was essential for individuals to become critical thinkers and to approach their sources and resources with discernment. Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan has the potential to contribute to this process of self-development. The 1970 World Expo in Japan was a source of inspiration and excitement for many. The compelling stories shared in various country pavilions, largely centred on technological advances, inspired young people to pursue their dreams. Expos can plant

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Erasmus' legacy

—リフテ号・エラスムス像

リフテ号・エラスムス像

エラスムス像

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エラスムス像

the seeds for remarkable careers and contributions to society! Now, 55 years later, Expo 2025 Osaka has the potential to inspire a new generation once again. High-tech innovations can both amaze and trigger people, just as can the stories from around the world of how different generations, people from various backgrounds and skills, co-create solutions for difficult problems in an open, inclusive, and inventive way.

DIALOGUE

Erasmus lived in turbulent times. Polarisation was the order of the day. Frontlines were hardening, and it was a time full of disputes and wars, many arising from diametrically opposed opinions. People often adhered to their non-negotiable positions and were reluctant to make any effort to understand viewpoints other than their own. This was true then, and sadly, it remains true today. Erasmus was deeply convinced that people must work together and be open to compromise. People should be willing to reconsider and correct their positions when faced with persuasive arguments. Learning from one another was crucial. Stubborn attitudes often lead to unnecessary anguish.

Erasmus underscored the importance of a good exchange of standpoints. While this may sound obvious, genuine dialogue was not so self-evident in his time. Unfortunately, it is still not so today. Expo 2025 Osaka provides an excellent stage for dialogue, which can then lead to concrete action and positive impact.

CROSS-BORDER COLLABORATION

Erasmus travelled extensively during his lifetime. He visited countless places, regions, and countries, building an enduring international network. He met many people and engaged in lively discussions with them. Several years after his death in Basel in 1536, Erasmus even crossed the ocean — albeit as the wooden figurehead of the ship *De Liefde*, which made the perilous passage to Japan in 1600.

There is an awe-inspiring richness in the meeting of cultures from all across the globe. As Erasmus already realised, borders should not be barriers to working together on common topics. Cross-border collaboration is key. Visiting one another, taking an earnest and genuine interest in one another, and allowing the search for knowledge and understanding to guide our interactions are essential. We need to solve global challenges together. Together, we can find insights and solutions that would elude us if we worked in isolation. Each of us possesses knowledge or skills that are required. Entrepreneurial dialogue. Societal dialogue. These concepts should not be seen in isolation. When we are able to collaborate more effectively, share our knowledge more effectively, and, in other words, co-create, we will make real progress. It all comes down to the right attitude—leaving no stone unturned.

HOW DOES THIS PLAY OUT IN OUR OWN DAILY WORK?

In uncertain, turbulent times, working together becomes even more important. Without a doubt, we could use more “Erasmus” today—more tolerance, more willingness to listen to others’ arguments, more peace at any cost. If we want societal progress, we must find common ground.

We can all be bridge-builders in our own time. Only through genuine interest in one another can we take sustainable steps forward, based on a readiness to learn and share. Shared concerns must prevail over self-interest. By complementing and strengthening one another, no one is left behind. Nations, cities, individuals can help one another become better. Everyone has something to contribute. At first glance, these may seem like 'small' steps, but they add up to a priceless collective result. By joining forces, we can achieve great things. We can only address major global challenges—such as the energy transition, sustainable food production, and healthy ageing—if we are willing and able to work together. The dialogue, mutual understanding, and willingness to think beyond borders should be the urgent and much-needed focus of our attention. Futilities do not merit conflict.

The world is full of positive developments, though they are not always visible. Expo 2025 Osaka strives to shine a spotlight on hopeful progress. Exchanging ideas, as well as cross-border co-creation of effective

approaches and policies, simply adds positive energy. Let's do the 'obvious' things exceedingly well, and let's be passionate about it—just as Erasmus was passionate about societal progress through bridge-building. Common sense for the common good, on common ground. Together. That's how we solve global challenges.

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スティーヴン・キングの中の重作の々日

重要性が増す。間違いない。今日の私たち
不確実で激動の時代には、協力することの

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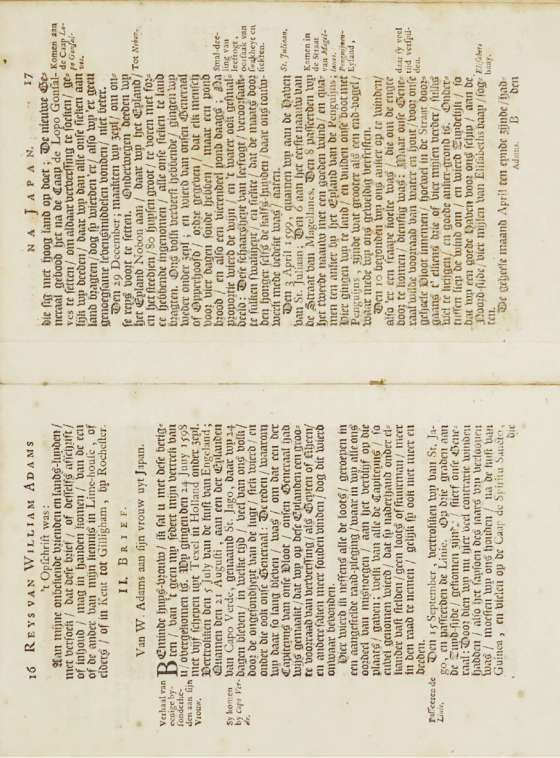
国境を越えたユウホーグループ

れないほどの場所、地域、国を訪れ、永続的にスラムは生涯、数え切れない。

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する方法なのだ。

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A MONUMENT TO FIRST CONTACT:
DE LIEFDE ARRIVES IN USUKI
Colourful relief commemorating the arrival of the Dutch ship *De Liefde* in Usuki Bay in 1600—a historic moment marking the beginning of Japan–Netherlands relations. The artwork, created for the 400th anniversary of this historic encounter, vividly portrays the ship's crew, including Englishman William Adams, making contact with local Japanese officials and townspeople. In the background, *De Liefde* is anchored near the shore, flying the Dutch flag. The image captures a peaceful exchange of gifts and gestures, symbolizing the mutual curiosity and diplomacy that defined this early meeting. It stands today in Usuki's *De Liefde* Arrival Memorial Park as a tribute to four centuries of cultural and economic exchange between the two nations.

De Liefde Arrival Memorial Park. Photo: Louis Smit.

出会いの記念碑

リーフデ号、臼杵に到着

1600年にオランダ船リーフデ号が臼杵湾に入港し、日本とオランダの交流が始まった歴史的瞬間を記念するカラフルなリーフ。この歴史的な出会いから400年を記念して制作されたこの作品は、英国人ウィリアム・アダムスをはじめとする乗組員たちが、日本の役人や町民と触れ合う様子を生き生きと描いている。背景には、オランダ国旗を掲げたリーフデ号が海岸近くに停泊している。贈り物と友好的姿勢が平和的に交わされる様子を捉えたこの作品は、両国が出会った当時の好奇心と外交を象徴している。この記念碑は、4世紀にわたる両国の文化および経済交流を称えるものとして、今日、臼杵市の上陸記念公園に建っている。

出典：上陸記念公園 写真：ルイ・スミット

HUNGER AND HARDSHIP ON DE LIEFDE

Excerpt from William Adams' letter to his wife, describing the desperate conditions aboard *De Liefde*, as published in the Dutch edition of two of his surviving letters in 1706, over 85 years after his death. This account in William Adams' letter describes a situation of extreme hunger aboard the ship *De Liefde* during their voyage. Adams's text reveals how the crew members became so desperate to eating starvation that they resorted to eating the calf leather coverings that were used to protect the ship's ropes.

Excerpt in Dutch:
"Dese schaarsheijt van leeftoght / veroorsaakte sulken swakheijt / en siekte / dat de maets door den honger selfs de halfs-huijden / daar ons touw-werk mede bedekt was / aaten."

Excerpt in English:
"This scarcity of provisions caused such weakness and sickness that the mates, due to hunger, even ate the calf hides with which our rope was covered."

Twee brieven van William Adams; wegens zijn reys wt Holland na Oost-Indien, met vijf schepen, anno 1598 en vervolgens : en wat ontmoetingen hem in Japan overgekomen zijn. By Pleter van der Aa, boekverkoper, 1706 (Nishibunken).

リーフデ号航海中の飢えと苦難

ウィリアム・アダムスが妻に宛てた手紙からの抜粋。リーフデ号での絶望的な状況を描写しており、彼の死後85年以上経った1706年に、現存する2通の手紙のオランダ語版として出版された。ウィリアム・アダムスの手紙にあるこの記述は、航海中のリーフデ号での極度の飢餓状況について述べている。アダムスの文章は乗組員たちが飢えから自暴自棄になり、船のロープを保護するために使われていた子牛の革のカーブを食えるという手酷に出たことを明らかにしている。

和訳：

「食料不足により船員たちは衰弱し、病気になる、飢えのために、ロープを覆っていた子牛の皮さえも食べてしまった。」

出典：ウィリアム・アダムスからの2通の手紙。1598年には隣、5隻の船でオランダからオランダ湾を航海したときおよび日本の出会いについて、リーフデ号の乗組員が、1706年（蘭暦日本文化研究）で所載。



本紙の乗組員の飢えと苦難

本紙の乗組員の飢えと苦難



TOKUGAWA IEYASU'S RISE TO POWER AND FOREIGN INFLUENCE

TOKUGAWA IEYASU, STRATEGIC LEADER WITH A KEEN EYE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

In 1600, Tokugawa Ieyasu was one of the most powerful figures in Japan, serving as a senior member of the Council of Five Elders. A group of daimyos entrusted with ruling the country until Toyotomi Hideyori, the young son of the late Toyotomi Hideyoshi, came of age. However, Ieyasu had ambitions beyond serving as a caretaker—he sought to unify Japan under his rule. As he consolidated power, he carefully navigated Japan's foreign relations. The Portuguese, who had been active in Japan for decades, were valuable trading partners, but Ieyasu was wary of their growing influence, especially through the Jesuit missionaries. While he welcomed trade, he was cautious of their religious and political agendas, preferring to keep his options open when dealing with foreign powers.

THE ARRIVAL OF DE LIEFDE AND THE SUMMONING OF ITS CREW

After the arrival of *De Liefde* off the coast of Bungo Province in Kyushu, Ieyasu, seeing an opportunity, ordered the ship to be moved to Sakai, near Osaka, for closer examination. At the same time in May 1600, two of its crew members, Jan Joosten van Lodensteijn and William Adams, were summoned to Osaka Castle to meet with Ieyasu himself. The ship

was in poor condition, and most of its crew had perished during the long and treacherous journey, but Ieyasu was intrigued by the knowledge these sailors possessed—especially Adams, who was an experienced navigator.

PORTUGUESE RESISTANCE AND IEYASU'S STRATEGIC DECISION

The Portuguese Jesuits, alarmed by the arrival of Protestant Dutch sailors, urged Ieyasu to execute the ship's crew, branding them as heretics and pirates. However, Ieyasu saw an opportunity where others saw a threat. He understood that engaging with the Dutch could counterbalance Portuguese influence and provide Japan with new trade opportunities free from missionary interference. Instead of following the Jesuits' advice, he spared the crew, paving the way for future Dutch-Japanese relations. This strategic decision would prove crucial in shaping Japan's foreign trade policies in the years to come.

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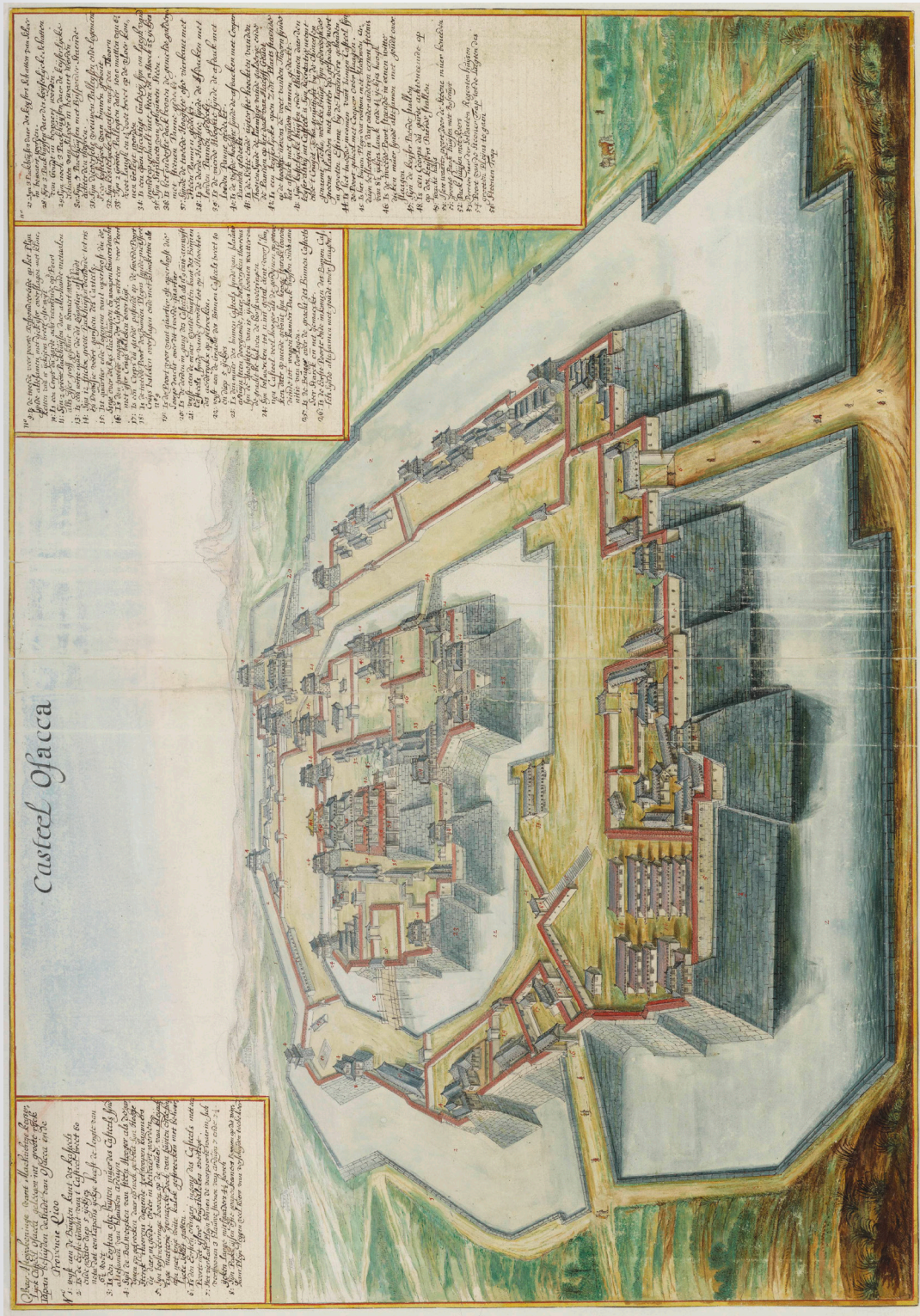
リーフエノの来航と乗組員の召集

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ヨーロッパ最古の大坂城鳥瞰図

1665年にヨハネス・フインゲボーンズが描いたこの大坂城鳥瞰図は、ヨーロッパ人が描いた大坂城のうち最古のもののひとつである。この鳥瞰図は、おそらく徳川時代の大坂城を描いた日本の屏風画をもとに描かれたもので、大坂城が日本の中央権力の象徴として描かれている。縮尺や方角は完全に正確ではないが、この絵はヨーロッパ人が徳川政権の政治権力をどのように想像していたかを反映している。この絵からは、鎖国を続ける日本を理想化しようとしたヨーロッパ人の初期の試みを垣間見ることができ、



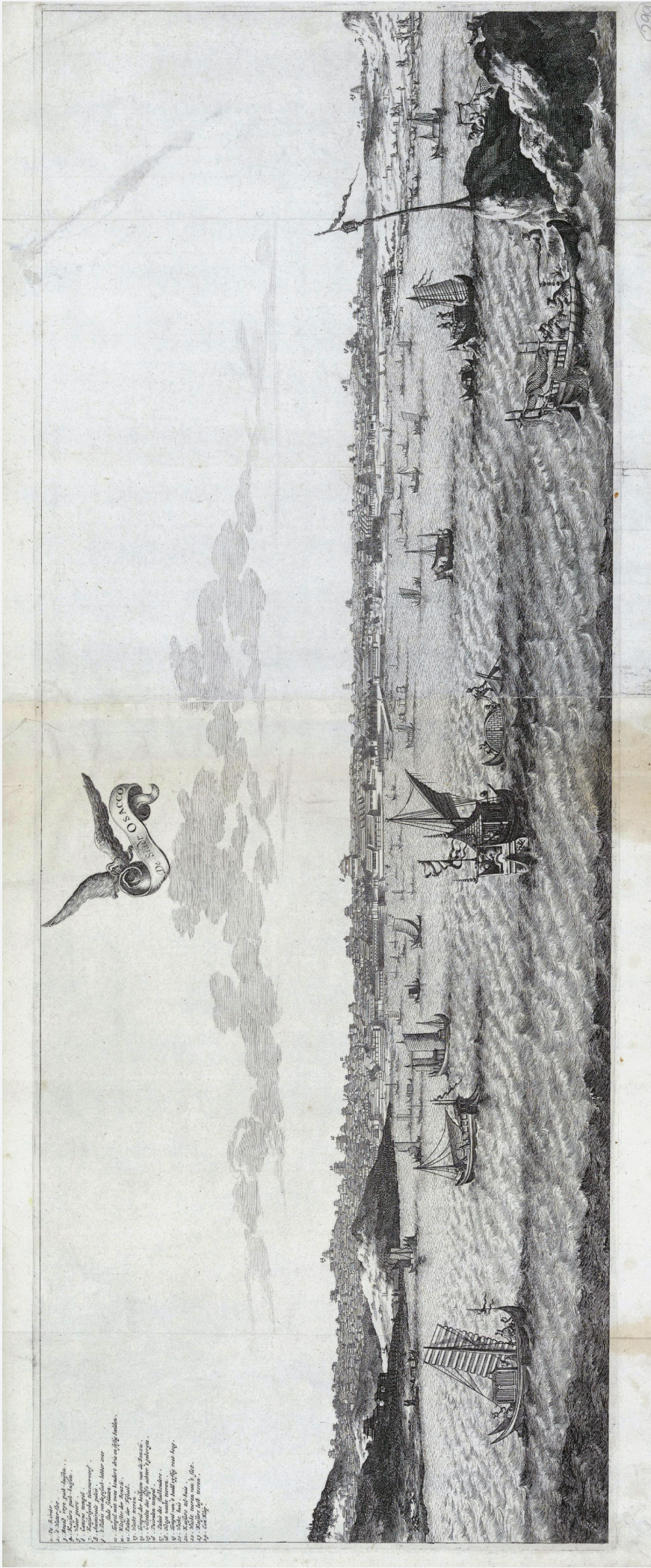
出典：『日本紀伊国大坂市の南に位置する強大な大坂城の
描写』大坂城鳥瞰図。1665年、ヨハネス・フィンケホー
ンズ。オランダ国立公文書館、外国地図コレクション。
リユーベ、補遺、記録グループ4、VELH、目録番号：61982。

ONE OF THE EARLIEST EUROPEAN VIEWS OF OSAKA CASTLE

This 1665 bird's-eye view of Osaka Castle by Johannes Vingboons is among the earliest known European depictions of the site. Most probably based on a Japanese picture screen of Osaka Castle in the Tokugawa period, it presents the castle as a monumental symbol of power at the heart of Japan. While not entirely accurate in scale or orientation, the picture reflects how European observers imagined the political power of the Tokugawa regime. It offers a rare glimpse into early European attempts to visualise a country that remained largely closed to the outside world.

"Depiction of the mighty imperial castle of Osaka located in the great realm of Japan, south of the city of Osaka in the province of Kii." Bird's-eye view of Osaka Castle, Japan, 1665, Johannes Vingboons. The National Archives of the Netherlands, Foreign Maps Collection Leupe, supplement, record group 4,VELH, inventory no. 619.82.

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OSAKA'S WATERFRONT THROUGH 17TH-CENTURY EYES
This 1669 bird's-eye view of Osaka captures the city's bustling waterfront as arriving travelers might have seen it by sea. Based on textual information from the yearly court journals of the Dutch servants of the VOC, the image emphasizes Osaka's role as a major hub of commerce during the Edo period. With its detailed depiction of ships, docks, and city structures, the map reflects how Europeans imagined Japan's urban sophistication and economic vitality from a distance.

"The City of Osacca", bird's-eye view of Osaka, 1679. The National Archives of the Netherlands. Maps, Prints and Publications Hans and Eva Kok, record group 4.HEK, inventory no. MC299.

17世紀の大阪の海辺の様子
この1669年の大阪の鳥瞰図は、到着する旅人が海から見たであろう大阪の賑やかな海辺を描いている。東インド会社に仕えたオランダ人の江戸参府の記載情報をもとに、江戸時代の大坂が商業の中心地であったことが強調して描かれている。船、波止場、都市の構造を詳細に示したこの絵図は、ヨーロッパ人が遠くから日本の洗練された都市と経済的活力をどのように想像していたかを表している。

出典：「大坂市」：大阪鳥瞰図、1669年。オランダ国立公文書館 地図・版画・出版部、ハンス・エヴァ・コック、記録グループ4.HEK、目録番号：MC299。



EAST MEETS WEST: WILLIAM ADAMS AND JAN JOOSTEN'S HISTORIC ENCOUNTER WITH TOKUGAWA IYASU
In 1600, English navigator William Adams and Dutch merchant Jan Joosten arrived in Japan aboard the ship *De Liefde*, marking the beginning of significant Western influence in the country. Summoned to Osaka Castle, they met with Tokugawa Ieyasu, the powerful daimyo poised to become shogun. Despite initial suspicions and opposition from Portuguese Jesuits who advocated for their execution, Ieyasu recognized the strategic value in their knowledge. Over multiple meetings, Adams and Joosten shared insights into Western navigation, religion, and international politics. Impressed, Ieyasu appointed them as his advisors, granting them *hatamoto* ("Guardian of the Banner") status and integrating their expertise into Japan's evolving engagement with the broader world. This pivotal encounter not only altered the course of Adams' and Joosten's lives but also laid the groundwork for Japan's complex relationship with Western nations.

Western imaginative representation of Adams' encounter with the Shogun in William Dalton's book, *Will Adams: the first Englishman in Japan* (London: George Routledge and Sons, 1866).

東洋と西洋の出会い
ウィリアム・アダムスとヤン・ヨーステンの徳川家康との歴史的出会い
1600年、イギリス人航海士ウィリアム・アダムスとオランダ人商人ヤン・ヨーステンは、リープテ号で日本に到着した。大坂城に呼び出された二人は、将軍になる勢いの徳川家康と会談した。当初は疑念の目を向けられ、ポルトガル人イエズス会の反対で処刑を主張されたが、家康は彼らの知識に戦略的価値があることを認めた。アダムスとヨーステンは何度も面会を重ね、西洋の航海術、宗教、国際政治に関する見識を共有した。感銘を受けた家康は、二人を顧問に任命し、旗本の地位を与え、彼らの専門知識を日本がより広い世界との関係構築のために取り入れた。この重要な出会いは、アダムスとヨーステンの人生を変えただけでなく、日本と西洋諸国との緻密な関係の基礎を築いた。

出典：ウィリアム・アダムスの著書『ウィル・アダムス 日本で最初の英国人 (Will Adams: the first Englishman in Japan)』(ロンドン：ジョージ・ルートレッジ&サンズ、1866年)における、ヨーロッパ人が想像したアダムスと将軍の出会い



東洋と西洋の冒険小説
『ウィル・アダムス 日本にきた最初の英国人 (Will Adams: the first Englishman in Japan)』ウィリアム・ダルトン著(1866年)は、ウィリアム・アダムスの生涯をドラマチックに描いた歴史小説である。事実とフィクションを織り交ぜながら、リープテ号の生存者の一人であるメルキオール・ファン・サントフォートの目を通して、イギリス人船乗りから徳川家康の信頼を受けた顧問になるまでの彼の人生を描いている。当時人気だったウィクトリア朝の冒険スタイルで書かれたこの本のおかげで、ヨーロッパ人はアダムスをうつる異なる世界の架け橋となる英雄的人物として認識するようになった。

出典：『ウィル・アダムス 日本で最初の英国人』ウィリアム・ダルトン著、ジョージ・ルートレッジ&サンズ、1869年。紙版(国蔵日本文化研究センター所蔵)。

A ROMANTIC TALE OF EAST AND WEST
Will Adams: *The First Englishman in Japan* (1866) by William Dalton is a historical novel that dramatizes the life of William Adams, blending fact and fiction to present his journey from English sailor to trusted advisor of Tokugawa Ieyasu, seen through the eyes of Melchior van Santvoort, one of the other survivors of *De Liefde*. Written in the popular Victorian adventure style, the book shaped Western perceptions of Adams as a heroic figure bridging two very different worlds.

William Dalton, Will Adams: the first Englishman in Japan. London: George Routledge and Sons, 1866, titlepage (Nichibunken).

OMNIDIRECTIONAL DIPLOMACY AND TRADE POLICIES

Ieyasu pursued what scholars today call “omnidirectional diplomacy”—a pragmatic approach to foreign relations that sought to establish beneficial connections with all potential partners rather than limiting Japan to exclusive relationships. This policy stemmed from his broader strategic vision of creating a stable international environment that would support Japan’s economic development while preserving its political autonomy.

After Hideyoshi's death, Ieyasu immediately began repairing diplomatic relations with neighbouring countries damaged by Hideyoshi's Korean campaigns. He successfully restored formal relations with the Korean Joseon dynasty by 1607 and pursued diplomatic exchanges with various Southeast Asian rulers, including those in Annam (northern Vietnam), Cochinchina (southern Vietnam), Champa (central Vietnamese coast), Siam (Thailand), Cambodia, and Patani (Malay Peninsula).

Domestically, Ieyasu implemented trade policies that encouraged economic growth while maintaining shogunal control. He established the “red-seal ship” (*shuin-sen*) system, which granted official trading licences to Japanese merchants and foreign traders. This system allowed the shogunate to regulate foreign trade.

THE DUTCH ARRIVAL IN CONTEXT

The arrival of the Dutch ship the *Liefde* in April 1600 coincided with a critical moment in Ieyasu's rise to power. When informed that a foreign vessel had landed in Bungo Province, Ieyasu, who was then based in Osaka Castle, immediately displayed interest despite being occupied with domestic political manoeuvring. This response reflected his recognition of the potential diplomatic and economic significance of this encounter.

The Dutch arrival was particularly well-timed for Ieyasu's strategic interests. Japan had been dependent on Portuguese traders as intermediaries for Chinese raw silk imports—a vital commodity for Japan's textile industry. The Portuguese monopoly allowed them to charge exorbitant prices. Ieyasu saw in the Dutch the potential for breaking this monopoly and diversifying Japan's trading partners.

Moreover, the religious and political dimensions of European rivalries were not lost on Ieyasu. The Protestant Dutch and English were engaged in conflict with Catholic Spain and Portugal, which aligned with Ieyasu's growing concerns about the political influence of Catholic missionaries in Japan. When the Jesuit missionaries attempted to discredit the Dutch as pirates, Ieyasu refused to be swayed by their accusations, demonstrating his independent judgment in foreign affairs.

WILLIAM ADAMS AND JAN JOOSTEN LODENSTEIJN: PERSONAL CONNECTIONS

Among the *Liefde's* surviving crew were the English pilot William Adams and the Dutch merchant Jan Joosten van Lodensteijn. After initial scepticism, Ieyasu recognised their potential value as sources of knowledge about European affairs, technology, and navigation. His decision to make both men *hatamoto* (direct retainers of the shogun) and provide them with estates near Edo reflected both his personal interest in them and his strategic assessment of their utility.

Through his conversations with Adams (known in Japan as Miura Anjin), Ieyasu gained valuable insights into European politics, science, mathematics, and navigation. Adams constructed Western-style ships for Ieyasu and served as an advisor on foreign relations, particularly regarding European powers. Lodesteijn similarly served as a trusted advisor on commercial matters and helped facilitate trade between Japan and other nations.

The personal relationship between Ieyasu and these two Europeans exemplified his broader approach to foreign relations—combining curiosity about new technologies and knowledge with pragmatic diplomatic and commercial considerations.

A SPECIAL AFFINITY FOR THE DUTCH

Among all the foreign nations leyasu engaged with, he developed a particular fondness for

the Dutch. This preference was evident in his personal correspondence with Prince Maurice of Nassau, Stadtholder of the United Provinces. When the Dutch envoy Nicolaes Puyck delivered Prince Maurice's letter to Ieyasu in 1609, Ieyasu's response expressed genuine enthusiasm for Dutch friendship. According to one of his replies, Ieyasu read the Dutch prince's letter "again and again," indicating his pleasure at receiving correspondence from such a distant ruler.

During Jacques Specx's audience with Ieyasu in 1611, Japanese officials noted with astonishment the unusually warm reception Ieyasu gave the Dutch representatives. Honda Masazumi and Gotō Shōzaburō, who escorted Specx after the audience, remarked that they were surprised by "the familiar speech of His Majesty, as it is not customary in this country for the emperor (Ieyasu), even when speaking to his great lords... to use many words." They observed that "the Portuguese ambassador departed without hearing a single word from His Majesty, and the one from the Castilians fared not much better."

Ieyasu's favourable view of the Dutch was further demonstrated when he defended their right to trade in Japan against Portuguese and Spanish objections. When Spanish envoy Sebastian Vizcaino demanded the expulsion of the Dutch in 1611, Ieyasu famously declared, "My country is free for all foreign nations and open to all," adding that the conflicts between European powers should "be settled between your nations."

[illegible]

蔵書を考へる等に文庫内城に設立した。また、古く、たゞ、典の集收の意をもて、約一万冊の書を入れた。字を字とて、幾幾数字を付からせしめて、アルファベツ、で、集められた。是の品々を西洋の他、その、鏡、照、像、の品々を收めて置いた。是は、技術、新、車、の品々を、外、國、の、品々を、製、品、の、高、い、關、心、は、、考、察、の、庫、に、し、て、置、いた。

知能とメソッドのハイブリッド探求

加えたことは有名である。

加えたことは有名である。

[illegible]

おてつひ語

と「たつたのもちあつたもて入（ビヤッス
ス）サウマニヌカ、田舎へかへてく聞
せ言一を藤田の車持は御大リサリホ」
たす。おてつひに「たう藤田のゐるがに
語むにけし藤田、のの田舎みのいなかで并多
も、てなはてす語にみサスた」は、三田藤
後で藤田多たつ新きなにスウス、後
の見語。たつたがな田を藤
く田は田を藤のくは田のくは
は、たは田の田、たは田の田、たは
スウス、スウに田ス

[illegible]

オムツは関係のあった諸外国の中でも、特にオムツの好意を抱いていました。

オランダ人への特別な好意

[illegible]

とて貿易を円滑に進めたる手助けをした。
信頼できたる通商顧問として、日本と諸外国

[illegible]

オランダの船

[illegible]

オウゴン美船タノ景の景景

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[illegible]

左の配者として、外、交、流を推進した。

**JAN JOOSTEN VAN LODENSTEYN: DUTCH
MERCHANT AND TOKUGAWA ADVISOR**

Jan Joosten van Lodensteyn

(c.1566–1623) was a Dutch merchant who, alongside Englishman William Adams, arrived in Japan aboard the *De Liefde* in 1600. Gaining the trust of Tokugawa Ieyasu, he became a valued advisor on foreign affairs and trade. Granted a residence in Edo (now Tokyo), the area became known as Yatsu, derived from his Japanese name, *Yayōsu*. Joosten engaged in the "shogunate-licensed" red seal ship" trade, amassing wealth through ventures across Southeast Asia. His integration into Japanese society and contributions to early Dutch-Japanese relations are commemorated by monuments in Tokyo's Yatsu district.

Bust of Jan Joosten van Lodesteyn, De Liefde Museum, Usuki. Photo: Louis Smit.



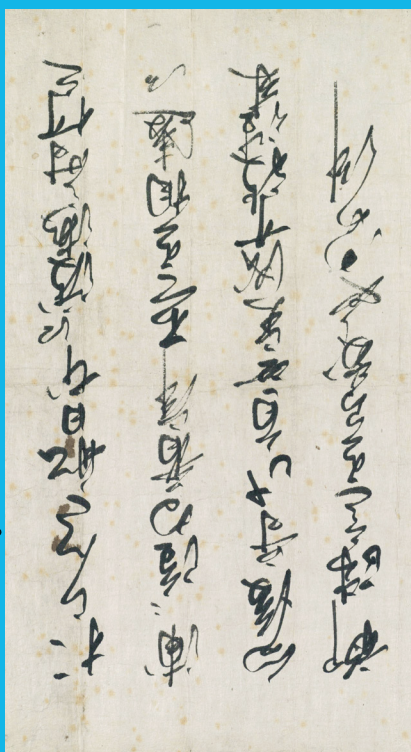
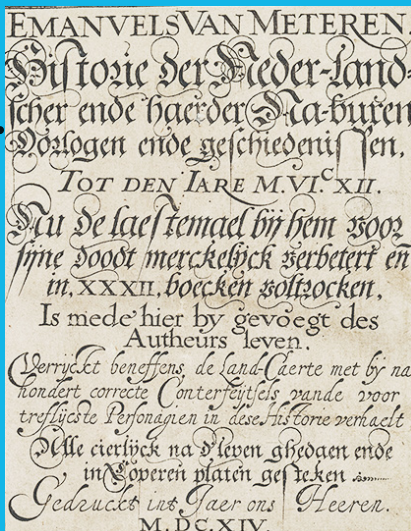
ቶላ • ጠ-ጸሐፊ • ገጽ • ቀ-ቀን ጸሐፊ

オランダ商人兼徳川の顧問

ヤン・ヨーステン・ファン・ローデンスティーン（1556年頃〜1623年）はオランダ商人で、イギリス人のウィリアム・アダムスとともに1600年にリーフデ号で来日した。徳川家康の信頼を得て、外交や貿易の顧問として重用された。江戸（現在の東京）に屋敷を与えられ、その地は彼の日本名「八重洲（やえしゅう）」に由来する「八重洲」として知られるようになった。朱印船貿易に従事し、東南アジアを巡り書を綴った。彼が日本社会に落着き、初期の日蘭関係に貢献したことは、東京の八重洲地区にある記念碑で称えられている。

出典：ヤン・ヨーステン・ファン・ローテンステインの胸像、リーフデ号資料館
 日付市。写真：ルイ・スミット

 A gateway to
 Japan: the birth
 of dutch-japanese
 trade



DUTCH ENVOYS ARRIVE IN JAPAN WITH A PROPOSAL FOR TRADE

In 1609, Dutch merchants Nicolaes Puyck and Abraham van den Broek were part of an expedition to Japan, with two ships: *De Griffioen* (The Griffin) and *Rode Leeuw met Pijlen* (Red Lion with Arrows). Upon arrival, they sought to establish formal trade relations with Japan. Assisted by Melchior van Santvoort, a survivor of *De Liefde*, they secured an audience with the shogun. During this meeting, they presented a letter from Prince Maurice of Nassau, expressing the Dutch Republic's interest in trade and friendship.

THE FIRST DUTCH TRADE PASS
A New Era of Commerce

Impressed by the Dutch delegation and seeking to counterbalance Portuguese influence, Ieyasu granted the Dutch extensive trading rights. He issued a *shuinjō* (red-seal permit) on August 24, 1609, allowing the Dutch to trade freely in Japan and establish a trading post. This permit marked the beginning of official Dutch-Japanese trade relations.

オランダ船が日本に開いた1609年の朱印状の原本
朱印状が、日本におけるオランダの貿易活動の始まりである。1609年の朱印状は、2隻のオランダ船が平戸に到着した後、徳川家康によって交付されたこの朱印状により、オランダ東インド会社に日本のすべての港で自由に貿易を行う権利が与えられ、日蘭関係が正式に始まった。日本語で書かれ、家康の朱印が押されたこの朱印状は、ポルトガルやスペインなどのカトリック勢力の影響力を制限する一方で、結締された外国貿易を促進しようとする幕府の関心を反映するものである。この許可証により、オランダが商業目的に日本に駐在することを合法化しただけでなく、宗教的または植民地的野心よりもむしろ、相互利益に基づく独特の実用的な関係を築く基盤となった。

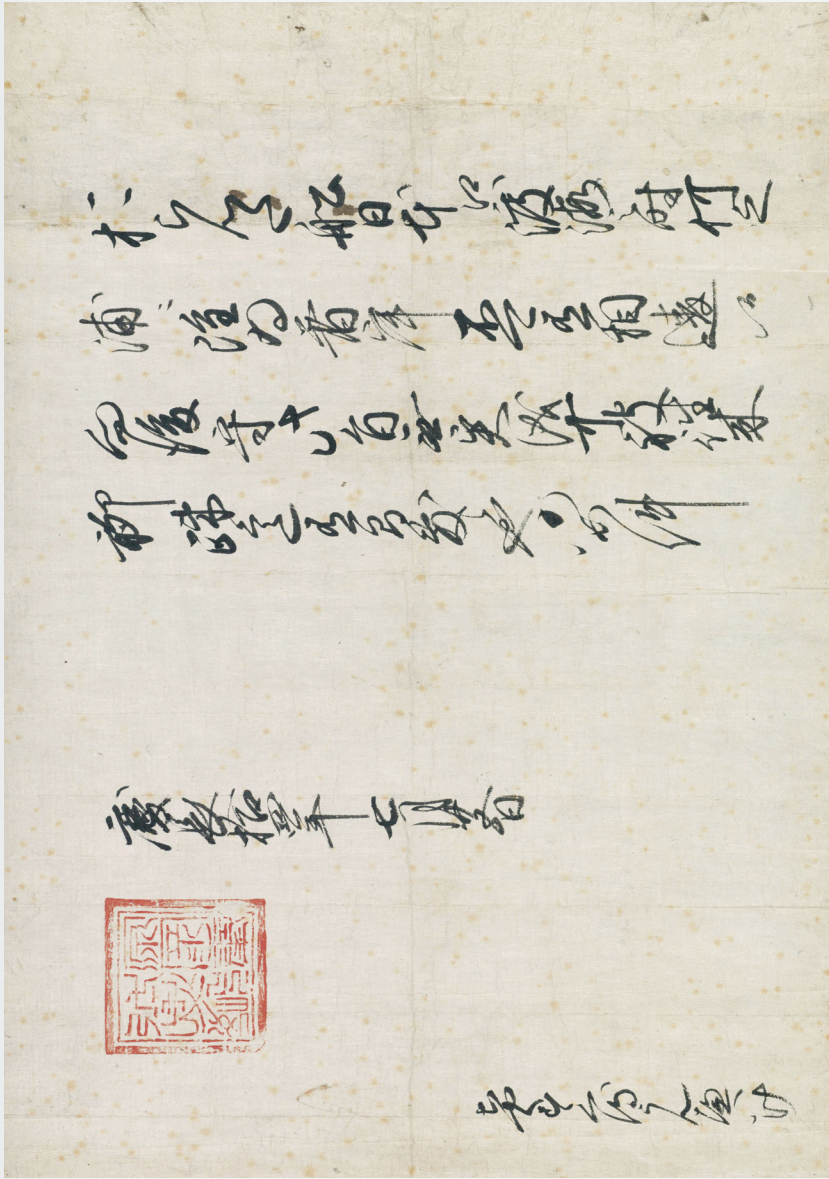
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THE ORIGINAL 1609 TRADE PASS THAT OPENED JAPAN TO DUTCH SHIPS
This pass, bearing the official red seal of the shogun, marked the beginning of Dutch trading activities in Japan. The 1609 trade pass was issued by Tokugawa Ieyasu after the successful arrival of two Dutch ships in Hirado. It granted the Dutch East India Company (VOC) the right to trade freely in all ports of Japan, marking the official start of Dutch-Japanese relations. The pass, written in Japanese and stamped with Ieyasu's red seal (*shuin*), reflected the shogunate's interest in fostering controlled foreign trade while limiting the influence of Catholic powers like Portugal and Spain. This document not only legitimized Dutch commercial presence in Japan but also set the tone for a unique, pragmatic relationship based on mutual benefit rather than religious or colonial ambitions.

English translation of the trade pass issued by Tokugawa Ieyasu (1609):
“Whenever Dutch ships cross the sea to Japan and arrive at any port, this directive must not be violated. Hereafter, keeping this directive in mind, allow them to come and go without dispute. There must not be the slightest disregard. Thus it is decreed. 25th day of the 7th month, 14th year of Keichō. (seal)
To Jacques Groenewegen”

The original trade pass by which Shogun Ieyasu granted Jacques Groenewegen permission to trade in all Japanese ports, with accompanying lacquer box, 24 August 1609. The National Archives of the Netherlands, Dutch Trading Post in Japan, record group 1.04.21, inventory nos. 141 and 142. Photo lacquer box: Suzanne van de Kerk.



原文:
おらんだ船日本へ渡海の時、何の浦に着岸せよと雖も、相違有るべからず候。向後、此の旨を守り、實儀無くして往来すべく候。聊か疎意有るべからず候なり。以て件の如し。
(印)
書き下し文:
おらんだ船 日本へ渡海の時、何の浦に着岸せよと雖も、相違有るべからず候。向後、此の旨を守り、實儀無くして往来すべく候。聊か疎意有るべからず候なり。以て件の如し。
(印)

出典：宮内省蔵書「オランダ・アムステルダム・オランダ・オランダの全港での貿易を許可した通商許可証の原本、付属の朱印、1609年8月24日」オランダ国立文書館、在日オランダ商館、記録グループ1.04.21、目録番号1A1および1A2。朱印の写真：バタビヤ・ファン・デ・ケルク。



オランダ船に日本を開いた1609年の朱印状の原本
漆箱の写真：スザンヌ・ファン・テ・ケルク

徳川家康からオランダのマウリッツ公への書状

徳川家康は、使節ニコラス・ボヤクから届いたナツソー公のウリツギからの書翰に対し、温かみのある返事を書いた。約1年後、オランダに到着したこの重要な文書はオランダ語に訳読され、『ネーデルラントおよびオランダの歴史』というエマニュエル・ファン・メーテレンが著した1614年刊のオランダ史の総合的な年代記に掲載された。

和訳:

私、日本の君主たる者は、遠き国より私を訪ねてこられたオランダの君主に挨拶を申し上げます。

私は、殿下のお手紙と、我らの国がより近くにあればよいという希望を大急ぎで思います。それによつて始まつた我らの友誼關係を殿下の二應需によつてさらに維持し深めることができるでしょう。私は殿下を知らないながらも、心の中で殿下の姿を想像しております。殿下の私への好意は、必要ではなかつた四つもの贈り物を賜つたことからも明らかです。しかし、殿下のお手紙のために、私はそれとを大いなる価値をもつて受け取り、高く尊重いたします。

さらに、敵下の臣下であるオランダの人々が、その船で私の国（小笠原）へ来て、私の臣下に取引し交易しようとしてくるのを見て喜ばしく思います。彼らが私の居住地近くに来着してはいるが、私は個人的に彼らを手助け支援したいところですが、国の状況ではないかと悩んでいます。それでも助けて、すでにに行われているように、彼らに十分な報いを与えたいです。

me out from such distant lands seek to mine its, and present some friendships in which I do not merit. Considering that this must happen through good affection, I could not neglect to receive Your Highness's subjects kindly and to consent to their request, for which this shall serve as a testimony, that they may trade in all places, lands, and islands situated under my command, traffic, build Houses useful and serviceable for their trade and Merchandise, where they shall be able to trade unhindered according to their pleasure both now and in future times, without anyone hindering them, and I shall protect and defend them as my own subjects. I also promise to keep the persons, whom I understand will be left here, recommended now and always, and to favour them in everything, whereby it shall be found that we are as good friends and neighbours. I refer to your servants for the further negotiations I have had with Your Highness's servants, as it would be too lengthy to recount here."

Emanuel van Meteren: *Historie der Neder-landscher ende haerder na-buren oorlogen ende geschiedenissen tot den iare M.VI.CXII. s'Graven-Haghe, 1614, titlepage (Nichibunken)*

A LETTER FROM TOKUGAWA IEYASU TO MAURICE OF THE NETHERLANDS

Responding to correspondence from
Prince Maurice of Nassau delivered by
envoy Nicolaes Puyck, Tokugawa Iyasu

composed a warm and diplomatic reply. Upon reaching the Netherlands approximately one year later, this significant

letter was translated into Dutch and subsequently published in Emanuel van Meteren's comprehensive 1614

chronicle of Dutch history.

leyasu's message reads as follows

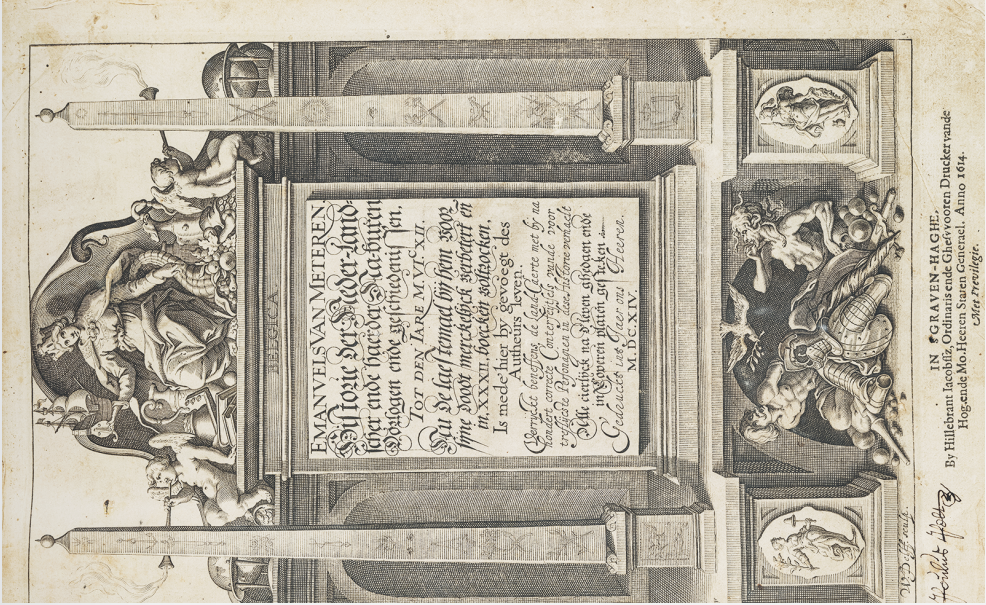
in English:

"I, Prince or Sovereign of Japan, send my greetings to the Prince of Holland, who has sent to visit me from such distant lands."

I am greatly pleased with your writing and offer towards me, your wish that our lands were closer to each other, so that we might maintain and increase our newly begun friendship through Your Highness's presence, which I inwardly imagine seeing. Although I am unknown to Your Highness, your affection towards me is evident by your generosity, honouring me with four gifts which were unnecessary for me, yet for the sake of your Name, I receive them with great value and hold them in high esteem.

Moreover, seeing the Dutch Nation, Your Highness's subjects, seeking to trade with their ships in my land (which is modest and small) and to traffic and negotiate with my subjects, I wish they had arrived or harboured near my residence, so that I could personally be helpful and beneficial to them, which now cannot happen due to the inconvenience of the land. I shall therefore not neglect, as has already happened, to take good care of them and to order all Governors and my subjects to show them all favour and friendship wherever they come and in whatever harbours they enter, both to their persons and to their Ships and Merchandise, so that Your Highness or his subjects need not worry to the contrary, for they may freely come as if they were coming to Your Highness's own land, continue there and negotiate on my land, and our begun friendship and alliances between me and my subjects will not be diminished but increased on my behalf.

I am somewhat ashamed that Your Highness, whose name and fame is renowned throughout the whole world through his manly deeds, has your



な配慮をし、すべての代官や私の臣下に命じて、彼らがこの港に来て、も
その人々や船、商品に対してあらゆる好意と実情を示すようにいたします。
殿下や殿下の臣下はその反対のことを心配する必要はありません。彼らは
自由に来ることができ、まるで殿下の国や自分の国に来たかのように、私
の国で商売を続けることができます。そして、私と私の臣下との間で始
まった友好と同盟関係は、私の側からは減ることなく、むしろ増していく
でしょう。

私は、その名を名が勇敢な行為によって全世界に知られている陛下が、そのような遠く國の臣下によつて、私のような窮乏な國に訪問せず、友好を示してくださることに、 equal 感謝を感じております。私はこれに、 equal 惜しまれながら、これが好意から生じたものと考え、陛下の臣下を友好的に、 equal 迎へ、彼らの要請を承諾せざるを得ませんでした。この書状はその証しとなり、彼らは私の支配下にあるすべての地、國、島々で取引し、商売し、彼らの交易と商品に役立つ家を建てることのできるでしょう。彼らは今も待て、 equal 妨げられることなく自由に取引できることでしょう。誰も彼等を妨げることとはなく、私は彼らを自分の臣下のように保護し支えます。まだ、ここに残ることになる人々を、今も將來も配慮し、あらゆる面で彼らに好意を示すことを約束します。これにより、我々が良き友人であり隣人であることが証明されるでしょう。

出典：エマニユエル・ファン・メーテレン『ネーデルラントおよび隣邦の歴史』ハーグ、1614年、表紙（国際日本文化研究センター所蔵）

COPY OF THE LETTER EPISTOLA
IMPERATORIS JAPONENSIIUM AD
PRINCIPEM MAURITIUM
Contemporary manuscript copy of
the original letter in Classical Chinese
sent by Tokugawa Ieyasu to Prince
Maurice in the Netherlands.
Translated from Classical Chinese
to English:
"From: Minamoto Ieyasu,
Country of Japan
To: His Excellency,
the Lord of Holland

Upon opening and reading your letter, it
was as if I were face to face with your
noble countenance. I am especially
delighted to receive the four kinds of
gifts you have sent.

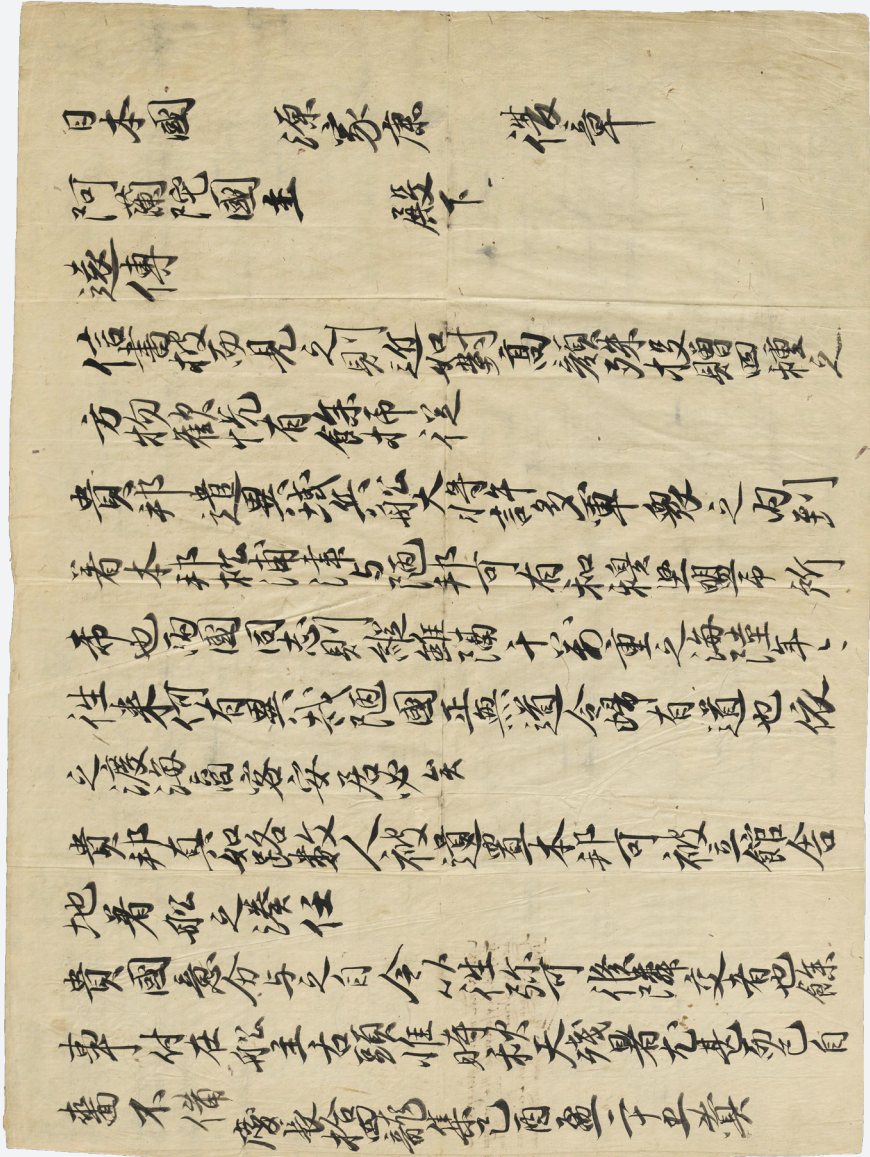
From your esteemed country, you
have dispatched warships to distant
lands. The great commander and
numerous troops have arrived at the bay
of Matsura in our country. It is my hope
that there can be a firm alliance of
harmony between your people and my
humble country. With both nations
sharing the same intentions, even
though separated by thousands of layers
of seas and lands, yearly comings and
goings should present no difficulties.
My humble country lacks proper ways
but seeks to return to righteousness.
Because of this, merchants crossing the
sea can surely dwell here in peace.

If your country truly wishes to send
several people to stay in our country,
land for establishing a trading house will
be provided. The port where your ships
dock will be allocated according to your
country's wishes. From now onwards, we
shall increasingly develop neighborly
relations.

Remaining matters are entrusted to
the ship captain's verbal communica-
tion. At this time in autumn, the
lingering heat is still quite severe.
Please take care of yourself.

Written on the 25th day of the 2nd
month in the 14th year of Keichō, the
year of the Ki-Yu (Tuschi-no-totori)
[1609]"

Epistola Imperatoris Japonensium ad
Principem Mauritium. Leiden University
Libraries, Object number: Or. 1615.



徳川家康がオランダのマウリツ公に送った
漢文の書簡の写し

原文:

日本国 源家康 復書

阿蘭陀国主 殿下

遠伝

信書披而見之、則近如対高嶺、殊投贈四種之方
物、歟悦有奈抑從貴邦遣置練兵船、大將許多軍衆之内、
到着本邦松浦津、与隨邦可有和穩堅盟、予所希也、兩
国同志、則縱雖隔千万重之海陸、年々往来、何有異哉、
隨國正無違令帰有道也、依之渡海、商客安居必矣、

貴邦真如路數人、被遣置本邦、可被立館舍、着船
之、湊、任
貴國意分与之、自今以往、弥可修隣交者也、余事

住在船主高嶺、惟時秋天、殘暑甚甚、自責不備
慶長拾四龍集己酉五十五賀

書き下し文:

日本国 源家康 復書

阿蘭陀国主 殿下

遠く伝わる。

信書を披きて之を見れば、則ち近くして高嶺に
対するが如し。殊に四種の方物を投贈せらる。歟悦奈
りあり。抑も貴邦より異域の兵船を遣わし、大將許
多の軍衆の内、本邦の松浦津に到着し、隨邦と和睦の
堅盟あるべきこと、予の幸なり。兩國同志なれば、

則ち縱い千万重の海陸を隔つと雖も、年々往来して、
何ぞ異なること有らんや。隨國は正に無違にして有連

に帰らしむるなり。之に依りて渡海の商客、安居する
こと必せり。

貴邦の真の路數人、本邦に遣わし置かれ、館舍を
立つべき地、船の着く湊、貴國の意に任せて之を分与
す。今より以往、弥々隣交を修むべき者なり。余事は
船主の高嶺に付す。惟だ時に秋天、殘暑尤も甚だしき
のみ。自ら憂む。備えず。

出典:「日本の皇帝からマウリツ公への書簡」ライテン大学
図書館蔵。複製番号 Or. 1615



Reproduction of a 17th-century portrait of
Jacques Specx, made in 2009. Matsura
Historical Museum. Photo: Louis Smit.

JACQUES SPECX: PIONEER OF
DUTCH-JAPANESE TRADE RELATIONS
Jacques Specx (1585–1652) was a
Dutch merchant instrumental in
establishing early trade between the
Netherlands and Japan. In 1609, he
served as the first opperhoofd (chief) of
the newly established Dutch trading
post in Hirado 1609-1612, 1614-1621,
laying the groundwork for a unique and
enduring commercial relationship
between the two nations. Specx later
became the Governor-General of the
Dutch East Indies from 1629 to 1632,
further solidifying Dutch influence in the
region.

A notable portrait of Specx, created
around 1630, depicts him adorned in
period attire, reflecting his prominent
status. This artwork not only captures
his likeness but also serves as a
historical testament to his significant
role in the early interactions between
Europe and Japan.

日蘭貿易の先駆者ジャック・スベックス

ジャック・スベックス(1589年〜1652年)はオランダ人
商務員であり、初期段階の日蘭貿易の確立に貢献した。1609年、
平戸に新設されたオランダ商館の初代商館長を務め(1609年〜
1612年、1614年〜1621年)、日蘭間の独特で永続的な商業
関係の基礎を築いた。スベックスはその後、1629年から1632
年までオランダ領東インド総督となり、この地域におけるオランダの
影響力をさらに確固なものにした。

1630年頃に制作されたスベックスの有名な肖像画には、彼
の著名な地位を反映して、当時の服装に身を包んだ彼の姿が描かれて
いる。この作品は彼の肖像であるだけでなく、ヨーロッパと日本の初
期の交流における彼の重要な役割を歴史的に証明するものでもある。

出典:2009年に制作された17世紀のジャック・スベックスの肖像画の複製。
松浦史料館蔵。写真:ルイ・スミット

Majesty, as it is not customary in this country for the emperor (leyasu), even when speaking to his great lords who come to congratulate His Majesty, often bringing gifts of 10, 20, or 30 thousand ducats at one time, to use many words. The Portuguese ambassador departed without hearing a single word from His Majesty, and the one from the Castilians feared not much better.

Master Adam [William Adams] was called inside once more, and [later] told us that His Majesty had personally examined the woolen cloths, camlets, velvets, and rifles, saying that when the Dutch ships return again, they should bring many curiosities and fine goods. To this he answered that with the first ships much fine merchandise would come, to which His Majesty replied: 'Yes, yes, I see well that the Dutch are masters in craftsmanship as well as in war.'"

- Isaac Commelin, *Begin ende voortgangh, van de Vereenighde Nederlandtsche Geootvoerde Oost-Indische Compagnie*. Amsterdam, 1646, title page (Nichiunken)
- *First page of Jacques Specx's diary in Isaac Commelin, Begin ende voortgangh, van de Vereenighde Nederlandtsche Geootvoerde Oost-Indische Compagnie*. Amsterdam, 1646 (Nichiunken)
- *Description of Jacques Specx's audience with Tokugawa Iyemasa on 17 August 1611, in Isaac Commelin, Begin ende voortgangh, van de Vereenighde Nederlandtsche Geootvoerde Oost-Indische Compagnie*. Amsterdam, 1646 (Nichiunken)

JOURNEY TO THE SHOGUN'S COURT

In the second volume of Isaac Commelin's monumental compilation of Dutch travel journals and VOC documents, *Begin ende voortgangh, van de Vereenighde Nederlandtsche Geootroyde Oost-Indische Compagnie* (Beginning and Progress of the United Netherlands Chartered East India Company), published in Amsterdam in 1646, we find a remarkable historical document: Jacques Specx's diary chronicling his court journey to Shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu's castle in Sunpu and Tokugawa Hideyada's castle in Edo in the year 1611. The Dutch merchant was pursuing the crucial objective of securing free trade privileges from Ieyasu—rights he ultimately obtained through the intercession of the influential English navigator William Adams, known to the Japanese as Miura Anjin.

This diary stands as an invaluable historical record, offering detailed insights into the nuanced negotiations between the Dutch merchants and the Japanese authorities during this formative period of trade relations. Of particular historical significance is the diary's reference to Toyotomi Hideyori, then residing in Osaka Castle. Specx notes that Hideyori was widely regarded as the rightful heir who many believed would eventually rule Japan—a poignant observation given the subsequent siege of Osaka and fall of the Toyotomi clan.

Excerpt from Jacques Specx's Court Journey Diary describing his audience with Ieyasu on 17 August 1611.

translated from Dutch to English:

"After paying our respects, we were welcomed by His Majesty (Ieyasu) who asked how many soldiers we had in the Moluccas, whether we also traded in Borneo, and if it was true that the best camphor comes from there, and where it originates, where the best agarwood and calamba wood are brought from, and what fragrant woods we have and value in our lands. To these questions, His Majesty was given proper answers through our interpreter to his satisfaction, whereupon we received our leave to depart. Kozukenosuke-dono (Honda Masazumi) and Syosaburo-dono (Goto Shozaburo) came to escort us outside the hall, and congratulated us on having come before His Majesty at such a favorable hour, they themselves being astonished the familiar speech of His

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

江戶参府

1646年にアムステルダムで出版された「イサーク・コメリンによるオランダの旅行記と東インド会社の文書の重要編集物『東インド会社の起源と発展』の第2巻」に、希少な史料がある。ジャック・スベックスが1611年に将軍徳川家康の駿府城と徳川秀忠の江戸城を訪ねたときの日記である。彼は、家康から自由貿易の特権を得るといふ重要な使命を帯びていた。この特権は、日本では三浦按針として知られる有力なイギリス人航海士ウィリアム・アダムスの仲介によって最終的に獲得された。

この日記は貴重な歴史の記録であり、貿易関係の形成期におけるオランダ商人と日本当局との複雑な交渉について詳細な情報を与えてくれる。特に歴史に重要なのは、当時大坂城にいた豊臣秀頼に関する記録である。スベックスによれば、秀頼は世継ぎとして広く認められており、やがて日本を統治すると多くの人々が信じていた。

1611年8月17日の家康との謁見を記したジャック・スベツ
クスの参府日記からの抜粋。

和訳：
「敬意を表した後、私たちは陛下（家康）に歓迎された。陛下は、
私たちがモルッカ諸島に何人の兵士を持っているか、ボルネオ島でも
交易をしているか、最高の機説はボルネオ島かもたらされるという
のは本当か、その産地はどこか、最高の沈香とカランバ材はここら
もまたされるのか、私たちの土地にはどのような番木があり、どのよ
うな価値があるのか」と質問された。これらへの質問に対し、陛下は通
詞を介して適切な回答を得て、満足されたので、私たちは出発の許可
を得た。上野介殿（本多正純）と庄三郎殿（後藤庄三郎）が広間の外ま

「私たちを昌送りに来て、このような良き時に陛下の前に現れたことを祝福してくれたが、彼ら自身も陛下の親しげな話し方に驚いていた。この国では、皇帝（家康）が陛下を称えるために一度に1万、2万、3万、4万カートの贈り物を持参する大名と話すときでさえ、多くの言葉を遣う習慣がないからである。ポルトガル大使は陛下のお言葉を一言も聞くことなく退出していった」。

Ⅱ-5A 出版：『廣々ハナ依江ノ起程ノ記録』アヤサウ・「メソノ」著『アリスノ
タリ』1946年 京都（国連日本文化誌館ハナ依江一版）

Ⅱ-5B 出版：『メソノ・メソノノ森住日記の起程ノ』『廣々ハナ依江ノ
起程ノ記録』アヤサウ・「メソノ」著『アリスノタリ』1946年（国連日本
文化誌館ハナ依江一版）

Ⅱ-5C 出版：『メソノ・メソノノ森住日記 1945年8月17日祭に於ける樹
木驚愕ノ體より』『廣々ハナ依江ノ起程ノ記録』アヤサウ・「メソノ」
著『アリスノタリ』1946年（国連日本文化誌館ハナ依江一版）





















A blue and white ceramic plate with a floral pattern, partially broken and set against a bright blue background. The plate is tilted, and a dotted line indicates a break or a path leading from the top right corner towards the plate.



The Hiroshima
post: A
attempt
in Japan

do trading
first
settling

THE HIRADO TRADING POST

ESTABLISHING THE HIRADO TRADING POST

In 1609, the Dutch established a trading post in Hirado after receiving a trade pass from the shogunate. They built a strong commercial network, trading silk, porcelain, and silver. By avoiding missionary work, they gained the trust of the Tokugawa rulers, making Hirado a key hub for Dutch-Japanese trade and knowledge exchange.

THE DUTCH AND THE SHIMABARA REBELLION

During the Shimabara Rebellion (1637-1638), the Dutch assisted the shogunate by bombarding the rebel stronghold with their cannons. The uprising, led by persecuted Christians and discontented samurai, reinforced Japan's anti-Christian policies. The Dutch had little impact but were reminded to avoid any religious influence.

THE MOVE TO DEJIMA

In 1639, the Dutch completed new buildings in Hirado, one marked with “Anno Domini 1639.” The shogunate saw this as a religious statement and ordered the post dismantled. This action was part of the shogunate’s broader *sakoku* (closed country) policy. By 1641, the Dutch relocated to Dejima in Nagasaki, beginning a new phase in their restricted but lasting presence in Japan.

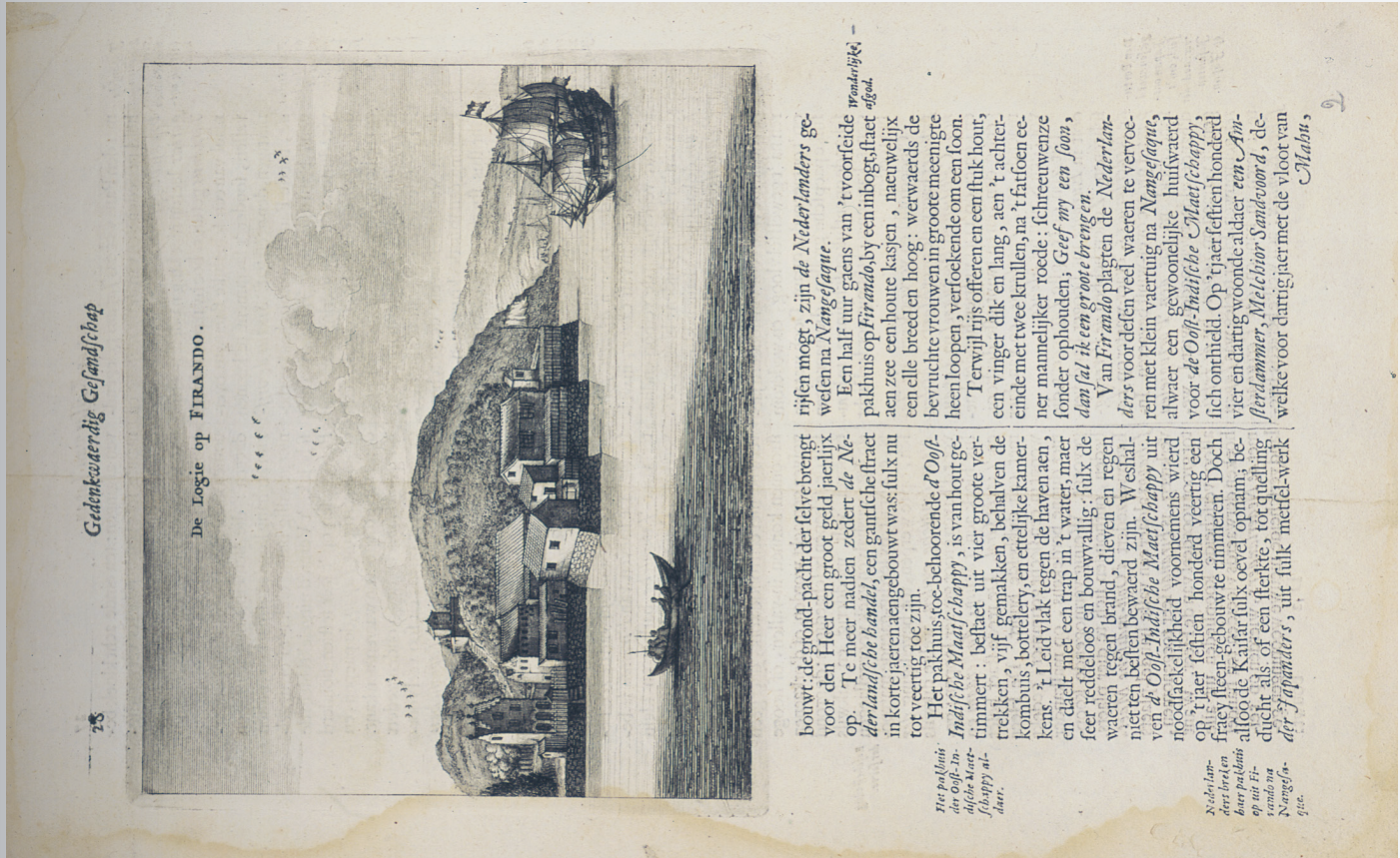
島庄への移転

國府の「タタ」に、タタの輸入の急増は、また、それを受けることが出来なかった。た。

平戸商館設立

知て易易寛圃園日け平、傳、物、信の康の家川徳
ていてける遊を動活活信の家川徳
トットナ業業商た。い行をの易とな鐵
器磁、絹、綃、設を館商南商得を可
開國通商からか府書は入タノニオ、年9061

オランダスウェーデンの乱

[illegible]

出典：モンタヌス『東インド会社遣日使節紀行』（1669年）大阪城天守閣蔵。17世紀の平戸商館を描いた真。

出典：平戸オランダ商館、2025年。写真：ルイ・スミット。



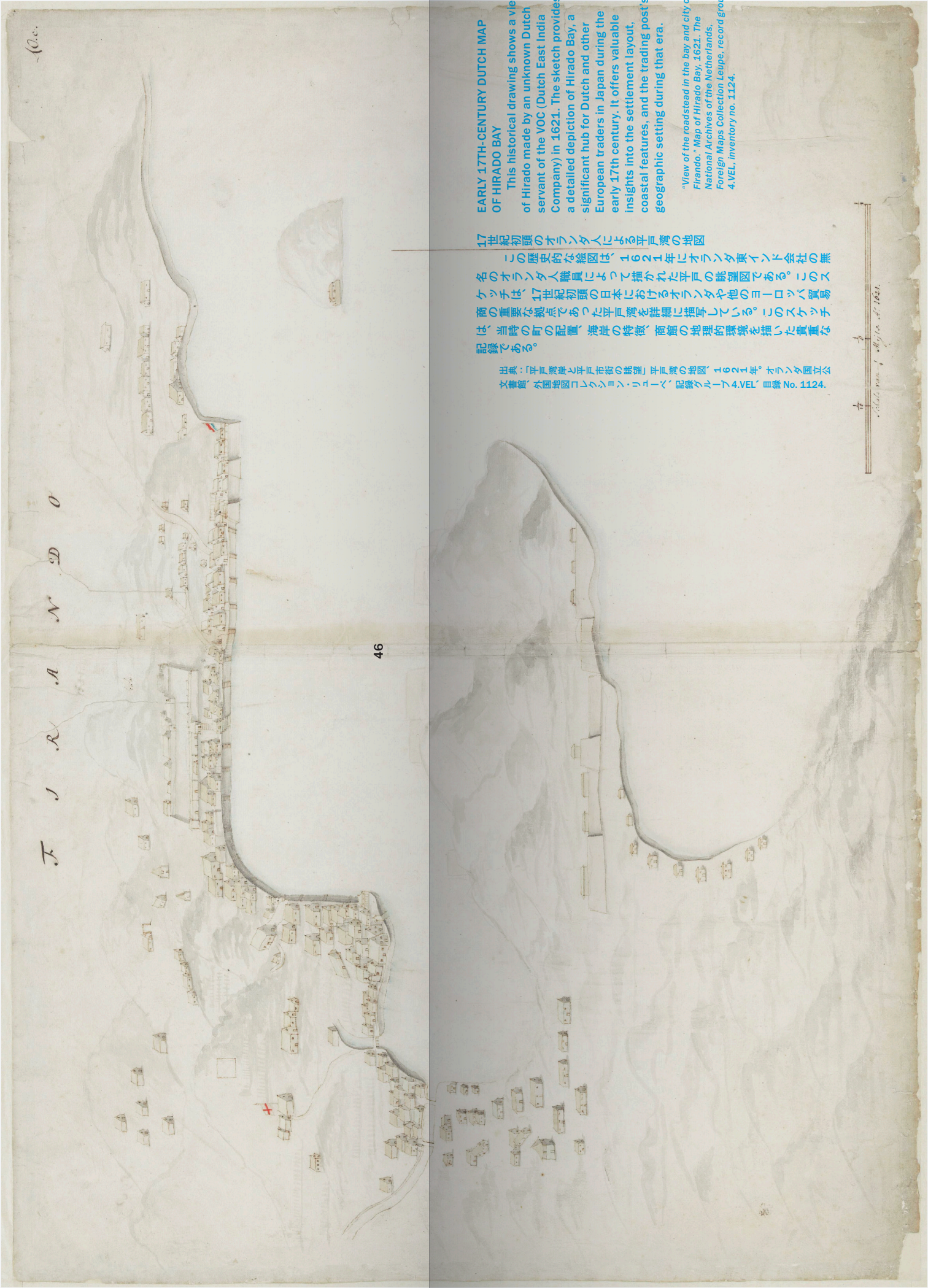
Hirado Dutch Trading Post in 2025. Photo: Louis Smit.

平戸のVOCアーチ石。平戸オランダ商館の唯一の遺物
この17世紀のVOC(東インド会社)アーチ石は、平戸オランダ商館の建物部材として現存する唯一のものである。どの建物に使われていたかは不明だが、洋風建築の扉のアーチの要石と考えられている。平戸オランダ商館と取引のあった貿易商、小川利右衛門が建てた寺で発見された。

出典：VOCアーチ石、17世紀 松浦史料博物館 写真：ルイ・スミット

HIRADO'S VOC ARCHSTONE: SOLE SURVIVOR OF HIRADO'S TRADING POST
This 17th century VOC Arch Stone is the only surviving example of a building component from the Hirado Dutch Trading Post. It is unknown which building it was used for, but it is thought to be the keystone for the arch of a door in a Western-style building. It was discovered in a temple built by Ogawa Riemon, a trader who did business with the Hirado Dutch Trading Post.

VOC Archstone, 17th century, Matsura Historical Museum. Photo: Louis Smit.



EARLY 17TH-CENTURY DUTCH MAP OF HIRADO BAY

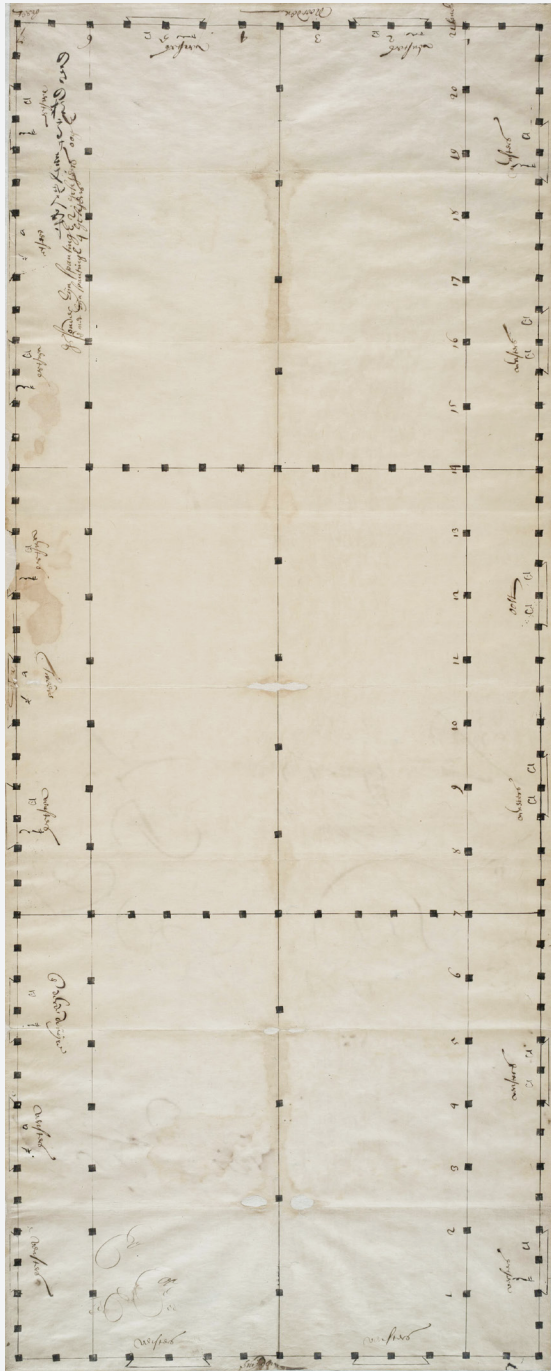
This historical drawing shows a view of Hirado made by an unknown Dutch servant of the VOC (Dutch East India Company) in 1621. The sketch provides a detailed depiction of Hirado Bay, a significant hub for Dutch and other European traders in Japan during the early 17th century. It offers valuable insights into the settlement layout, coastal features, and the trading post's geographic setting during that era.

"View of the roadstead in the bay and city of Hirado." Map of Hirado Bay, 1621. The National Archives of the Netherlands, Foreign Maps Collection Leuven, record group 4.VEL, inventory no. 1124.

17世紀初頭のオランダ人による平戸湾の地図

この歴史的な絵図は、1621年にオランダ東インド会社の無名のオランダ人職員によって描かれた平戸の眺望図である。このスケッチは、17世紀初頭の日本におけるオランダや他のヨーロッパ貿易商の重要な拠点であった平戸湾を詳細に描写している。このスケッチは、当時の町の配置、海岸の特徴、商館の地理的環境を描いた貴重な記録である。

出典：平戸繁華と平戸市街の眺望「平戸湾の地図」1621年。オランダ東インド商館、外国地図コレクション「ヨーロッパ記録グループ4.VEL、目録No.1124。



INSIDE THE DUTCH TRADING POST IN HIRADO

This 1638 original floor plan shows the layout of a Dutch warehouse in Hirado, offering rare insight into the practical organisation of early European trade operations in Japan. It was used for the reconstruction of the warehouse that is now present in Hirado

Original floor plan of a warehouse in Hirado, 1638. The National Archives of the Netherlands, Dutch Trading Post in Japan, record group 1.04.21, inventory no. 1604.

平戸のオランダ商館内部
この1638年当時の見取り図は、平戸にあったオランダの倉庫のレイアウトを示しており、日本における初期のヨーロッパ貿易の実践的な組織についての貴重な記録である。現在平戸にある倉庫の復元に使用された。

出典：1638年「平戸の倉庫の平面図」オランダ国立公文書館、右目オランダ商館記録グループ1.04.21、目録No.1604。

磁器貿易の信奉。平戸の陶磁器

平戸の旧オランダ商館で発掘された遺物の中に、受胎告知（天使ガブリエルがマリアにキリストを授けんと告げた場面）を描いた17世紀のデルフト焼のケーキボウルがある。徳川幕府がキリスト教を禁じていたにもかかわらず、キリスト教をテーマにしたこの作品は平戸の支配者であった有力者、松浦家の所有物であった珍しい遺品である。これは、日本が厳格な宗教統制にあった時代にも、キリスト教図像に対する私的な傾きが、特に外国の高級品と結びついて強くあつたことを示唆している。

また、1610年代の破片を含む、17世紀初頭の中国磁器の一部も発見された。これらの出土品は、ヨーロッパ、中国、日本からの商品が交錯していた江戸前期の多様な国際的ながりを反映している。これらの陶磁器は、日本が西洋と出会った初期の異文化交流、信仰、外交を語る品々である。

出典：松浦史料博物館 写真：ルイ・スミット

FAITH AND TRADE IN PORCELAIN: CERAMICS FROM HIRADO

Among the objects excavated at the former Dutch trading post in Hirado is a remarkable 17th-century Delftware cake bowl depicting the Annunciation—the moment when the angel Gabriel tells Mary she will bear the Christ child. Despite the Tokugawa shogunate’s ban on Christianity, this Christian-themed object was in the possession of the powerful Matsura family, rulers of Hirado, making it a rare and revealing artifact. It suggests that even during Japan’s period of strict religious control, private interest in Christian imagery persisted—especially when tied to foreign luxury goods.

Also uncovered at the site were fragments of early 17th-century Chinese porcelain, including a shard dating to the 1610s. These finds reflect the diverse international connections of the Hirado trading post, where goods from Europe, China, and Japan intersected. Together, the ceramics tell a layered story of cross-cultural exchange, belief, and diplomacy during Japan’s early encounters with the West.

Matsura Historical Museum.

Photo: Louis Smit.



平戸オランダ商館長日記

1637年1月38年のオランダ商館長ニコラス・クルトヘバッケルの日記には、島原の乱の鎮圧にオランダが関与したことが詳細に記されている。次の一節は、オランダ人が初めて城に砲撃を行ったときの様子を描写している。

和訳：

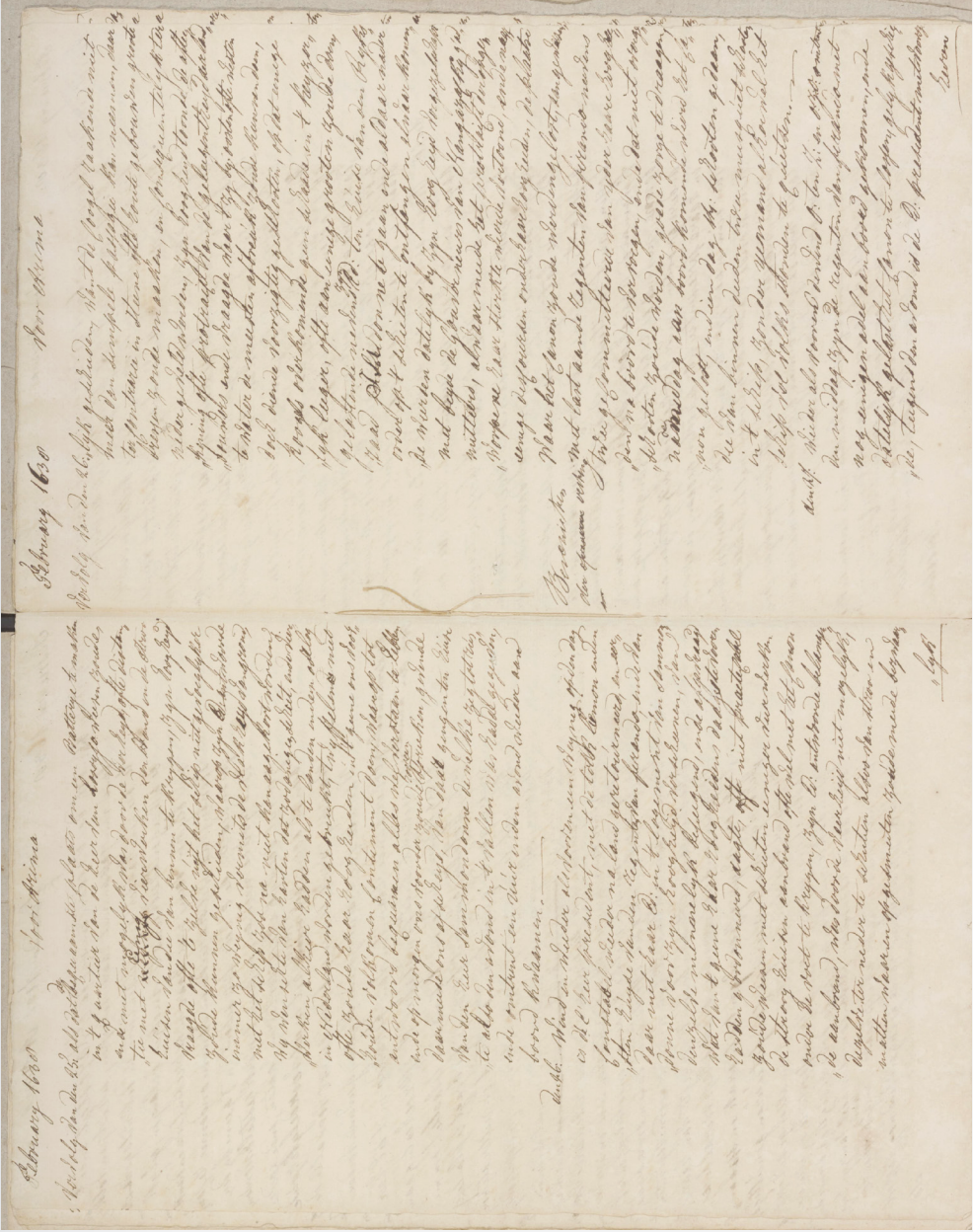
「2月26日。その日の早朝、尊敬すべき商館長ニコラス・クルトヘバッケルは通詞のレモンと砲手を伴って再度陸に帰ってきて、まずフィラント[平戸]の執政官の家に行き、そこから殿下に面会するために左門殿[戸田氏鉄]の下屋に向かった。[…]

殿下は、農民(反乱軍)の位置の図面つまり絵図を示し、真か西の水際のどこに最大の損害を与えることができるかを尋ねられた。

ただし、流れ弾が皇帝(将軍)の重慶や他の大名に損害を与えないように、慎重な射撃が必要とされた。尊敬すべき商館長は国司の伊豆殿(松平信綱)の家へ赴き、砲撃についての命令を受けるよう命じられた。彼らは、幕府の面奉行を伴って、直ちに殿下に面会され、再び城郭の絵図を見せられ、両殿下の間で協議された後、大砲を撃つべき場所が示された。

午後に乗船すると、砲撃が行われ、その日は14発が発砲された。(城)の中にいた者たちは、船に向かってマスケット弾を2発撃つたが、船は遭害であつたが、誰も負傷するとはなかった。」

出典：オランダ商館長日記1637年1月38年。オランダ国立公文書館、旧オランダ商館記録グループ104.21、目録no. 54。写真：スキャン・ファン・デ・ケルク。



Daily records 1637–1638. The National Archives of the Netherlands, Dutch Trading Post in Japan, record group 1.04.21, inventory no. 54. Photo: Suzanne van de Kerk.

FOREIGN FIREPOWER IN THE SHIMABARA REBELLION

This 17th century artwork depicts the final stages of the battle at Hara Castle during the Shimabara-Amakusa Rebellion of 1637-1638, a revolt by farmers from the Shimabara Peninsula and Amakusa, closely tied to their Christian faith. During the Shimabara Rebellion, the Tokugawa shogunate sought assistance from the Dutch East India Company (VOC) to suppress the predominantly Christian uprising. In response, the Dutch dispatched the ship de Ryp under the command of Captain Nicolaes Couckebacker, who oversaw the bombardment of Hara Castle from February 26 to March 12, 1638. Despite their efforts, the Dutch artillery proved largely ineffective against the fortress's defenses.

The painting contains detailed descriptions, showing the shogunate forces positioning the camp of Matsudaira Izunokami at the center, while the forces from the various western domains, including the Nabeshima and Kuroda clans, encircle the castle. The leader of the rebel forces, Amakusa Shiro Tokisada, is indicated near the Honmaru (main keep) of Hara Castle. Additionally, the Dutch ship dispatched from the Hirado Dutch Trading Post at the request of the shogunate is also depicted.

Map of the Siege of Hara Castle and Inside the Castle, 17th century. Matsura Historical Museum.



島原の乱における外国人の砲撃能力

この17世紀の作品は、1637年から1638年までの島原天草の乱における原城での戦いの最終段階を描いている。島原の乱の最中、徳川幕府はキリスト教徒が大半を占めるこの反乱を鎮圧するため、オランダ東インド会社に援助を求めた。これに対しオランダは、カピランのニコラス・クーケバッケルの指揮のもとライプ号を派遣し、1638年2月26日から3月12日まで原城砲撃を指揮した。彼らの努力にもかかわらず、オランダの大砲は要塞の対しほとんど効果がなかった。

絵図には詳細な描写があり、幕府軍は松平伊豆守の陣を中央に置き、鍋島藩や黒田藩など西国諸藩の軍が城を包囲している。反乱軍

のリーダー、天草四郎時貞が原城の本丸近くに見られる。また、幕府の要請で平戸オランダ商館から派遣されたオランダ船も描かれている。

出典：原城攻城図と略図、17世紀。松浦史料博物館蔵。

FAITH AND CONTROL: JAPAN'S 1612-1614 BAN ON CATHOLICISM

In 1612 and 1614, the Tokugawa shogunate issued formal edicts prohibiting the spread of the Roman Catholic faith. The edicts reflect the regime's growing concern about the influence of foreign missionaries, particularly Portuguese Jesuits. Christianity was seen as a destabilising force that could undermine the social order and loyalty to the shogunate, especially as it attracted converts among the local population. The ban was part of a broader campaign to suppress Christianity and limit foreign interference. For the Dutch—who prioritised trade over religious mission—the edict was a clear sign of how to navigate Japan's political landscape.

信仰と統制

キリスト禁止令（1612年〜1614年）
1612年と1614年、徳川幕府はローマ・カトリックの信仰を広めることを禁止する正式な禁教令を發布した。この禁教令は、外国人宣教師、特にホルタガルのイエズス会の影響に対する幕府の懸念の高まりを反映している。キリスト教は、特に地元住民を改宗させると考えられていたため、社会秩序や幕府への忠誠心を損なう不安定勢力と見なされた。

禁教会は、キリスト教を抑圧し、外国からの干渉を制限するための大掛かりな取り組みの一環であった。宗教の布教よりも貿易を優先したオランダ人にとつて、この禁教令は日本の政情を今後どう乗り切るべきかを示す明確な信号となった。

この書状は、近世日本の重要な歴史的文書である。1617年、徳川幕府の老中が平戸藩主松浦肥前守に宛てたものである。

この書状には、貿易政策と宗教規制に関するいくつかの重要事項が記されている。第一に、主要商業都市の京都と堺の商人が貿易のために松浦藩領に来るので、相互の取り決めに従って貿易を進めるようにという内容である。第二に、平戸湾でのオランダ商館活動の継続を具体的に許可し、オランダ人船長の判断のもとで行うことを認めている。最後に、キリスト教の布教は厳禁であることを強く念押ししている。

この書状には4人の重臣の花押が記されている。土井大炊介利勝、安東対馬守重信、板倉伊賀守勝重、本多広助正純である。このことから、徳川幕府の上層部からの公式指令であったことが分かる。

この指令は、この時期の幕府の外国勢の統制政策を反映しており、日本で行われていた鎖国政策の一端として、商業的利益と厳しい宗教の統制のバランスをとるものであった。この文書は、松浦藩主からジャック・スベックスに渡されたと思われる。

日本語版とオランダ語版の両方が公文書館に存在することから、江戸時代初期の鎖国政策において、信頼と通行を維持するための明確な情報伝達が必要であったことが顕著である。



出典：幕府老中から平戸藩主松浦肥前守への平戸貿易に関する書状、1617年。オランダ国公文書館蔵。在日オランダ商館蔵。記録グループ1.04.21、目録No. 2

原文：

尚以て、京・堺商人も、其地へ可罷下候間、相対次第商売いたし候様二本條以上、急度申入候。仍おらんと、於平戸二、前々之とく、かびたん次第第二商売いたし候様二、可被成候、不及申二候へ共、件天運之法ひろめざる様二、かたく可被仰付候、恐々謹言。

土井大炊助
利勝（花押）
安藤対馬守
重信（花押）
板倉伊賀守

書き下し文：

なお以て、京・堺の商人も、その地へ下るべく候間、相対次第商売致し候様、尤もに候。以上、急度申し入候様。よつて、オランダ船、平戸において、前々のとく、カピタン次第に商売致し候様に、成すべく候。申すに及ばず候ことも、件天運の法、広めざる様に、堅く仰せ付けらるべく候。恐々謹言。

土井大炊助
利勝（花押）
安藤対馬守
重信（花押）
板倉伊賀守

Letter from the toshiyori (senior councilors) of the Tokugawa shogunate to Matsura Hizen-no-kami, the lord of Hirado domain, regarding trade in Hirado, 1617. The National Archives of the Netherlands, Dutch Trading Post in Japan, record group 1.04.21, inventory no. 2.

DAILY RECORDS OF THE HIRADO TRADING POST

Translation of François Caron's
Diary Entry about the Order by the
Shogun to Demolish the Factory in
Hirado and Move from Hirado to
Deshima (9 November 1640), translated
from Dutch to English:

"After some discussions, we returned to the residence of the lord of Hirado, where the commissioner [Inoue Masashige] summoned us and announced the following:

His Imperial Majesty [Shogun Tokugawa Iemitsu] is certainly informed that all of you, like the Portuguese, are Christians. You observe Sunday, you write the date of Christ's birth on the tops and gables of your houses, in sight and view of our entire nation. You have the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, and faith, baptism, and sharing of bread, the Bible, the Testament, Moses, the Prophets and the Apostles—in short, a work, the principal, that is evident. We consider the differences between both [you and the Portuguese] to be small. That you are Christians has been known for a long time, though it was thought you had a different Christ.

Following this, His Majesty orders you through me that you shall turn down all your dwellings (none excepted where the aforementioned data has been displayed), beginning from the north side, which is the most recently built, and so forth until the end. We will not tolerate that you openly observe your Sunday, so that the memory of that name comes to an end.

The Captain, or the head of your nation, shall henceforth stay no longer than one year in Japan and change yearly, as has been customary with those of Macao, so that by maintaining a longer alliance with the nation, the doctrine is not spread, for the contrary cannot provide any assurance. What follows, which you shall have to comply with, will be announced to you later by the Hirado regents.

We, knowing that to the command of the emperor nothing else must be said but 'yes', and that making any request or reply must not happen then, but after this time, answered with cool and frank, yet reverent words: 'Every-thing that His Majesty pleases to command, we shall punctually comply with.'

ARRIVAL AT DEJIMA

Dejima was built in 1636 by Nagasaki merchants for the Portuguese. After their expulsion in 1639, the island's future was uncertain. The Dutch, eager to continue trade, moved there in 1641. In doing so they secured Dejima as their exclusive trading post for over two centuries.

LIFE ON DEJIMA

The Dutch lived under strict rules, confined to the small island. Trade with Japan was carefully controlled, with interpreters overseeing all contact. Despite restrictions, Dejima became a center for knowledge exchange, introducing Western science, medicine, and technology to Japan.

THE JOURNEY TO EDO

Each year, the Dutch chief traveled to Edo to pay tribute to the shogun. This ceremonial journey was Japan's only direct link to the West. The Dutch shared global news and scientific advancements, shaping Japan's understanding of the outside world.

美到窒息

[illegible]

出島にての生活

は、前を以て本日として居た。講義交流の中心地となり、西洋の医學、知し最に島田出づる接觸すべき点に對して、その通達され、下野の生計に密に關する點を尋ねたりした。島田小沙江は、オランダ人入植の際に、森いし

江戸参府

助けた。我を共に海外の界に對する日本物理の理解を歩進め、た。オウツウと人界の時、物理の字を解き、日本に於て西洋の唯一の架け橋であつた。彼は、オウツウのたに戸に向つた。機械式的な旅を、毎年、オウツウのたの商館に車將に見す。

東インド会社の磁器：有田の青白芙蓉文皿

17世紀後半から18世紀初頭にかけて肥前国・有田で制作された青白磁の皿は、オランダ・東インド会社の嗜好に合わせた日本の職人の緻密な技巧が見られる。美濃文様を飾られたこの皿は、日本の芸術性とオランダのデザイン性の息事な融合である。長崎のオランダ商館である出島で育まれた文化交流を象徴するものである。

出典：長崎市出島。写真：ルイ・スミット



Dejima, Nagasaki City. Photo: Louis Smit.

田島の運賃とカード

異文化通商の貨幣

ドウカートと呼ばれるオランダの貨幣は、江戸時代のオランダと日本の経済交流において極めて重要な役割を果たした。幕府の制限された出島におけるオランダ商館内を流通していたこれらの貨幣は、商品と知識の交換を促した。

出典：長崎市出島。写真ルイ・スミット

VOC PORCELAIN: ARITA'S BLUE AND WHITE FUYOU PATTERN PLATE

This late 17th to early 18th-century blue and white porcelain plate, produced in Arita, Hizen Province, exemplifies the intricate craftsmanship of Japanese artisans catering to Dutch East India Company (VOC) tastes. Adorned with the *fuyou* (hibiscus) pattern, the plate reflects a fusion of Japanese artistry and Dutch design preferences, symbolising the cultural exchange facilitated through Dejima, the Dutch trading post in Nagasaki.

DUTCH DUCATS IN DEJIMA: COINS OF CROSS-CULTURAL COMMERCE

These Dutch coins, known as ducats, played a pivotal role in the economic interactions between the Netherlands and Japan during the Edo period. Circulating within Dejima, Nagasaki's confined Dutch trading post, these coins facilitated the exchange of goods and knowledge, embodying the tangible links in a unique period of controlled international trade.



Deijima. Nagasaki City. Photo: Louis Smit.



▲ PANORAMIC VIEW OF NAGASAKI AND DEJIMA BY KAWAHARA KEIGA (1825)
This panoramic map, created by Japanese artist Kawahara Keiga in August 1825, depicts Nagasaki Bay and the Dutch trading post of Dejima. The artwork features two Dutch ships, the *Vasco da Gama* and the *Johanna*

Elisabeth, anchored in the bay. The bay is filled with various large and small vessels, illustrating the bustling maritime activity of the time.
Panoramic map of Nagasaki and the Dejima trading post, August 1825. The National Archives of the Netherlands, Acquisitions Maps and Drawings, record group 4.AANW, inventory no. 1475.



▲ 川原慶賀作長崎・出島全図（1825年8月）
この外観図は、1825年8月に日本の画家、川原慶賀によって描かれたもので、長崎湾とオランダ商館出島が描かれている。作品には、湾内に停泊する2隻のオランダ船「サウスコ・タ・ガマ号」と「ヨハン・エリサベト号」が描かれている。湾内は大小さまざまな船で埋め尽くされ、当時の賑やかな海運活動を物語っている。
出典：東京・出島博物館の蔵蔵地図「1825の年を写すオランダ外交参観」蔵蔵品地図と図面 記録ノルム4.AANW、目録番号 1475。

出島の地図に鎖国時代の日本を垣間見る
1838年に長崎で作成された「出島観図」（天保9年）には、扇状の人工島である出島の詳細な様子が描かれている。1636年に造られた出島は、江戸時代、オランダ貿易を中心に、日本と外国との直接的な貿易および交流の唯一の拠点となった。この地図は、出島の配置を示すだけでなく、鎖国時代の日本が外国とどのように交流していたかを知ることができる。
出典：東京市出島 写真：ルイ・スミット

MAPPING DEJIMA: A GLIMPSE INTO JAPAN'S ISOLATED PAST
The "Coarse Map of Dejima," produced in Nagasaki in 1838 (Tenpo 9), offers a rare and detailed depiction of the fan-shaped artificial island of Dejima. Constructed in 1636, Dejima served as the sole point of direct trade and

exchange between Japan and the outside world during the Edo period, primarily facilitating Dutch trade. This map not only illustrates the island's layout but also provides insights into Japan's controlled interactions with foreign nations during its isolationist era.

Dejima, Nagasaki City. Photo: Louis Smit.

EAST MEETS WEST: THE DUAL HERITAGE OF RED-PAINTED AGARWOOD VASES

This early 18th-century set of red-painted agarwood vases exemplifies a unique fusion of Eastern and Western craftsmanship. The vase bodies, originating from Hizen Arita in Japan, are renowned for their high-quality porcelain production. The lids, crafted in Delft, Netherlands, reflect the Dutch mastery of ceramics. This combination showcases the intricate exchange of artistic techniques and aesthetics between Japan and Europe during this period.

Dejima, Nagasaki City. Photo: Louis Smit.

東洋と西洋の出会い

赤絵沈香甕の二つの意義

東洋と西洋の職人技の独特な融合が見て取れる18世紀初頭の赤絵沈香甕のセット。甕の本体は高品質の磁器で有名な肥前有田で製造された。オランダのデ尔夫トで作られた蓋は、オランダの陶器の匠の技を反映している。この組み合わせは、当時の日本とヨーロッパの芸術的技術と美意識の繊細な交流を示している。

出典：東横市出島。写真：ルイス・スミット



紅毛雜話に見る日本人の西洋人観

1787年(天明7年)に江戸で出版された『紅毛雜話』は、西洋人、特にその特徴的な外見から「紅毛人」と呼ばれたオランダ人についての観察や物語を集めたものである。この作品は、直接の接触が限られていた時代のヨーロッパ人に対する日本人の認識についての貴重な記録であり、日本と西洋の間の好奇心と文化交流を浮き彫りにしている。

出典：東横市出島。写真：ルイス・スミット

RED HAIR STORIES: A JAPANESE PERSPECTIVE ON WESTERNERS

First published in 1787 (Tenmei 7) in Edo, *Red Hair Stories* (Kômo Zatsuwâ) is a collection of observations and tales about Westerners, particularly the Dutch, who were referred to as “red-haired” due to their distinct appearance. This work provides valuable insights into Japanese perceptions of Europeans during a time when direct contact was limited, highlighting the curiosity and cultural exchange between Japan and the West

Dejima, Nagasaki City. Photo: Louis Smit.



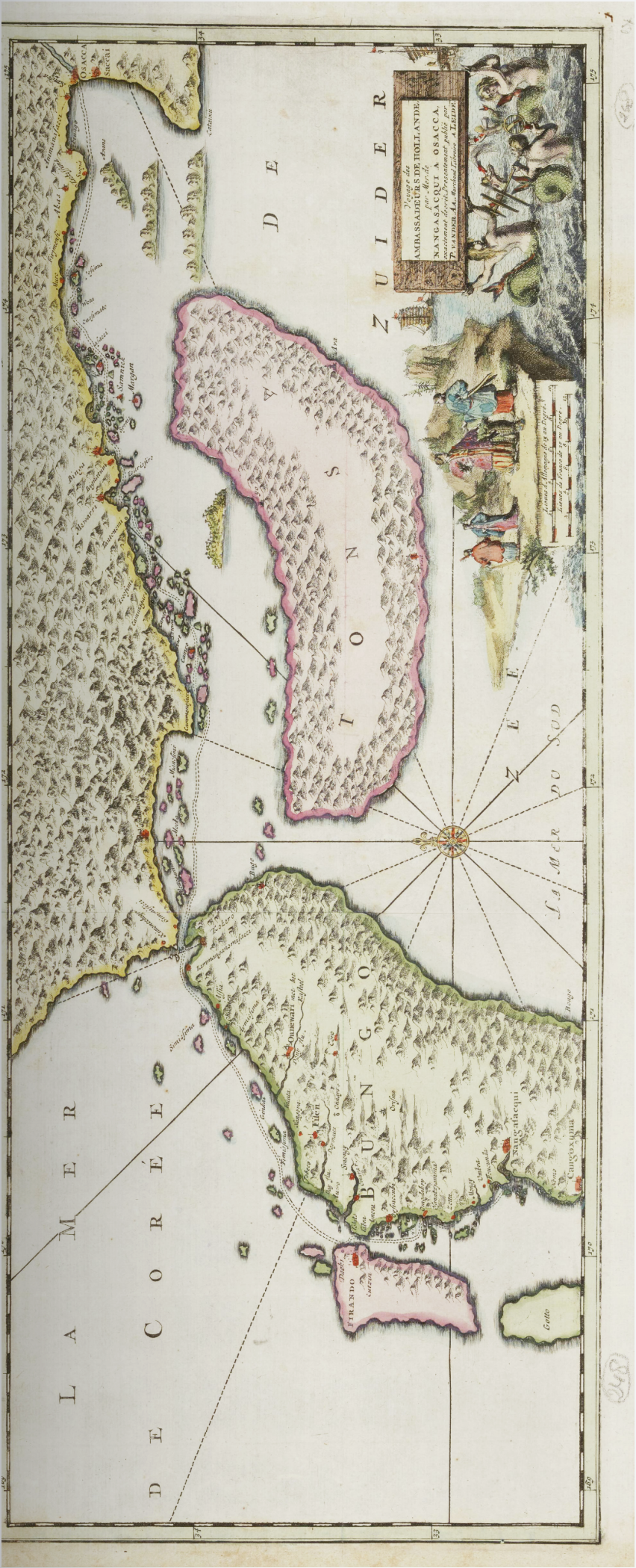
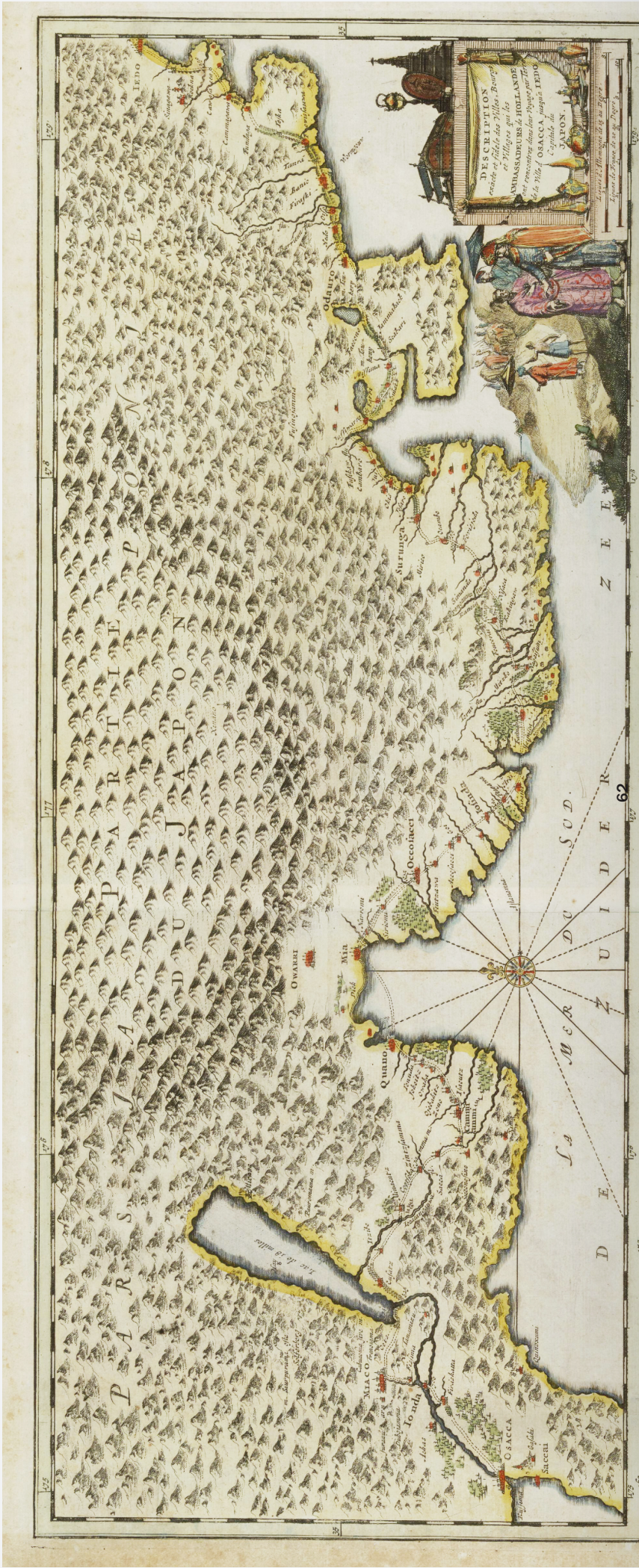
MAPPING THE SHOGUN'S COURT JOURNEY

These 1669 maps by Arnoldus Montanus trace the Dutch delegation's formal journey from Nagasaki to Edo and their sea voyage to Osaka — missions undertaken annually to show respect to the shogun. Known as the *hofreis*, these highly choreographed processions allowed the Dutch to maintain their trading rights by reaffirming their loyalty to the Tokugawa regime. The delegation brought with them lavish gifts, rare goods, medical knowledge, and scientific instruments — items that fascinated the Japanese court and helped reinforce the Dutch position as valuable but non-threatening partners. The maps reflect both the physical and diplomatic routes required to sustain this delicate balance.

江戸参府の地図

アルノルトウス・モンタヌスによる1669年の地図は、將軍への敬意を示すために毎年行われた長崎から江戸へのオランダ使節団の江戸参府および大坂への航海をたどっている。「江戸参府」として知られる、非常に儀式的な行列を行って、オランダ人は徳川政権への忠誠を再確認することで、貿易権を維持することができた。

使節団は豪華な贈呈品、珍しい品々、医学の知識、科学道具などを持参した。それらの品は日本の高官を魅了し、価値はあるが脅威ではないパートナーとしてのオランダの立場を強化するのに役立った。この地図から、この微妙なバランスを維持するために必要な物理的ルートと外交的ルートの両方がかかる。



Two maps of the court journey from Nagasaki to Edo and the sea voyage from Nagasaki to Osaka. Pieter van der Aa, 1728 (Originally published in Arnoldus Montanus, Gedenkwaerdige Gesantschappen der Oost-Indische Maetschappij in't Verenigde Nederland, aen de Kaisaren van Japan, 1669). The National Archives of the Netherlands, Maps, Prints and Publications Hans and Eva Kok, record group 4.HEK, inventory no. 1604.

出典：長崎から江戸参府の旅と長崎から大坂への航海の2枚の地図「ベーター・ファン・ダー・アア」1728年(原図は1669年に出版された『東インド会社通日使節紀行』アルノルトウス・モンタヌス著(日蘭通訳)・オランダ国立公文書館(地図・版画・出版物)ヘンス&エヴァ・コック、記録グループ4.HEK、目録番号1604。

大坂の西洋知識への窓口、道塾

1838年、医師であり学者でもあった緒方洪庵によって創設された道塾は、江戸時代後期に西洋の科学や医学を広める上で重要な役割を果たした大坂の私塾である。蘭学を専門とし、明治維新を担う多くの人材を育成した。この塾は、日本の書生たちがヨーロッパの書物、言語、医学を学ぶ活気ある場となり、日本の近代化の基礎を築いた。道塾は後に大阪大学の設立へとつながる。

出典：大阪大学道塾記念センター



TEKIJUKU: OSAKA'S GATEWAY TO WESTERN KNOWLEDGE

Founded in 1838 by physician and scholar Ogata Kōan, Tekijuku was a private school in Osaka that played a key role in spreading Western science and medicine during the late Edo period. Specializing in *Rangaku* (Dutch Studies), it trained many future leaders of the Meiji Restoration. The school became a vibrant center where Japanese students studied European books, languages, and medical practices—laying the groundwork for Japan's modernization. Tekijuku is one of the cornerstones of the foundation of Osaka University.

The University of Osaka Tekijuku Commemoration Center.

蘭学と医療改革の先駆者、緒方洪庵

緒方洪庵（1810年〜1863年）は日本が外国からの影響に対してほとんど閉ざされていた時代に、西洋医学の価値を認めた蘭学を代表する学者および医者であった。道塾では西洋医学を教えるだけでなく、批判的思考と異文化理解を育んだ。彼の功績は、後に近代日本の政治および科学における改革者となった多くの門下生たちの中に生き続けている。

出典：大阪大学道塾記念センター



OGATA KŌAN: PIONEER OF DUTCH STUDIES AND MEDICAL REFORM

Ogata Kōan (1810–1863) was a leading *Rangaku* scholar and physician who recognized the value of Western medical science in a time when Japan remained largely closed to foreign influence. At Tekijuku, he not only taught Western medicine but also fostered critical thinking and cross-cultural understanding. His legacy lives on in the many students he mentored, including future political and scientific reformers of modern Japan.

The University of Osaka Tekijuku Commemoration Center.



言語と世界をつなぐ辞書『ドーフ・ハルマ』

ドーフ・ハルマ辞書は、オランダ商館長のヘンドリック・ドーフが出島駐在中に日本人通詞と協力して編纂したもので、道塾での学習には欠かせないものだった。この和蘭辞書のおかげで、ヨーロッパの医学書や科学書を翻訳することが可能になった。この辞書は江戸時代の孤立した日本をより広い世界の知識と結びつける知的交流の象徴である。

出典：大阪大学道塾記念センター

DOEFF-HALMA DICTIONARY: A BRIDGE BETWEEN LANGUAGES AND WORLDS

The Doeff-Halma dictionary, compiled by Dutch commissioner Hendrik Doeff during his time on Dejima in collaboration with the Japanese interpreters, was an essential learning tool at Tekijuku. Combining Dutch and Japanese vocabulary, it enabled students to read European medical and scientific texts. The dictionary stands as a symbol of intellectual exchange—linking the isolated world of Edo-period Japan with the broader currents of global knowledge.

The University of Osaka Tekijuku Commemoration Center.



▲ 出典：1860年代の出島の眺め アムステルダム国立美術館蔵 作品番号 RP-F-2016-76-37
▲ 出典：夜の夢洲。2025年、公益社団法人2025年日本国際博覧会協会



▲▲ View of the Island of Dejima in the 1860s, Rijksmuseum. Object number: RP-F-2016-76-37
▲ Yumeshima by night in 2025, Expo Association.

RANGAKU

From the Artificial Island of Dejima to the Artificial Island of Yumeshima

THE RISE OF RANGAKU

For over two centuries, the Dutch on Dejima were Japan's only window to the Western world, bringing advanced knowledge in medicine, navigation, and science. The Dutch language became the gateway to this knowledge, and those who mastered it spread across Japan, forming Rangaku centers where Western books were studied and translated.

TEKIJUKU

The Heart of Dutch Studies in Osaka

Osaka's Tekijuku, founded by Ogata Kōan, was one of the most important Rangaku centers. A pioneer in Western medicine, Ogata trained nearly a thousand students who later shaped the Meiji Restoration. Using the Doeff Halma, a Japanese-Dutch dictionary created by Dutch Opperhoofd (chief of Dejima) Hendrik Doeff, they translated European medical texts, bridging Japan and the West.

FROM DEJIMA TO COMMON GROUND

From Dejima to today, Dutch-Japanese knowledge exchange has shaped science and culture. Now, in 2025, as the world faces global challenges, collaboration is key. Just as knowledge once flowed from Dejima, Expo 2025 on Yumeshima brings nations together on Common Ground to inspire a new generation.

蘭館の発展
江戸時代の蘭館

蘭館は、江戸時代を通じて、日本と西洋との交流の中心地として発展した。蘭館は、蘭学（オランダ学）の中心地として、医学、科学、技術などの知識を伝播し、日本の近代化に貢献した。蘭館は、江戸時代を通じて、日本と西洋との交流の中心地として発展した。蘭館は、蘭学（オランダ学）の中心地として、医学、科学、技術などの知識を伝播し、日本の近代化に貢献した。

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Bringing this exhibition to life has been a journey of collaboration, creativity, and shared passion—and it would never have been possible without the remarkable people who contributed their time, energy, and expertise along the way.

A heartfelt thank you to Osaka City and Osaka Castle Museum and its director Miyamoto-san and his co-workers for opening their doors and helping us in so many ways. A deep bow to Frederik Cryns, distinguished historian and professor at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken) in Kyoto. Frederik Cryns not only supervised me in curating this exhibition, but also wrote two essays for this catalogue as well as many other contributions. He also supervised the manga, created by the incredibly talented Miura-san. We are also deeply grateful for the collaboration with the National Archives of the Netherlands. Martine Bartels, Lieve Meulenbeld and Ron Guleij—thank you for your unwavering support. I am also deeply grateful to the many partners and friends at the Tokyo National Museum, the city of Usuki, the Mutsaers Museum, Dejima and Nagasaki, and all those who welcomed this project with open arms and helped shape it from concept to reality. My appreciation goes also to Robbert Nesselhaar and John Tholen for their essay on Erasmus.

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Marc Kuipers
Commissioner General for the
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 2005年大阪・関西万博列区域

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（一）のカタログと展覧会は、万博

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（二）の展覽會に命を吹き込む作業は、協力、

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Concept and editing Marc KUIPERS
Under the supervision of Frederik CRYNS

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大阪城臨時展 (2025年5月9日～5月29日) 共同企画

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