PRESS RELEASE

2008 No.02 September 9, 2008

The 100th Anniversary of the first Japanese Immigration to Brazil

Special Exhibition

Enabling Japanese to Prosper in South America: Shibusawa Eiichi and Japanese Immigration to Brazil



October 4 – November 24, 2008 Shibusawa Memorial Museum



This special exhibition marks the 10th anniversary of the opening of the Three Museums in Asukayama Park (the Shibusawa Memorial Museum, the Kita City Asukayama Museum, and the Paper Museum). It is also an authorized event of the Japan-Brazil Year of Exchange.

On June 18, 1908, the Kasado-maru arrived at the Port of Santos after the 52-day trip. It carried on board the first group of Japanese immigrants to Brazil. In 2008 the two countries are celebrating the 100 years of Japanese immigration to Brazil. To mark the occasion, the Shibusawa Memorial Museum is featuring Shibusawa Eiichi's involvement in businesses and projects to promote and support Japanese emigrants.

Shibusawa Eiichi (1840-1931) was a leading figure in building Japanese modern industrial and economic society from the late 19th century through the early decades of the 20th century. Although he is known to have been involved in a large variety of businesses, his involvement in immigration businesses is barely known today. Eiichi, recognizing the need for suitable systems and institutions, worked towards realizing his ideals in regards to overseas emigration. He was involved in the *Brazil Takushoku Kabushikigaisha* (Brazil Development and Settlement Company), the company that opened the first Japanese colony in Iguape; *Nambei Takushoku Kabushikigaisha* (South American Development and Settlement Company), what established a colony in the Amazon; and *Kaigai Shokumin Gakkou* (Overseas Emigrants School) to educate and train Japanese emigrants.

The exhibition explains how Shibusawa Eiichi, a leader in Japanese business society at the time, felt about the overseas emigration and businesses concerning Japanese immigration to Brazil, and how he involved himself in related activities. We hope that through a close look at his business involvements, you will learn about one aspect of the history of Japanese immigration to Brazil.

Photo: The Second Group of Graduates of *Kaigai Shokumin Gakkou* (Overseas Emigrants School) with Shibusawa Eiichi (front row center), March, 1920.

About the SHIBUSAWA MEMORIAL MUSEUM

The Shibusawa Memorial Museum collects and displays documents and artifacts from the life of Shibusawa Eiichi (1840-1931), a leader in business and finance who fostered the growth and development of the modern Japanese economy. Throughout his life he advocated for the harmony of morality and economy; playing an important role not only in the business world but in the fields of social welfare, education and private-sector diplomacy as well.





Special Exhibition

Enabling Japanese to Prosper in South America: Shibusawa Eiichi and Japanese Immigration to Brazil

Dates: Saturday October 4 – Monday November 24, 2008

(closed Monday Oct. 6, 20, 27 Nov. 10, 17; Tuesday Oct. 14, Nov. 4)

10:00 – 17:00 (last entry 16:30)

Venue: Special Exhibition Hall, Shibusawa Memorial Museum

2-16-1 Nishigahara, Kita-ku, Tokyo

Tel:03-3910-0005 / Fax:03-3910-0085

Admission: Adults 300 yen

Elementary, junior high school, and high school students 100 yen

Three Museum Tickets: Adults 720yen / students 240yen

20% discount for groups of 20 or more

An authorized event of the Japan-Brazil Year of Exchange



the 10th anniversary of the opening of Three Museums in Asukayama Park



Related Events:

All events are in Japanese only and have no fee beyond regular museum admission.

Lectures

Saturday, November 1 13:30-15:00

Title: Shibusawa Eiichi and Permanent Resident Immigrants in Brazil

Lecturer: Yuji KUROSE, Professor, Faculty of Economics, the International University of Kagoshima

Sunday, November 23, 13:30-15:00

Title: Immigration Programs and the South America Sea Route

Lecturer: Hideyoshi YAGASHIRO, Assistant Professor, College of Economics, Rikkyo University

Venue: Conference Room, Shibusawa Memorial Museum

* Due to capacity of the venue, attendance is limited to 30. Please reserve a seat by sending a post card to the museum with your name, postal address, age, telephone number, and the date of the lecture, or make reservation via the internet (http://www.shibusawa.or.jp). Reservations accepted on a first come first served basis.



Exhibition Hall Lectures

Curator-led Gallery Tour:

Saturday, Oct. 11; Saturday, Oct. 25; Monday, Nov. 3; Saturday, Nov. 15

13:30-14:30

Lecture on Overseas Emigration:

Monday, November 3

13:30-14:30

Lecturer: Toshiro TERAMACHI, Teacher, Fujimigaoka Junior High School

Contacts

Miho NAGAI, Curator

Ruri KATO, Public Relations

Shibusawa Memorial Museum http://www.shibusawa.or.jp

2-16-1 Nishigahara, Kita-ku, Tokyo

Tel:03-3910-0005 / Fax:03-3910-0085



Images for the press

The images below are available for press use. Please fill out the attached application form and fax it to the Shibusawa Memorial Museum.

a. Charter of the *Brazil Takushoku Kabushikigaisha* (Brazil Development and Settlement Company), 1913, Shibusawa Memorial Museum collection



b. *Nambei Takushoku Kabushikigaisha* (South American Development and Settlement Company) Poster Inviting Immigrants to Brazil, around 1930, Shibusawa Memorial Museum collection



c. The Second Group of Graduates of the *Kaigai Shokumin Gakkou* (Overseas Emigrants School), March, 1920, Shibusawa Memorial Museum collection



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