

jdzb echo

Speech by HRH Crown Prince Naruhito of Japan on the Occasion of the Symposium

German-Japanese Cooperation in a Global Context – Sustainable Environmental, Resource and Catastrophe Protection

Before I begin my greeting at today's symposium, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for the sympathy and the wide-reaching support we received from many citizens of this country, including German Federal President Wulff, after the heavy earthquake hit eastern Japan in March.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Friendship and Trade Agreement between Japan and Prussia. As a patron on the Japanese side of the "150 Years of Japan-Germany Friendship," I am honored

to have this opportunity to visit Germany, and it gives me great pleasure to participate in today's symposium at the Japanese-German Center Berlin, which has played such an important role in fostering exchange between our two countries.

After its establishment in the year 1985, the Japanese-German Center Berlin (Japanisch-Deutsches Zentrum Berlin, JDZB), in whose rooms we are today, quickly assumed its task as a location for academic and scientific encounters between Japan and

Germany as well as between Japan and Europe. Since then, for about a quarter of a century the JDZB has organized more than 3,500 events. Thanks to the support of the governments and the people of both countries, the JDZB has assumed a major role in fostering intellectual, cultural and individual exchanges between Japan and Germany, and between Japan and Europe. In November 1987, I participated in the opening celebrations of the JDZB's former building, which, following German reunification, now houses



CONTENT

HRH Crown Prince Naruhito	1–2
<i>Past JDZB Events / Editorial</i>	3
<i>Conference Report</i> Role of Media	4
<i>Exchange Programs</i> Young Leaders Forum 2011	5
<i>Interview</i> Florian Coulmas	6
<i>Preview of Events 2011</i>	7
<i>Special Page</i> Hokusai – Retrospective	8

the residence and chancellery of the Embassy of Japan. I am greatly moved to have witnessed with my own eyes how over these 24 years the JDZB has become an integral part of the lively exchange between the people of our two countries and has developed into an important bridge between Japan and Germany, and between Japan and Europe. Moreover, I am told that the JDZB demonstrated great initiative and played a huge role in helping to coordinate aid from Germany following the earlier mentioned earthquake in Japan this year. I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to Secretary General Dr Bosse, as well as to all JDZB staff; I wish the JDZB, which celebrated its 25th anniversary last year, the very best for the future.

If we look back over 150 years of Japanese-German exchange, we see there was a time when Japan during its construction of a modern political system regarded Germany as a model and learned from its various scientific disciplines such as medicine from the natural sciences, or law from the humanities. Exchange between our two countries started again from scratch after the devastation of the Second World War. Following similar paths of construction and economic development in the post war period, Japan and Germany strengthened their ties to each other. Today they work as global partners sharing similar basic values and closely cooperating in tackling challenges that face the entire international community, such as nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, the global economy, reform of the United Nation as well as the consolidation of peace. The decision made in the mid 1980s by both of our governments and leaders to locate

a Japanese-German Center here in Berlin must have been linked to the expectation that Japan and Germany, as highly developed industrialized nations, should take on a leading role in academic and scientific exchange with a global perspective. Since then, both countries have developed close collaborative relations not only in the areas mentioned above but also in other, diverse areas. For example, research institutes of our countries are cooperating in basic research in the fields of science and technology.

Today's symposium deals with existing diverse topics of bilateral cooperation, in particular with Japanese-German cooperation in the areas of environmental, resources and catastrophe protection. These topics present very important tasks for both of our countries as well as the international community.

Japan and Germany are blessed with a rich and fertile environment with numerous places of natural beauty, and both have helped shape and develop a diverse culture. It is an important and recognized task for our generations to preserve these places and the environment, and pass them on to following generations. Catastrophe protection, the topic of our discussions today, has also been identified as a potential field for Japanese-German cooperation and is acknowledged as a new area to develop our bilateral relations. This is an area that Japan is particularly interested in since the heavy earthquakes hit eastern Japan on March 11.

We already have expert-level discourses and exchanges on topics such as renewable energy and energy saving through the "German-Japanese

Environmental Dialog Forum" that was established in 2007. Today we will not only listen to experts from Japan and Germany but from the United Nations as well. We hope this symposium offers us all an opportunity to reflect anew on how our two countries can engage with global tasks.

The anniversary year "150 Years of Japan-German Friendship" provides us once more with an opportunity to look back on the history of bilateral exchange, but it is also an opportunity to deepen and revitalize future-oriented cooperation and exchange between our countries in view of a rapidly changing world. I hope the discussions held within the framework of this symposium may be a first step for the next generation of Japanese-German exchange in these areas.

In my greeting last night during the dinner hosted by the German Federal President, I commented how the strong ties that bind Japan and Germany together today rest above all on the cumulative direct exchange between people. Thus I would like to finish by expressing my wish that this symposium may contribute toward deepening mutual exchange between the people here, and may the collaborative efforts between Japan and Germany on the topics today continue to progress with a global perspective.

(In German)

Great success for this symposium!
Thank you for your attention!

(Provisional translation)

The symposium was held on June 24, 2011, at the JDZB.



Panel at the symposium “The Future of New and Traditional Growth Industries in Japan and Germany” on June 28, 2011, at the JDZB, held in cooperation with the Fujitsu Research Institute (Tôkyô), the Friedrich Ebert Foundation (Berlin) and the Institut der deutschen Wirtschaft in Cologne.



Concert with Japanese drums of the group “taiko-connection berlin” on the day of the annual Open House of the JDZB on June 25, 2011.



Opening of the photo exhibition “Japan between Tôkyô and Niigata”. The photographs of three Berlin-based photographers (iriguchi network) were on display at the JDZB from June 16 until June 30, 2011.



Symposium “Supporting Tomorrow’s Leading Researchers: Innovations and Challenges – Approaches by Japan and Germany” on Juli 15, 2011, held in Tôkyô in cooperation with the Tôkyô office of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, the Japan Science and Technology Agency (Tôkyô) and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Sciences and Technology (MEXT, Tôkyô).

CALL FOR DONATIONS
 The JDZB asks for donations for Japan. For details please refer to JDZB website!

Dear Readers!

Following our brief summer break, the JDZB is again offering a comprehensive and diverse range of events and activities. The event “150 Years of Germany-Japan Friendship” continues with the Hokusai retrospective in Berlin toward the end of August providing yet another highlight. Travel restrictions after the catastrophes in Japan have been lifted and travel to Japan has resumed. The German-Japanese Youth Exchange delegations are catching up on their visits to Japan, the JDZB will organize five conferences in Japan this autumn, and the German-Japanese Forum and the JDZB Board will convene in Tôkyô. However, we can’t say that business is back to normal yet. Even though we can see the impressive cleaning efforts after the earthquake and tsunami, reconstruction of the region will take some time, and the same applies to the final stabilization of the Fukushima nuclear power plant. The JDZB remains committed to fostering and maintaining German-Japanese friendships beyond this year of friendship celebrations.

Dr. Friededrike Bosse
 JDZB Secretary General

jdzb echo

Published quarterly in March – June – Sept. – Dec.

Publisher:
 Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB)
 Editor: Michael Niemann
 Tel.: +49-30-839 07 186, E-Mail: niemann@jdzb.de

The jdzb echo can be downloaded as a pdf-document from the JDZB Homepage or subscribed to by E-Mail.

Address of the JDZB:
 Saargemünder Str. 2, 14195 Berlin, Germany
 Tel.: +49-30-839 07 0 Fax: +49-30-839 07 220
 E-Mail: jdzb@jdzb.de URL: <http://www.jdzb.de>

Opening hours of the Library:
 Tue 10 am–4 pm; Wed + Thu 12 noon–6 pm

Society of Friends of the JDZB: freundeskreis@jdzb.de

**Symposium “Catastrophes in Japan and the role of traditional and new media – A comparative view of reports in Japan and Germany,” held in cooperation with the Japan Foundation on July 7 at the JDZB
By Juliane Böhm (Japan Studies Center, Freie Universität Berlin)**

In her welcoming speech the JDZB Secretary General, Dr Friederike Bosse, spoke of the irritations that arose when reading reports written about the recent catastrophes in Japan. She asked herself whether these feeling of irritations can be traced back to a lack of understanding or cultural differences. Moreover, she added, we need to examine the growing role of new media. On the one hand new media offers accelerated access to information; on the other hand we need a filtering function for users. Prof. TEZUKA Kazuaki (Japanese Cultural Institute Cologne) highlighted the importance of media analysis. Not only is competition important but a revision on how and what we report.

The first session about determining factors discussed the hypothesis that Japanese journalists are more inclined to function as chronologists and act as information journalists who may serve the country. In contrast, German journalists tend to gather information and function as society watchdogs through investigative journalism.

Prof. Alexander Görke (FU Berlin) depicts journalism as the metronome, providing the beat of global society. However, reports are still subject to national conditions. According to IMAI Yoshinori from NHK, public broadcasters are obligated to release relevant information as quickly as possible. The NHK reporters were at odds on this point because neither TEPCO nor the Japanese government provided access to facts. Thus, Japanese journalists had limited access to information and could not confirm facts.

This approach was criticized in ensuing discussions. Görke stressed that in Germany people would tend to trust experts even if they held divergent opinions. By recognizing different perspectives, readers or audiences are able to form their own opinion of events and this

would be more important than glorifying facts and having to play the waiting game.

In the second session the media journalist TSUDA Daisuke outlined the role of social media. According to him social media should cooperate with traditional media because it was faster for example. TSUDA sees great potential in social media; however we still need to solve problems such as uncontrolled dissemination of false information.

Mario Schmidt (NDR) and Michael Ludewig (dpa) reported on the problems encountered by German journalists during their work on location using concrete examples of the recent catastrophes in Japan. On the one hand journalists were confused by the chaos surrounding Fukushima and the many victims in northeastern Japan as well as the lack of information on the part of TEPCO and the government; on the other hand they were under pressure to provide reports. Schmidt and Ludewig strongly dismissed accusations of lacking empathy for the victims of the catastrophe, with equal weight given to reports about Fukushima and the regions destroyed by the Tsunami. MIYOSHI Norihide (Berlin Bureau of the daily newspaper Yomiuri Shimbun) perceived the German reports as one-sided and sensationalist. He thought they lacked empathy and respect for the Japanese people. Both the German journalists drew attention to the difficulties encountered by journalists in their work, often working to tight deadlines, sleep deprived, and anxious about facts being hidden. However, they did admit that a few bad articles had been published. The audience largely agreed with MIYOSHI's view that the German reports were partly to blame for the hysteria in Germany. Some had the impression that the German reports were politically motivated; with the German press using Fukushima as an argument to phase out nuclear energy.

Japanese reporters encountered different problem. Editions of the daily newspaper Asahi Shimbun could not be published because of the Tsunami; journalists had to struggle with electricity failures and food shortages in the regions affected. Moreover, young journalists were under considerable psychological pressure because they preferred to help the victims rather than interview them. In addition, the situation of the nuclear power plants meant that practical information played a huge role and was expected to help people in the regions affected by the catastrophe; conflicts developed about what was more important: reports about the earthquake or reports about the nuclear power plants.

The closing discussion focused again on media responsibility against the background of the catastrophes in Japan. IMAI (NHK) stressed the media's responsibility but noted we need to maintain an overall perspective of events. He believes that many of the Japanese journalists paid too much attention to details. Most important for Schmidt (NDR) was ensuring the audience and readers felt they were well informed. Because social media was incorporated, lines of responsibility shifted because there is more than one source to evaluate; these are some of the challenges for the future. TSUDA noted that although TEPCO and the Japanese government were criticized in the Japanese media, there was no critique of journalism. TSUDA thought it was a valid question to ask who is responsible for social media, or more precisely who is responsible for the content of this media. The panel discussion's chair Günter Knabe closed by noting the considerable work still required in the field of journalism and reporting. He hoped this mutual acknowledgement of both countries would continue beyond the context of the catastrophes.



Each year the JDZB and the Robert Bosch Foundation organize a German Japanese Young Leaders Forum (YLF) – a Summer School for young German and Japanese managers. The following reports were written by two participants about the 2011 YLF titled “Education and Higher Education.”

Do Japanese kindergartens teach writing classes? How do after school study programs help? Are the selection procedures to enter into universities really that difficult as commonly thought? And how is Japan faring after the catastrophic events of March 11.

The events in Fukushima threw a shadow over this year’s YLF. Many German companies were reluctant to send their young executives to Japan, and the Summer School was eventually relocated to the south. Education was the theme of this year’s YLF, however other issues were discussed as well. Other topics included nuclear policy and energy turnaround, and above all, how does a country survive such misfortunes.

At first the participants were reluctant to ask this question directly. Eight young German managers and their eight Japanese counterparts met each other on June 4 in Ôsaka, they exchanged business cards with their companies’ names, universities and organizations. Similar to past years the YLF not only offers a platform for discussion, but also an opportunity for participants to build stronger networks with each other.

There was considerable astonishment how two very different education systems can lead to similar results. Admittedly Japan is leading in the PISA report; however Germany is less far behind than we think if we account for the extra hours that Japanese students study in the evening. The most interesting difference that became evident in the course of discussions and presentations is not between public and private funding, or between a one or multi education system, but rather the fundamental mind-set. Japan values hard work, more so than just talent; while the land of philosophers and poets still values the concept of the gifted.

As the week progressed discussions became livelier as additional alumni members started to fill the hall. The question of a healthy work/life balance was raised and which the Germans sometimes appear to be missing; and yet their concept of work does not compare to that of the Japanese.

Finally a Japanese woman stood up and asked for questions about Fukushima. Not all questions could be answered. However the Japanese participants told stories about their families living close to exclusion zone, and of their own

insecurities, and how they are determined to continue living.

The Germans who may have had hesitations about flying to Japan and eating raw fish and vegetables, and who carried with them a supply of iodine tablets just in case, were all happy to have made the journey. To learn just a little bit more about Japan.

Inge Elisabeth Kutter
Die ZEIT / Chief Editor ZEIT Campus

The program consisted of three main activities: lectures, discussions and presentations. Lecture topics included “the state of international education” and “differences between the German and Japanese education systems.” After the lectures, participants were divided into groups and given an opportunity to discuss topics, including sub-themes such as “quality of life” and “work/life balance.” The groups then summarized and presented their opinions to all participants.

At the beginning, the Japanese participants appeared a little overwhelmed by the German participants. Compared with other countries, there are fewer opportunities to debate in Japanese schools. There is also an expectation that people need to “get along with others,” rather than assert their own opinions.

The most interesting discussions concerned the differences between German and Japanese education systems. In Germany, at the age of ten, children themselves or their parents

choose their secondary schools and determine their future goals. This is in contrast to Japan, where most children continue into similar upper middle schools, although there are some differences in education concepts between public and private schools.

Discussions then turned to “job hunting for graduates.” According to a survey in 1995, 52% of German students start job hunting at or after graduation. In Japan, most people think it’s better to start working for a company immediately after graduation. Thus Japanese students start researching companies and job hunting at least 18 months before graduation. Although no conclusion were drawn about which system was better, participants increased their understanding of the systems.

The program was not limited to lectures or discussions. Sharing daily meals was also important for understanding each other. “Okonomiyaki” and “Kushikatsu,” local delicacies in Ôsaka, were also popular among the Germans. In addition, they were given opportunities to become better acquainted with Japanese history and leading-edge technology by visiting Ôsaka Prefectural Office, Ôsaka Castle and Panasonic’s head office. Through this 10-day program, 16 “participants” became “irreplaceable friends.” Of course language barriers existed, however all efforts were made to mediate feelings. The Germans were keen to learn more about Japan, and I myself look forward to visiting Germany and seeing my new friends in the near future.

NORINAO Hiroko
Jiji Press Foreign Economic News Desk, Tôkyô



The JDZB, in collaboration with the German Institute for Japanese Studies (Deutsches Institut für Japanstudien, DIJ) in Tôkyô, will hold a conference in November on the topic "Happiness – Does culture matter?" The DIJ has chosen "Happiness" as one of its research foci for the next few years. The following is an interview with the Director of the DIJ, Prof. Florian Coulmas.

You have chosen happiness as one of the research foci for the DIJ over the next few years with the heading "Happiness and unhappiness in Japan – continuity or discontinuity." Why? And how do you define happiness?

Wealth, education and good health are defined as the cornerstones of happiness in modern capitalist societies. The Japanese are richer, more educated, healthier and live longer than fifty years ago. However, when we look at surveys, they're not any happier. This gives cause for thought, and to find out why is an interesting question which we can only hope to answer through interdisciplinary cooperative efforts.

Where are the researchers from and which research projects contain specific interdisciplinary approaches?

Happiness, contentment, subjective well-being are terms that interest various disciplines, particularly economics and psychology, but also social science disciplines such as sociology, cultural anthropology, political science, religious studies and literature. Accordingly, we have selected a wide range of projects with diverse contexts, for example, what sort of influence do social stratification, political participation, cultivating traditions and marriage have on happiness, how do political and religious organizations try to affect these, and how the concept of happiness is reflected in contemporary literature.

The conference title held last November implies that culture has an influence on our perception of happiness. Is Japan a good example for determining the role of culture in our perception of happiness?

For many reasons Japan is a good example. One reason is that Japan is the first non-western country that has adopted the ideology of happiness. The promise of happiness is one of the driving forces of capitalism in this world. The Japanese were successful but were not particularly happy. This finding gives rise to the question whether happiness is something universal – often assumed in the western world since the French and

American revolutions – or whether happiness is understood and evaluated differently in various cultures. We can also ask the question to which degree capitalism has leveled out these differences.

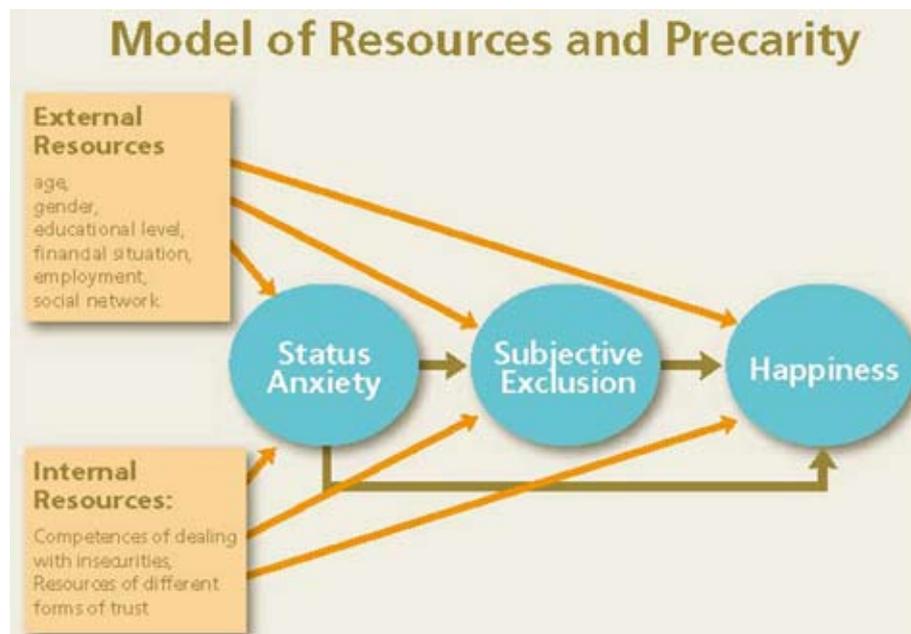
Did the three-fold catastrophe in Japan after March 11, 2011, have an influence on the research project? Did you change individual focal points within projects?

It's difficult to readjust a research program so quickly; however it's obvious that our research topics challenge us to include the consequences of the catastrophe. In the immediate future we are planning two projects. One concerns the living conditions of people who lost their homes, and the other project looks at the effects of the catastrophe on consumer behavior. A comparative study about feelings of exclusion in affected and non-affected populations groups may also be included in the program.

Beyond the framework of research in Japan we can also offer a German-Japanese comparison. For example, to which degree have social and demographic changes had an influence on the subjective feelings of well-being in both societies?



These sorts of developments form the starting point of our research on happiness. Low birth rates are a sign of aging societies such as those of Japan and Germany. In Japan the number of children desired is double the amount of those born today. This indicates that an important desire of many people is not fulfilled. Many people associate happiness with reaching old age. However, is an aging society a happy society? It's difficult for science to answer such a general question, however we can identify and examine individual aspects, and in the interim they are a desideratum for our understanding of contemporary Japanese and German society.



Grafic of the project „The Happiness of the Others: Objective Precarity and Exclusion Feelings in German-Japanese Comparison“ by Dr Carola Hommerich

CONFERENCES BY FOCAL AREAS

GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY

Symposium: Germany – Japan – Russia Potentials for the Future

C: Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Berlin; Institute for International Policy Studies, Tôkyô
October 7, 2011, in Tôkyô

Conference: Judicial Transfer in Japan and Germany

C: German-Japanese Lawyers Association, Hamburg; German Academic Exchange Service (Bonn); Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Bonn; Keiô University, Tôkyô
November 3–4, 2011, in Tôkyô

German-Japanese Workshop on Security Issues

C: Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin; Center for the Promotion of Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (CPDNP), Tôkyô
December 6, 2011

PROGRESS THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

Symposium: History and Current Views of German-Japanese Academic Relations

C: University Halle-Wittenberg
November 10–11, 2011

STATE, ENTERPRISE, CIVIL SOCIETY

Conference: Rebuilding Japan

C: Japan Institute for Social and Economic Affairs, Tôkyô
September 30, 2011, in Tôkyô

Conference: Happiness – Does Culture Matter?

C: German Institute for Japanese Studies, Tôkyô
November 21–22, 2011
Participation by invitation only



Events in Germany:

<http://www.de.emb-japan.go.jp/dj2011/index.html>

Events in Japan:

<http://www.dj150.jp/d/events.php>

DIALOG OF CULTURES

150 YEARS FRIENDSHIP GERMANY–JAPAN

Panel Discussion: Cultural Institutions in Berlin

C: Goethe Institut Japan, Tôkyô; Tôkyô Museum of Contemporary Art
September 23, 2011, in Tôkyô

Symposium: Hokusai in Context

C: Japan Foundation, Tôkyô; Free University Berlin; Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin
October 14.–15, 2011

Conference: Phenomena of the Jômon Era and the Eurasian Neolithic

C: German Archaeological Institute, Berlin; Hakodate City Archaeological Organization
October 28–30, 2011 in Hakodate

Conference: German-Japanese Digital Memory

C: University of Bonn; Bürkner & Bürkner GbR
December 2, 2011

SPECIAL PROJECT

20th Meeting of Japanese-German Forum

C: Japan Center for International Exchange, Tôkyô
October 4–5, 2011

CULTURE

CONCERT

109th Dahlem Musical Soiree

September 16, 2011, 7.30 p.m.

URUSHIHARA (Violin) + Leuschner (Piano)

110th Dahlem Musical Soiree

October 12, 2011, 7.30 p.m.

Tango Concert with Milonga

111th Dahlem Musical Soiree

November 24, 2011, 7.30 p.m.

112th Dahlem Musical Soiree

December 16, 2011, 7.30 p.m.

Christmas Concert

MOVIE

Showing of silent movie with SAWATO Midori (Japanese storyteller) and musical accompaniment

December 2, 2011, 7 pm

EXHIBITION

Hokusai – Retrospective

Opening: August 25, 2011, at 7 pm
Venue: Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin
On display until October 24, 2011

“Crown on the Earth” Photographs of the Photographic Society of Japan (Tôkyô) Newcomer’s Award Winners

Opening: September 8, 2011, 7 pm
On display until October 28, 2011

„Beuys in Japan and the Utopia Eurasia“

Opening: September 30, 2011, 8 pm
Venue: Hamburger Bahnhof – Museum for Contemporary Art, Berlin
On display until January 8, 2012

Figures from Kimono Cloth

Opening: November 4, 2011, 7 pm
On display until December 1, 2011

LECTURE

KAWAI Chiharu: Demonstration of Japanese Woodcut Print Technique

C: Adachi Foundation for the Preservation of Woodcut Prints
September 1, 2011, 5 pm

Lecture by IZAWA Kôtarô: An Aspect of Japanese Contemporary Photography

C: Photographic Society of Japan, Tôkyô
September 23, 2011, 7 pm

EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

- Junior Experts Exchange Program
- German-Japanese Young Leaders Forum
- Youth Group Leaders Exchange Program
- Study Program for Youth Work Specialists
- Exchange Program for Young Employees
- Takenoko Fund

For details of the programs, please refer to “<http://www.jdzb.de> --> Exchange Programs”

Opening hours of exhibitions:

Monday to Thursday 10 am to 5 pm, Friday 10 am to 3.30 pm.

C: = in cooperation with

Venue: JDZB, if not stated otherwise.

For **more information** please refer to: <http://www.jdzb.de> --> Activities

For **information on JDZB language courses** please refer to: <http://www.jdzb.de> --> Japanese Courses



Letter of Hokusai with Self-Portrait at the Age of 83
© Museum Volkenkunde, Leiden



The Great Wave off the Coast of Kanagawa © Sumida City



German president Christian Wulff welcomes Deputy Secretary General of the JDZB, SHIMIZU Yōichi, before inaugurating the exhibition on August 25 at Martin-Gropius-Bau.

For the first time in Germany a major retrospective is to be devoted to the world-famous Japanese artist Hokusai (1760–1849). Over 440 loans, the majority from Japan, will be on display in the exhibition in Berlin's Martin-Gropius-Bau. NAGATA Seiji, the leading Japanese authority on Hokusai and his work, will be curating the exhibition, which is exclusive to Berlin. Works from all periods of the artist's career – woodcuts and drawings, illustrated books, and paintings – will be shown.

In cooperation with the Berliner Festspiele GmbH and Martin-Gropius-Bau, the Japan Foundation, Sumida City (Tōkyō), Nikkei Inc., and with special support by the Ishibashi Foundation and under the auspices of the Embassy of Japan.



The Sazai Hall of the Gohyaku-Rakan Temple © Katsushika Hokusai Museum of Art



Women from all Walks of Life
© Katsushika Hokusai Museum of Art