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26TH CENTENNIAL INTERNATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST

COMMEMORATING FOUNDING OF JAPANESE EMPIRE

660 B. C.—1940 A. D.

KOKUSAI BUNKA SHINKOKAI

(SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL RELATIONS)

MARUNOUCHI, TOKYO, JAPAN

March 23, 1940

Mr. Hiroyuki Takahasi
1800 Buchanan St.
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Takahasi:

The Kokusai Bunka Shinkokai takes great pleasure in announcing a world-wide prize essay contest to be held under its auspices and direction this year to commemorate the 2,600th anniversary of the founding of the Empire of Japan. Being an auspicious year of great national significance and, to be sure, of no little international interest, it is our fond hope that our project will realize a hearty response and active participation in all parts of the world.

For the details of the contest will you kindly refer to the enclosed leaflet of Rules and Regulations.

May we take this liberty to invite your support and prevail upon your kindness to interest your friends and potential contestants in this project. Any suggestions as to whom we should send a copy of Rules and Regulations will be greatly appreciated. It is our sincere hope to have this undertaking serve as a means of contributing to a greater understanding of Japanese culture abroad and to the furtherance of closer international cultural relations.

Respectfully yours,

M. Nagai.

Enclosure

Matsuzo Nagai,
Chairman.

26th Centennial
International Essay Contest

Commemorating Founding of
Japanese Empire

660 B. C.—1940 A. D.

Rules and Regulations

Sponsor

KOKUSAI BUNKA SHINKOKAI

(Society for International Cultural Relations)

Tokyo, Japan

25th Centennial
International Essay Contest

Commemorating the founding of
Japanese Empire
1868-1913

Rules and Regulations

東京
KOKUMI BUNKA SHINKOKAI
Institute for International Cultural Exchange

東京
PRINTED IN JAPAN
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PURPOSE

THE year 1940 marks the 2,600th anniversary of the founding of the Empire of Japan by the Emperor Jimmu, the first of an illustrious and unbroken line of Sovereigns. Symbolizing the unity and continuity of Japanese national life and progress, it is, thus, a most memorable year in the history of Japan to be fittingly celebrated throughout the Empire by the government and people as an event of profound significance and joy. In commemoration of this auspicious occasion and as its contribution to the celebrations, the Kokusai Bunka Shinkokai has organized a world-wide essay contest to be conducted according to the following rules and regulations not only as a memorial project but also as a means of furthering the understanding of Japanese culture abroad and of contributing to closer bonds of intimacy and mutual helpfulness between the Oriental and Occidental civilizations.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

ESSAY SUBJECTS

The contestant may choose one of the following :

1. The Characteristics of Japanese Culture.

The contestant may write on the essential characteristics peculiar to Japan in the general field of culture or as they are revealed in art, literature or religion, etc.

2. The Cultural Intercourse Between Japan and Foreign Countries.

The contestant may write on the intercourse between Japan and several or all countries or any one particular country.

3. The Position of Japanese Culture in the World.

The interpretation of this subject is left to the contestant's own discretion.

NOTE : The essays will be judged on the basis of subject matter, originality and presentation. It is desired that the contestant does not limit himself to description, historical or otherwise, but endeavor to be interpretive and discuss the possible future development, significance, or contribution of Japanese culture.

THE CONTEST CLOSES ON
SEPTEMBER 30, 1940,

by which date the manuscript must be mailed. The postal cancellation of that date will be considered as final. Manuscripts not received by November 30, 1940, will be disqualified.

QUALIFICATIONS

The citizen or subject of any country except Japan may qualify as a contestant.

RULES GOVERNING MANUSCRIPT

1. The contestant may write in any language. However, essays written in languages other than **Japanese, Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish**, must be accompanied by a translation in any of the foregoing eight languages, preferably, if possible, Japanese. Otherwise, the essay will not be judged. Contestants resident in the Japanese Empire are required to attach a Japanese translation.
2. Each essay must be within **eight thousand** (8,000) words in length. Manuscripts submitted in Chi-

nese are limited to eight thousand (8,000) characters, while those in Japanese are limited to twelve thousand (12,000) characters including *kana*.

3. Each contestant is limited to one essay.
4. All submitted manuscripts will not be returned.
5. The contestant's name must not appear on either the original manuscript or the translation. A *curriculum vitae* containing the name, address, age, photograph and other information pertaining to the educational career, profession and special interests of the contestant listed legibly on a separate sheet must be attached to the manuscript and sent together by registered mail.
6. The manuscript, its translation and the *curriculum vitae* must be typewritten. Japanese and Chinese may be handwritten.
7. Bibliographical references must be mentioned, if any, either as footnotes or in list form and will be included in the length of the manuscript.

The result of the contest will be announced on Tenchôsetsu, **April 29, 1941**, the birthday of H.I.M., the Emperor.

CONTEST ZONES

The contest will be conducted in the five (5) following zones.

Zone A—**Japanese Empire**

Zone B—**Asia** (from Turkey east)

Zone C—**Europe, Africa, Australia** and **New Zealand**

Zone D—**Latin America**

Zone E—**North America** and the **Hawaiian Islands**

Each zone is an independent area of competition and each contestant, irrespective of nationality, will compete in the zone of his residence. (e.g. An American resident in China will compete in Zone B.)

PRIZES

1. Prizes will be awarded in each zone as follows :

One First Prize

Two Second Prizes

Several Third Prizes

2. In the absence of prizeworthy essays the foregoing arrangement may be altered.

First Prize :

A Round Trip to Japan and a scholarship of Three Thousand Yen (¥3,000) for a visit of Three Months.

Second Prize :

A Round Trip to Japan and a scholarship of One Thousand Yen (¥1,000) for a visit of One Month.

Third Prize :

Books and/or other articles to the total value of Five Hundred Yen(¥500).

(Contestants in the Japanese Empire Zone may receive the award in cash.)

In addition to the foregoing the prizewinners will receive a certificate and medallion signifying the prizes. Other supplementary awards may also be given. All contestants will receive a memento of their participation.

RULES GOVERNING PRIZES

1. The results will be publicly announced and each prizewinner will be notified immediately by wire.
2. The First and Second Prizes will be void unless the winners arrive in Japan within one year after the results are announced.
3. Contestants in the Japanese Empire Zone are exempted from the Round Trip.
4. The First or Second Prize winner who is unable to make the trip to Japan will be awarded books published in Japan and/or articles to the total value of ¥3,000 in the case of the First Prize winner and ¥1,000 in the case of the Second Prize winner.

5. The First and Second Prize winners must notify the Contest Committee with respect to which form they would desire the award (trip to Japan or books and articles) within six months after the contest results are announced.

RULES GOVERNING ROUND TRIP

1. The First and Second Prize winners will be given a first class round trip from the winner's place of residence to Japan, the port of embarkation, ship and route to be determined by the Contest Committee.
2. Travel details will be worked out between the Contest Committee and each winner, taking all necessary matters into proper consideration.

NOTE : It is to be understood that due to the Exchange Control Law no payments are possible in foreign currency.

3. The entire facilities and special assistance of the Kokusai Bunka Shinkokai will be placed at the disposal of winners coming to Japan with respect to travel, lodging, sightseeing, research, etc.

PUBLICATION OF ESSAYS

1. The Kokusai Bunka Shinkokai will reserve all rights to the prizewinning essays.
2. Prizewinning essays are expected to be published by the Kokusai Bunka Shinkokai.

CONTEST COMMITTEE

- Chairman*, Matsuzo Nagai, Chairman, Board of Directors,
Kokusai Bunka Shinkokai.
Executive Secretary, Setsuichi Aoki, General Secretary,
Kokusai Bunka Shinkokai.

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Matsuzo Nagai

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- Ayao Kuwaki, D. Sc., President, Matsumoto Higher School.
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- Kotaro Tanaka, LL. D., Professor of Law, Tokyo Imperial University.
- Zennosuke Tsuji, D. Litt., Professor Emeritus of National History, Tokyo Imperial University, and member of the Imperial Academy.
- Yukio Yashiro, Director, Institute of Art Research.

KOKUSAI BUNKA SHINKOKAI

(Society for International Cultural Relations)

Meiji-Seimei-Kan, Marunouchi, Tokyo

founded April 11th, 1934

A JURIDICAL FOUNDATION

Incorporated in Japan

for

the promotion and facilitation of international understanding through cultural exchange with foreign countries and maintenance of cooperative relations with institutions, organizations, and individuals with similar purposes in all parts of the world.

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KOKUSAI BUNKA SHINKOKAI

(Society for International Cultural Relations)

26th Centennial International Essay Contest

Meiji-Seimei-Kan

Marunouchi

TOKYO, JAPAN

Cable Address: INTCULTRE TOKYO

26TH CENTENNIAL INTERNATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST

Commemorating Founding of Japanese Empire

KOKUSAI BUNKA SHINKOKAI

(Society for International Cultural Relations)

TOKYO, JAPAN



Mr. Hiroyuki Takahasi
1300 Buchanan St.
San Francisco, Calif.

U. S. A.