

みんなのポジトリ

国立民族学博物館学術情報リポジトリ National Museum of Ethnology

Abstract

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Abstract

In 1975, the museum objects once possessed by the Ethnological Museum of the Japanese Society of Ethnology (日本民族学協会附属民族学博物館, Hoya Museum hereafter) were transferred via National Institute of Japanese Literature (国文学研究資料館) to the National Museum of Ethnology (国立民族学博物館). The collection was built by various collectors and donors from the 1910s to 1960s. The present volume is a 'Who's Who' directory of the people involved in building the collection.

A central role in forming the collection was played by Keizo Shibusawa, a banker and ethnologist, who served as the first Minister of Finance after World War II and as President of Kokusai Denshin Denwa Co. Ltd. (now KDDI). With the help of the Attic Museum which he established, he began to build his own collection, but donated it in 1937 to the Japanese Society of Ethnology to promote academic use of the objects. The collection was renamed, and from 1937 to 1962 continued to grow at the Hoya Museum under the stewardship of the Japanese Society of Ethnology. Most of the people mentioned in the present book are very likely to have been acquainted with Shibusawa. His family, old friends since his school age, his acquaintances through business, his colleagues and followers in academic disciplines, and his young friends who received financial support from him ... all of them contributed to forming the collection. This book about people related to Shibusawa's work is a window to look into the history of ethnology — and financial or other industries in the first half of the 20th century.

Although this book is written in Japanese, a translated English version will be found on our museum's website. Search "Directory of Collectors" or "Inventory of Objects" concerning the Hoya Museum and the Japanese Society of Ethnology, and you can read all the contents of this volume and detailed information about each object in the former Hoya Museum. Although the English texts have not yet been properly checked, they shall be of help for foreign readers.