

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900

Interracial Intimacy in Japan Western Men and Japanese Women 1543 1900: A Historical Exploration

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900 is a fascinating and complex topic that reveals much about cultural interactions, social dynamics, and historical transformations in early modern Japan. This period, spanning from the arrival of Portuguese explorers in the mid-16th century to the dawn of the Meiji era, witnessed unprecedented contact between Western men and Japanese women, leading to unique forms of intimacy and relationships that challenge modern assumptions about race, culture, and identity.

Understanding the nature of interracial intimacy in this era requires delving into the historical context of Japan's encounters with Westerners, the social roles and perceptions of women, and the intricate cultural exchanges that shaped personal and communal bonds. Let's explore how these relationships unfolded, the factors that influenced them, and what they reveal about Japan's early experiences with globalization and cross-cultural connection.

Historical Context: The Arrival of the West and Japan's Opening

The story of interracial intimacy in Japan Western men and Japanese women 1543 1900 begins in 1543, when Portuguese traders and missionaries first landed on Tanegashima Island. This marked the beginning of sustained contact between Japan and Europe, primarily through Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch, and later British and American traders and missionaries. These Western men brought not only goods and religion but also new cultural practices and social dynamics that would influence Japan's evolving society.

Japan in this period was a feudal society under the rule of samurai clans, governed by the shogunate system. While the country was relatively isolated from much of the world, the arrival of Westerners introduced new ideas and opportunities, including interracial relationships that transcended conventional social boundaries.

The Role of Traders, Missionaries, and Sailors

Western men in Japan were often merchants, missionaries, or sailors, many of whom stayed for extended periods. Their interactions with local populations naturally included personal relationships, often with Japanese women who lived near ports or mission settlements. The Portuguese and Spanish missionaries, particularly Jesuits, sometimes encouraged marriage alliances to foster local Christian communities, while traders sought companionship and local knowledge through intimate ties.

These relationships were not always formalized through marriage but could involve long-term cohabitation, concubinage, or informal partnerships. Such unions were influenced by both pragmatic concerns—such as mutual protection and economic advantage—and genuine personal affection.

Japanese Women and Interracial Relationships

Japanese women's experiences in interracial intimacy during this period were multifaceted and deeply influenced by social status, cultural norms, and regional differences. Understanding their roles provides insight into how these relationships functioned within the broader societal fabric.

Social Status and Gender Roles

In feudal Japan, women's social roles were largely defined by family and community expectations, often centered around marriage and household duties. However, women in port towns and trading centers had somewhat more fluid social roles due to economic necessity and exposure to foreign cultures.

Many Japanese women who became involved with Western men were from merchant or lower samurai classes, or were part of communities near foreign settlements. Their relationships with Western men could elevate their social standing or provide economic security, but they also navigated challenges such as cultural misunderstandings, language barriers, and social stigma.

Cultural Exchange and Influence

Interracial intimacy in Japan Western men and Japanese women 1543 1900 was not solely about personal relationships; it also involved significant cultural exchange. Japanese women introduced Western men to local customs, cuisine, and language, while Western men often shared knowledge of Christianity, Western medicine, and technology.

These interactions led to hybrid cultural practices, such as the adoption of Western-style clothing by some Japanese women involved with foreigners or the incorporation of Christian rituals into traditional Japanese ceremonies. These blended experiences were early examples of cultural globalization on a personal level.

Challenges and Social Perceptions

Despite the existence of interracial relationships, these unions were often met with suspicion or disapproval from both Japanese and Western communities. Understanding these challenges helps contextualize the complexity and resilience of such relationships.

Japanese Societal Attitudes

Japan's feudal society was deeply rooted in Confucian and Buddhist values, emphasizing social harmony and adherence to established roles. Relationships with foreigners could be seen as disruptive or threatening to social order, especially as Christianity spread and was later persecuted.

Moreover, as Japan moved toward isolationist policies in the early 17th century, interracial intimacy became politically sensitive. The Tokugawa shogunate's sakoku policy severely restricted foreign contact, and interracial relationships were discouraged or forcibly ended in many cases.

Western Perspectives and Prejudices

Western men often viewed Japan through orientalist and imperialist lenses, which shaped their attitudes toward interracial intimacy. While some embraced relationships with Japanese women as genuine connections, others maintained condescending or exploitative attitudes.

Missionaries sometimes promoted marriage to local women as a means of spreading Christianity but also complicated these relationships by imposing Western moral frameworks. Traders and sailors might have engaged in casual liaisons without committing to long-term partnerships, adding layers of complexity to the nature of intimacy.

Legacy and Historical Significance

The period from 1543 to 1900 saw the evolution of interracial intimacy in Japan. Western men and Japanese women, from early contact through isolation and eventual modernization, left enduring marks on Japan's cultural and social landscape.

The Emergence of Mixed-Race Descendants

Children born from these unions often occupied unique social positions. Some were accepted into Japanese society and played roles in bridging cultural divides, while others faced discrimination. Their existence challenged rigid notions of race and identity long before modern concepts emerged.

Influence on Japan's Modernization

As Japan opened up again in the late 19th century during the Meiji Restoration, the early experiences of interracial intimacy and cultural exchange laid groundwork for more extensive international relations. The blending of Western and Japanese customs in families and communities contributed to Japan's ability to navigate modernization while maintaining cultural identity.

Reflection in Literature and Art

Historical records, literature, and art from this period occasionally reflect themes of interracial relationships, often romanticized or exoticized. These portrayals offer insights into contemporary attitudes and the enduring fascination with cross-cultural intimacy.

Exploring Interracial Intimacy Through an Academic Lens

For those interested in deeper study, interracial intimacy in Japan Western men and Japanese women 1543 1900 represents a rich field for historians, anthropologists, and cultural scholars. Examining primary sources such as missionary letters, trade records, and personal diaries can illuminate personal stories behind broader historical narratives.

Key Areas of Research

- **Missionary Accounts:** Jesuit and other missionary correspondence provide firsthand observations of interracial marriages and family life.
- **Trade and Port Town Records:** Documentation from Nagasaki, Hirado, and other key ports reveals demographic and social patterns.
- **Legal and Political Texts:** Shogunal edicts and policies shed light on government responses to foreign presence and interracial unions.
- **Artistic Representations:** Ukiyo-e prints and literature sometimes depict Western-Japanese couples, offering cultural perspectives.

Methodological Considerations

Studying interracial intimacy requires sensitivity to historical context and avoiding presentist judgments. It also benefits from interdisciplinary approaches, combining history, sociology, gender studies, and postcolonial theory to capture the full complexity of these relationships.

The narrative of interracial intimacy in Japan Western men and Japanese women 1543 1900 is a testament to human connection across cultural divides. It offers valuable lessons about adaptability, acceptance, and the nuanced interplay of identity in a globalizing world. Whether viewed through the lens of history, culture, or personal experience, these relationships continue to inspire curiosity and reflection on the past and its impact on present-day intercultural interactions.

Frequently Asked Questions

What historical events marked the beginning of interracial intimacy between Western men and Japanese women around

1543?

The arrival of the Portuguese in Japan in 1543 marked the beginning of intercultural contact, including instances of interracial intimacy between Western men and Japanese women. This period coincided with the Nanban trade era, facilitating social and cultural exchanges.

How did Japanese society view relationships between Western men and Japanese women during the period 1543 to 1900?

Views on interracial relationships varied over time and region. Initially, some Japanese communities were open due to trade and missionary activities, but as Japan moved toward isolation during the Edo period, such relationships became less common and often faced social stigma.

What role did Christian missionaries play in interracial intimacy between Western men and Japanese women in this era?

Christian missionaries often acted as intermediaries and sometimes married Japanese women themselves. Their presence helped facilitate cultural exchange and occasionally led to interracial relationships, especially during the mid-16th to early 17th centuries before Christianity was banned.

Were there any notable mixed-race children born from unions between Western men and Japanese women in Japan between 1543 and 1900?

Yes, there were mixed-race children known as 'Namban' children during the Nanban trade period. Some of these children played roles in bridging cultural divides, although their social status varied greatly depending on the era and location.

How did the Tokugawa shogunate's isolation policy affect interracial relationships between Western men and Japanese women?

The Tokugawa shogunate's sakoku (closed country) policy implemented in the 1630s severely restricted foreign contact, limiting interracial relationships. Western men were generally banned from Japan, and Christian influences were suppressed, reducing opportunities for such intimacy.

Did interracial intimacy have any influence on cultural or social changes in Japan during 1543-1900?

Interracial intimacy contributed to early cultural exchanges, introducing new ideas, technologies, and customs. Relationships between Western men and Japanese women sometimes facilitated the spread of Christianity and Western knowledge, impacting Japanese society subtly over time.

How did the Meiji Restoration (starting 1868) impact interracial relationships between Western men and Japanese women?

The Meiji Restoration opened Japan to increased Western influence and interaction, leading to more frequent interracial relationships. Western men residing in Japan for trade, diplomacy, and education found partners among Japanese women, reflecting Japan's modernization and internationalization efforts.

Additional Resources

****Interracial Intimacy in Japan: Western Men and Japanese Women 1543–1900****

Interracial intimacy in Japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900 presents a fascinating lens through which to examine the complex social, cultural, and political interactions between Japan and the West during a transformative period in world history. From the first recorded contact of Portuguese traders in 1543 to the dawn of the Meiji era in 1868 and beyond until 1900, the relationships between Western men and Japanese women were influenced by trade, religion, social hierarchies, and evolving cultural attitudes. This article explores the nuances of these interracial relationships, providing historical context, cultural perspectives, and an analytical view of how intimacy bridged vastly different worlds.

Historical Context of Western-Japanese Interactions (1543–1900)

The year 1543 marked a pivotal moment when Portuguese traders arrived on Tanegashima Island, introducing firearms and new commodities to Japan. This initial contact set the stage for centuries of interaction that included not only commerce and religion but also interpersonal relationships. Western men—primarily Portuguese, Dutch, English, and later Americans—began to establish footholds in Japan's ports, particularly Nagasaki, which became a hub of cross-cultural exchange.

Between the mid-16th century and the late 19th century, Japan experienced drastic political and social changes. The Sengoku period's fragmentation gave way to the Tokugawa shogunate's isolationist policies (*sakoku*), which limited foreign contact but did not entirely erase Western influence. The arrival of Commodore Perry in 1853 and the subsequent opening of Japan to international trade reignited Western presence and intercultural encounters.

Western Men in Japan: Merchants, Missionaries, and Sailors

Western men who interacted with Japanese society occupied various roles:

- ****Merchants and Traders:**** They established commercial networks exchanging goods such as silk, silver, and firearms.
- ****Christian Missionaries:**** Jesuit priests sought to convert Japanese people, often marrying or

forming relationships with local women.

- **Sailors and Adventurers:** Many remained in Japan for extended periods, integrating into local communities.

These men often faced cultural and legal restrictions but found opportunities for intimacy and companionship with Japanese women, which were sometimes viewed through pragmatic lenses—alliances that facilitated trade or social acceptance.

Interracial Intimacy: Social Dynamics and Cultural Perspectives

Interracial intimacy in Japan between western men and Japanese women from 1543 to 1900 was shaped by a mixture of curiosity, necessity, and cultural negotiation. The relationships ranged from casual liaisons to formal unions, each reflecting the broader societal attitudes and power structures of the time.

Japanese Women's Roles and Agency

Japanese women engaged with Western men in various capacities, often navigating rigid social norms. While the patriarchal structure of Tokugawa Japan imposed constraints, women in port cities like Nagasaki had relatively more exposure to foreigners. Some women acted as intermediaries—translators, concubines, or partners—bridging language and cultural gaps.

These relationships sometimes afforded women economic or social benefits, such as improved status or access to goods. However, they could also expose women to stigma or vulnerability, especially when official policies toward foreigners fluctuated.

Religious Influence and Marriages

Christianity played a significant role in interracial intimacy. Missionaries who sought converts often entered into relationships with Japanese women, both as a means of cultural integration and personal companionship. These unions were sometimes formalized through Christian marriage rites, introducing new familial structures.

However, the Tokugawa regime's eventual ban on Christianity in the early 17th century led to increased persecution, affecting couples and their offspring. Despite this, some mixed families persisted, blending Japanese and Western traditions.

Features and Patterns of Interracial Relationships

Several features characterized interracial intimacy between Western men and Japanese women during this period:

- **Geographic Concentration:** Most interactions occurred in port cities such as Nagasaki, Hirado, and Yokohama, where foreign enclaves existed.
- **Economic Motivation:** Relationships often intersected with economic interests, with Western men seeking local alliances for trade facilitation.
- **Cultural Exchange:** These relationships were conduits for cultural diffusion, including language, customs, and religious beliefs.
- **Power Imbalances:** Colonial and mercantile power structures sometimes created asymmetrical dynamics, influencing the nature of intimacy and social acceptance.

Mixed-Race Offspring and Their Social Status

Children born of Western men and Japanese women occupied ambiguous social positions. Known as “hāfu” in modern terminology, these mixed-race individuals often faced challenges regarding identity and acceptance. Some were integrated into Japanese society, especially if raised within Christian communities, while others experienced marginalization.

The Meiji Restoration’s modernization efforts introduced new attitudes toward race and nationality, influencing how mixed-race families were perceived and treated by both Japanese and Western societies.

Comparisons with Other Asian Contexts

Interracial intimacy in Japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900 can be contextualized by comparing it with similar phenomena in other parts of Asia during the same period:

- In the Philippines, Spanish colonization led to widespread interracial unions and mestizo populations.
- In India, British colonial presence resulted in complex relationships between British men and Indian women, often shaped by colonial hierarchies.
- In Southeast Asian trading ports like Malacca, interracial relationships were common among diverse ethnic groups and European traders.

Japan’s unique isolationist policies and cultural homogeneity made its experience distinct, marked by more limited but highly significant interactions.

Pros and Cons of Interracial Intimacy in Historical Japan

Understanding the benefits and drawbacks of these relationships provides a balanced perspective:

1. Pros:

- Facilitated cultural and technological exchange.
- Created familial and social bridges between diverse communities.
- Enabled personal and economic opportunities for women and men alike.

2. Cons:

- Often involved power imbalances and exploitation.
- Led to social stigmatization, especially for women and mixed-race children.
- Subject to persecution during periods of political and religious repression.

Legacy and Cultural Impact

The legacy of interracial intimacy between Western men and Japanese women from 1543 to 1900 continues to influence Japan's cultural and social fabric. These early connections laid groundwork for subsequent international relationships during Japan's modernization and global integration.

Mixed heritage individuals contributed to Japan's evolving identity, while stories of intercultural romance and cooperation enrich historical narratives often dominated by political and economic histories. Contemporary interest in these relationships highlights the enduring significance of personal ties amidst historical upheaval.

The complexities of interracial intimacy in Japan during this era underscore the intricate interplay of culture, power, and human connection, offering valuable insights into both past and present cross-cultural dynamics.

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interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: Interracial Intimacy in Japan Gary P. Leupp, 2003-01-01 Gary Leupp describes and analyzes intimate relationships between Western men and Japanese women throughout the entire early modern period and into the first few decades of the modern period, when Westerners came to reside in the Treaty Ports. This subject has been largely overlooked by Western scholars, until now.

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: Victorian Women Travellers in Meiji Japan Lorraine Sterry, 2009-01-29 This volume complements other

published works about travel by nineteenth-century women writers by locating and creating 'space' for Japan which is missing within recent critical discourses on travel writing. It examines the narratives of women writers who travelled to Japan from the mid-1850s onwards, when Japan was first opened to the West, and became a highly desirable travel destination for decades thereafter. Many women travelled in this period, and although most left no record of their journeys, enough did to form a discrete body of literature spanning more than fifty years – from the end of the feudal Tokugawa era to the rise of Meiji Japan as a world power. Their narratives about Japan occupy a culturally significant place, not only in the genre of Victorian female travel writing, but in Victorian travel writing per se. The writers who are the subject of this book are divided into two groups: those who were 'travellers-by-intent', namely, Anna D'A, Alice Frere, Annie Brassey, Isabella Bird and Marie Stopes, and those who 'travelled-by-default' as the wives of diplomats, namely Mrs Pemberton Hodgson, Mrs Hugh Fraser and Baroness Albert d'Anethan.

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: Japan's Minorities Michael Weiner, 2009 Examining the ways in which the Japanese have manipulated historical memory, the contributors reveal the presence of an underlying concept of 'Japaneseness' that excludes members of the principal minority groups in Japan.

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: Madama Butterfly/Madamu Batafurai Arthur Groos, 2023-02-16 Puccini's famous but controversial Madama Butterfly reflects a practice of 'temporary marriage' between Western men and Japanese women in nineteenth-century treaty ports. Groos' book identifies the plot's origin in an eye-witness account and traces its transmission via John Luther Long's short story and David Belasco's play. Archival sources, many unpublished, reveal how Puccini and his librettists imbued the opera with differing constructions of the action and its heroine. Groos's analysis suggests how they constructed a 'contemporary' music-drama with multiple possibilities for interpreting the misalliance between a callous American naval officer and an impoverished fifteen-year-old geisha, providing a more complex understanding of the heroine's presumed 'marriage'. As an orientalizing tragedy with a racially inflected representation of Cio-Cio-San, the opera became a lightning rod for identity politics in Japan, while also stimulating decolonizing transpositions into indigenous theatre traditions such as Bunraku puppet theatre and Takarazuka musicals.

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: The Cambridge History of the Pacific Ocean: Volume 2, The Pacific Ocean since 1800 Anne Perez Hattori, Jane Samson, 2023-01-05 Volume II of The Cambridge History of the Pacific Ocean focuses on the latest era of Pacific history, examining the period from 1800 to the present day. This volume discusses advances and emerging trends in the historiography of the colonial era, before outlining the main themes of the twentieth century when the idea of a Pacific-centred century emerged. It concludes by exploring how history and the past inform preparations for the emerging challenges of the future. These essays emphasise the importance of understanding how the postcolonial period shaped the modern Pacific and its historians.

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: The Merchant's Tale Simon Partner, 2017-12-19 In April 1859, at age fifty, Shinohara Chūemon left his old life behind. Chūemon, a well-off farmer in his home village, departed for the new port city of Yokohama, where he remained for the next fourteen years. There, as a merchant trading with foreigners in the aftermath of Japan's 1853 "opening" to the West, he witnessed the collapse of the Tokugawa shogunate, the civil war that followed, and the Meiji Restoration's reforms. The Merchant's Tale looks through Chūemon's eyes at the upheavals of this period. In a narrative history rich in colorful detail, Simon Partner uses the story of an ordinary merchant farmer and its Yokohama setting as a vantage point onto sweeping social transformation and its unwitting agents. Chūemon, like most newcomers to Yokohama, came in search of economic opportunity. His story sheds light on vital issues in Japan's modern history, including the legacies of the Meiji Restoration; the East Asian treaty port system; and the importance of everyday life—food, clothing, medicine, and hygiene—for national identity. Centered on an individual, The Merchant's Tale is also the story of a

place. Created under pressure from aggressive foreign powers, Yokohama was the scene of gunboat diplomacy, a connection to global markets, the birthplace of new lifestyles, and the beachhead of Japan's modernization. Partner's history of a vibrant meeting place humanizes the story of Japan's revolutionary 1860s and their profound consequences for Japanese society and culture.

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900:

AsiaPacifiQueer Fran Martin, Peter Jackson, Mark McLelland, Audrey Yue, 2010-10-01 This interdisciplinary collection examines the shaping of local sexual cultures in the Asian Pacific region in order to move beyond definitions and understandings of sexuality that rely on Western assumptions. The diverse studies in *AsiaPacifiQueer* demonstrate convincingly that in the realm of sexualities, globalization results in creative and cultural admixture rather than a unilateral imposition of the western values and forms of sexual culture. These essays range across the Pacific Rim and encompass a variety of forms of social, cultural, and personal expression, examining sexuality through music, cinema, the media, shifts in popular rhetoric, comics and magazines, and historical studies. By investigating complex processes of localization, interregional borrowing, and hybridization, the contributors underscore the mutual transformation of gender and sexuality in both Asian Pacific and Western cultures. Contributors are Ronald Baytan, J. Neil C. Garcia, Kam Yip Lo Lucetta, Song Hwee Lim, J. Darren Mackintosh, Claire Maree, Jin-Hyung Park, Teri Silvio, Megan Sinnott, Yik Koon Teh, Carmen Ka Man Tong, James Welker, Heather Worth, and Audrey Yue.

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: Selling

Women Amy Stanley, 2012-06-19 "At last, a study that goes far beyond the urban-centered discourse with which we are already familiar to place the trafficking of women in a solid historical and comparative context. Through a carefully reasoned and balanced analysis of diverse sources, Stanley shows how prostitution practices varied. This book will set the standard for studies of prostitution in early modern Japan for decades to come." -Anne Walthall, University of California, Irvine "Selling Women is a remarkable achievement. With her gaze fixed firmly on the young women whose labor sustained prostitution as an industry, Amy Stanley traces shifts in the moral economy of the sex trade over the course of the Tokugawa era, and unveils the ironic consequences of economic growth and social change. This meticulously researched, wonderfully written book is a major contribution to the literature on gender and society in Japan." -David L. Howell, Harvard University

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: Race and

Racism in Modern East Asia, 2012-11-01 *Race and Racism in Modern East Asia* juxtaposes Western racial constructions of East Asians with constructions of race and their outcomes in modern East Asia. It is the first endeavor to explicitly and coherently link constructions of race and racism in both regions. These constructions have not only played a decisive role in shaping the relations between the West and East Asia since the mid nineteenth century, but also exert substantial influence on current relations and mutual images in both the East-West nexus and East Asia. Written by some of the field's leading authorities, this groundbreaking 21-chapter volume offers an analysis of these constructions, their evolution and their interrelations.

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: Language

Learning, Gender and Desire Kimie Takahashi, 2013-01-22 For many Japanese women, the English language has never been just another school subject. For them, English is the tool of identity transformation and the means of obtaining what they passionately desire – mobility, the West and its masculinity. *Language Learning, Gender and Desire* explores Japanese women's passion for learning English and how they negotiate identity and desire in the terrain of racial, sexual and linguistic politics. Drawing on ethnographic data and popular media texts, the book offers new insights into the multidirectionality of desire and power in the context of second language learning.

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: The Age of

Silver Ning Ma, 2017 *The Age of Silver* considers how commerce fueled the emergence of the novel around the globe, examining the evolution of epochal works of national literature from *Don Quixote* in 1605 to *Robinson Crusoe* in 1719.

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: Entangling

Alliances Susan Zeiger, 2010-03-22 Throughout the twentieth century, American male soldiers returned home from wars with foreign-born wives in tow, often from allied but at times from enemy nations, resulting in a new, official category of immigrant: the “allied” war bride. These brides began to appear en masse after World War I, peaked after World War II, and persisted through the Korean and Vietnam Wars. GIs also met and married former “enemy” women under conditions of postwar occupation, although at times the US government banned such unions. In this comprehensive, complex history of war brides in 20th-century American history, Susan Zeiger uses relationships between American male soldiers and foreign women as a lens to view larger issues of sexuality, race, and gender in United States foreign relations. *Entangling Alliances* draws on a rich array of sources to trace how war and postwar anxieties about power and national identity have long been projected onto war brides, and how these anxieties translate into public policies, particularly immigration.

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: *The Sakoku Edicts and the Politics of Tokugawa Hegemony* Michael S. Laver, 2011 In the major literature on early modern Japan, the sakoku (closed country) edicts lurk in the background, and while scholars are generally aware of the major tenets of the policy, for example, the inability of Japanese to travel abroad or the clampdown on Christianity, the specifics of the edicts have yet to be studied in detail despite its potential to reveal much about this era of Japan's history. This work seeks to clarify the seventeen-article sakoku edicts of 1635 as well as to situate the edicts in the general foreign policy of seventeenth-century Edo Japan. This book will also examine a number of other policies that evolved in the first half of the seventeenth century to complete what is commonly (and somewhat erroneously) referred to as the closed-country period. A great number of works on European and Chinese interactions with Japan have appeared over the past few decades, and most of them have done a fine job of dispensing with the myth that Japan was somehow hermetically sealed from the outside world. Scholars are aware that the Dutch played a large role in keeping the shogun informed about affairs in Europe, and that the Chinese were coming to Japan in ever greater numbers. They are also aware of the relationship between Japan and Korea. However, the fact remains that the Tokugawa did take pains to regulate the interactions of Europeans with Japan, and these measures are generally found in the various edicts passed by the bakufu in the first half of the seventeenth century. This book translates and illuminates the specific machinery of Japan's foreign relations, especially as it pertained to European trade and Christianity. In so doing, this study will situate the edicts--which are largely taken for granted, even though little has been studied--in Japan's early modern history. There are two insights this book presents. First of all, the study will demonstrate that the sakoku edicts were not a monolithic piece of legislation, but rather they evolved over time. The edicts against Christianity, the expulsion of the Spanish and the Portuguese, and the establishment of the machinery to regulate foreign trade were all responses to historical stimuli, and as such evolved in response to Japan's interactions with Europe and European trade and ideas. Second, this work will show that, ironically, the Tokugawa control of Japan's foreign policy was meant to strengthen its domestic control, especially vis-a-vis the powerful daimyo of western Japan, who traditionally profited with relations with the West. Therefore, there is much more to the sakoku edicts than simply the regulation of Japan's relations with foreigners. This book will appeal to the wider academic community working on pre-modern and early modern Japan. It will also be of value to those whose work involves the expansion of Europe into Asia, as well as European-Asian interactions. Written in a highly accessible style, this book will be of interest to even the casual reader of Japanese history.

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: *A Companion to the Global Renaissance* Jyotsna G. Singh, 2013-02-26 Featuring twenty one newly-commissioned essays, *A Companion to the Global Renaissance: English Literature and Culture in the Era of Expansion* demonstrates how today's globalization is the result of a complex and lengthy historical process that had its roots in England's mercantile and cross-cultural interactions of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. An innovative collection that interrogates the global paradigm of our period and offers a new history of globalization by exploring its influences on English culture and

literature of the early modern period. Moves beyond traditional notions of Renaissance history mainly as a revival of antiquity and presents a new perspective on England's mercantile and cross-cultural interactions with the New and Old Worlds of the Americas, Africa, and the East, as well with Northern Europe. Illustrates how twentieth-century globalization was the result of a lengthy and complex historical process linked to the emergence of capitalism and colonialism. Explores vital topics such as East-West relations and Islam; visual representations of cultural 'others'; gender and race struggles within the new economies and cultures; global drama on the cosmopolitan English stage, and many more

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: Mixed-race and Modernity in Colonial India Adrian Carton, 2012 Focusing on Portuguese, British and French colonial spaces, this book traces changing concepts of mixed-race identity in early colonial India. Starting in the sixteenth century, it discusses how the emergence of race was always shaped by affiliations based on religion, class, national identity, gender and citizenship across empires. In the context of increasing British power, the book looks at the Anglo-French tensions of the eighteenth century to consider the relationship between modernity and race-making. Arguing that different forms of modernity produced divergent categories of hybridity, it considers the impact of changing political structures on mixed-race communities. With its emphasis on specificity, the book situates current and past debates on the mixed-race experience and the politics of whiteness in broader historical and global contexts. By contributing to the understanding of race-making as an aspect of colonial governance, the book illuminates some margins of colonial India that are often lost in the shadows of the British regime. It is of interest to academics of world history, postcolonial studies, South Asian imperial history and critical mixed-race studies.

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: Words in Dictionaries and History Olga Timofeeva, Tanja Säily, 2011 Bringing together fifteen articles by scholars in Europe and North America, this collection aims to represent and advance studies in historical lexis. It highlights the significance of the understanding of dictionary-making and language-making as important socio-cultural phenomena. With its general focus on England and English, the book investigates the reception and development of historical and modern English vocabulary and culture in different periods, social and professional strata, geographical varieties of English, and other national cultures. The volume is based on individual (meta)lexicographical, etymological, lexicosemantic and corpus studies, representing two large areas of research: the first part focuses on the history of dictionaries, analysing them in diachrony from the first professional dictionaries of the Baroque period via Enlightenment and Romanticism to exploring the possibilities of the new online lexicographical publications; and the second part looks at the interfaces between etymology, semantic development and word-formation on the one hand, and changes in society and culture on the other.

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: Race and Racism in Modern East Asia Rotem Kowner, Walter Demel, 2015-04-21 A sequel to the groundbreaking volume, *Race and Racism in Modern East Asia: Western and Eastern Constructions*, the present volume examines in depth interactions between Western racial constructions of East Asians and local constructions of race and their outcomes in modern times. Focusing on China, Japan and the two Koreas, it also analyzes the close ties between race, racism and nationalism, as well as the links race has had with gender and lineage in the region. Written by some of the field's leading authorities, this insightful and engaging 23-chapter volume offers a sweeping overview and analysis of racial constructions and racism in modern and contemporary East Asia that is unsurpassed in previous scholarship.

interracial intimacy in japan western men and japanese women 1543 1900: Slaving Zones Jeff Fynn-Paul, Damian Alan Pargas, 2018-01-03 Listen to podcast on "Slaving Zones, Contemporary Slavery and Citizenship: Reflections from the Brazilian Case". In *Slaving Zones: Cultural Identities, Ideologies, and Institutions in the Evolution of Global Slavery*, fourteen authors—including both world-leading and emerging historians of slavery—engage with the 'Slaving

Zones' theory. This theory has recently taken the field of Mediterranean slavery studies by storm, and the challenge posed by the editors was to see if the 'Slaving Zones' theory could be applied in the wider context of long-term global history. The results of this experiment are promising. In the Introduction, Jeff Fynn-Paul points out over a dozen ways in which the contributors have added to the concept of 'Slaving Zones', helping to make it one of the more dynamic theories of global slavery since the advent of Orlando Patterson's *Slavery and Social Death*.

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