

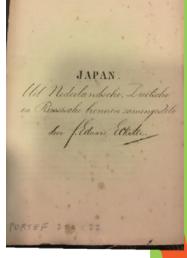
2019 CAAS ユニット研究会 (大学院国際日本学研究院)

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## The allure of other worlds: scholarly exchanges between Japanese and Europeans in late Tokugawa Japan



The interest in the 'other world' was mutual between VOC-servants and Japanese intellectuals and professionals who visited them. Although the general view is that the Japanese mostly 'received' information that they could use for their 'modernization,' usually subsumed under the banner of rangaku, the actual situation was more complicated. Europeans just as eagerly sought Japanese books containing geographic, historical, ethnographic, botanical, mineralogical, and other information relating to Japan and surrounding areas. Instances of exchange in publications as well as in unpublished sources like letters, notes etc. from libraries and archives in Japan and The Netherlands are presented here to show actual expectations, friendship and acknowledgments between scholars from both worlds.





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