Otsu City Museum of History: 30th Anniversary Commemorative Special Exhibition

Shōjuraikōji and Seianji

—Akechi Mitsuhide Related Temples and Shrines of ShimoSakamoto—

October 10 (Sat) – November 23 (Mon), 2020

OPENING HOURS 9am–5pm (Last admission by 4:30pm)
CLOSED DAYS Mondays and November 4
Organizers Otsu City, Otsu City Board of Education
Otsu City Museum of History, The Kyoto Shimbun
With the Special Assistance of Shōjuraikōji Temple, Seianji Temple
With the Assistance of The Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan,
The Museum of Shiga Prefecture, Biwako-Bunkakan
With the Support of Biwako Broadcasting Co., Ltd., e-radio, Jiji Press, Otsu Branch Office,
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The Mainichi Newspapers, Otsu Bureau, THE SANKEI SHIMBUN, THE YOMIURI SHIMBUN, Otsu Branch, ZTV CO.,LTD.
Admission Adults 800yen (640), University and High School Students 400yen (320),
Junior High School and Elementary School Students 200yen (160)

Fees in parentheses are discounts for advanced purchase, for groups of 15+, for Ōtsu City residents aged 65+, for Ōtsu City residents with disabilities, nursing insurance caretakers, and those requiring special assistance. Please present I.D. to receive the discount. Advance purchase tickets are available from Ōtsu City Tourist Information Centers(Otsu Station, Ishiyama Station, and Katata Station), Lawson Ticket(L code 52781), and Otsu and Osaka,Kyoto-Area Playguides between September15–November23.

Top Right: Important Cultural Property, Standing Eleven-headed Kannon sculpture (detail), Seianji, Heian Period.
Top Left: National Treasure, Six Paths Paintings (King Enma's Court hanging scroll, detail), Shōjuraikōji, Kamakura Period.

文化庁 Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan

日本博 JAPAN CULTURAL EXPO

Supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan in the fiscal 2020

Otsu City Museum of History

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Commemorative Special Exhibition

Shōjuraikōji and Seianji

— Akechi Mitsuhide Related Temples and Shrines of ShimoSakamoto —

Six Paths Paintings: Avīci Hell of No Interval
Shōjuraikōji
Kamakura Period, National Treasure
Exhibition period:October10—November1

Numerous temples and shrines connected with Enryakuji and Hiyoshi Taisha are located in the area of ShimoSakamoto, a once-prosperous port town in the foothills of Mt. Hiei. In particular, Shōjuraikōji, which is also called the Shōsōin repository of the old Ōmi Province,[1] owns a large number of National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties, beginning with the renown Six Paths Paintings (Rokudō-e). Furthermore, Seianji has a standing 11-headed Kannon statue, representative of the Kannon images of Ōmi, and other masterpieces. In 1571 (2nd year of the Genki era), moreover, Akechi Mitsuhide constructed Sakamoto Castle on the site of ShimoSakamoto. The magnificent splendor of this famous castle is recorded also in 16th-century Portuguese missionary Lois Frois' *History of Japan*. The castle was subsequently abandoned due to the Honnōji Incident,[2] the construction of the Ōtsu Castle, and other reasons, but even today accounts of Sakamoto Castle are passed down in this area through Shōjuraikōji as the dismantled and reconstructed castle gate, Seianji as the Akechi Temple (Akechidera), and so on.

This exhibition introduces cultural assets handed down in Akechi Mitsuhide-related ShimoSakamoto. In addition to numerous famous temple-transmitted treasures that have usually not been shown to the public, this time, through the special cooperation of related institutions in Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, Nara, and so on, the hometown return of many most valuable treasures now entrusted to them has been arranged. In particular, after an interval of 36 years the entire set of 15 hanging scrolls of the National Treasure Six Paths Paintings will be lined up alongside one another here in Ōmi! Viewers will have the opportunity to see many treasures of Shōjuraikōji on an unprecedented scale. Further, for people from overseas to become familiar with the Six Paths Paintings, a panel explanation in four languages entitled "The World of the Six Paths Paintings" has been jointly prepared. We will be happy if through this exhibition viewers can come to experience the abundant historical culture of Ōtsu.

[1] The old province of Ōmi corresponds to present-day Shiga Prefecture. The Shōsōin is an 8th-century Imperial Treasury at Tōdaiji Temple in Nara.
[2] Attack leading to the death of warrior lord Oda Nobunaga in 1582.

Exhibition Sections
I. Sakamoto Castle and the Temples and Shrines of ShimoSakamoto II. Seianji
III. Shōjuraikōji: 1. History of Shōjuraikōji; 2. Gen'ō Kokuseiji; 3. Sacred Texts and Teachings of Shōjuraikōji; 4. Buddhist Images of Shōjuraikōji; 5. Decorative Arts of Shōjuraikōji; 6. Paintings of Shōjuraikōji; 7. National Treasure Six Paths Paintings; 8. The World of the Six Paths Paintings.

Cultural Properties
2 National Treasures (17 items); 19 Important Cultural Properties (36 items); 6 Prefecturally-designated Cultural Properties (6 items); 3 Municipally-designated Cultural Properties (3 items).

Standing Amida Nyorai (Buddha Amitābha)
Seianji
Kamakura Period

Standing Eleven-headed Kannon
Shōjuraikōji
Heian Period, Important Cultural Property

Standing Jizō Bosatsu (Bodhisattva Ksitigarbha)
Seianji
Kamakura Period, Ōtsu City-designated Cultural Property

Seated Shaka Nyorai (Buddha Sākyamuni)
Shōjuraikōji
Kamakura Period, Important Cultural Property

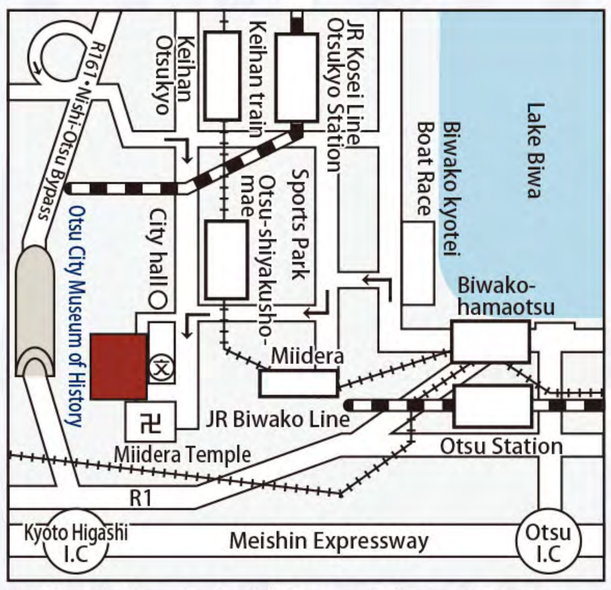
Seed-syllable Mandala of the Lotus Sutra
Shōjuraikōji
Kamakura Period, **First Public Exhibition**

The Three Venerable Ones of Ordination
Shōjuraikōji
Kamakura Period

Death of the Buddha
Seianji
Muromachi Period

Special Exhibition Lectures
Explanation of the Six Paths Paintings in Various Languages
(Admission fee to the exhibition required, maximum 10 people who arrive first on the appointed day, 3:00PM-4:00PM, meet in the view-lobby on the 2nd floor.)

October 15: Six Paths Paintings: English Explanation, Catherine Ludvik (Stanford Japan Center, Adjunct Professor)
October 18: Six Paths Paintings: Chinese Explanation, Hagiwara Hajime (Musashino Art University, Lecturer)
October 23: Six Paths Paintings: Korean Explanation, Oh YoungSam (Kyoto Women's University, Lecturer)



On the Keihan train, Ishiyama-Sakamoto Line, get off at Otsu-shiyakusho-mae Station, walk 5 minutes.
On the JR Kosei Line, get off at Ōtsukyō Station, walk 15 minutes.

Free parking for about 70 cars.

Otsu City Museum of History

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