

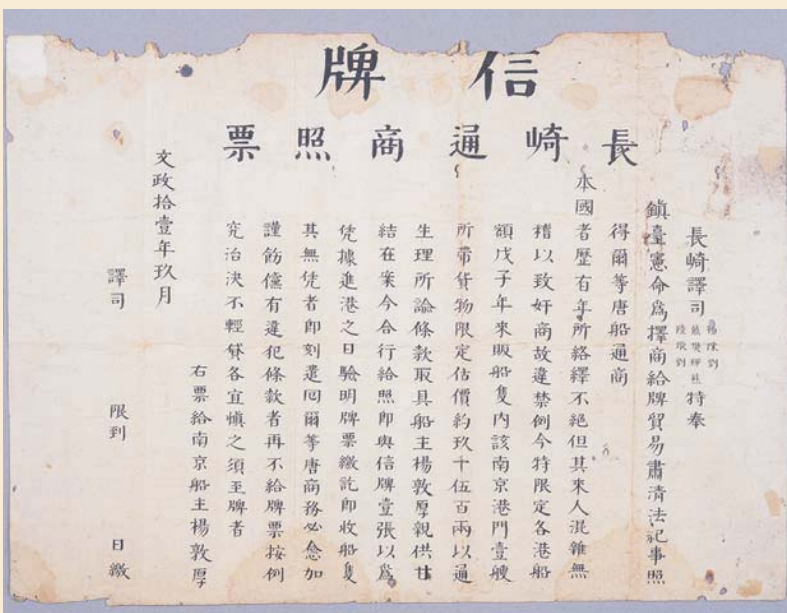
Entry of Chinese Ships into Port (Port Entry/ Trading Permits)



Chinese Ship Temporarily Moored at the Entrance to Nagasaki Port (Detail from “Scroll of the Chinese Quarter”) by Yushi Ishizaki, 1802 (Scroll: Color on silk, 42.5 x 790.0cm).
Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture

Chinese Ship Temporarily Moored at the Entrance to Nagasaki Port (Top)

Yushi Ishizaki was a Connoisseur of Chinese Paintings (an official government post), and was an influential figure in Nagasaki’s artistic circles during the last days of the Shogunate. His “Scroll of the Chinese Quarter” is highly valued for its detailed depiction of Chinese ships entering port, Shinchi and the *Tojin-Yashiki*, and for his detailed notes on positions and situations. The authorities were notified by the Toomi guardhouse at Nomo when a Chinese ship was sighted on the outskirts of the Port. Patrol boats would swiftly make for the ship and supply it with necessities such as vegetables and water, and urge swift entry into the port. They did this to thwart the many ships which would pretend that their rudder or masts were broken so that they could engage in smuggling.



“Shinpai” Nagasaki Trading Permit (9th lunar month, 1828) (Ink on paper 37.3 x 50.5cm).

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“Shinpai” Nagasaki Trading

Shinpai were trading permits introduced by the New Shotoku Laws of 1715. Chinese ships that were not in possession of a *Shinpai* were unable to trade. *Shinpai* were issued by the Chinese interpreters on the orders of the Nagasaki Magistrate. The Japanese were allowed to sell 6,000 *kan* of silver (approximately 22,500 kilograms) and 3,000,000 *kin* (approximately 1.8 million kilograms) of copper a year. In order to prevent Chinese forgery, *Shinpai* were made out of *washi* Japanese paper, registers were created, and a seal was stamped on overlapping sheets of the registers and permits. The seal was kept under strict watch at the Nagasaki Magistrate’s Office.