

Looking Back History

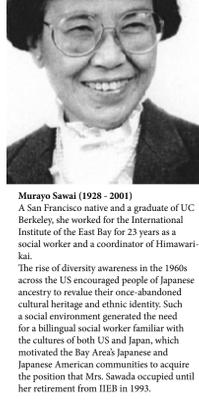
NPO Himawari-kai Chronology

Himawari-kai / International Institute	Ethnic Minority / Women / Japanese Community	General Issues Related to the U.S. and Japan
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Click on blue descriptions on the Himawari-kai column for pictures.

1800

46	● First Chinese immigrants - two men and one woman arrive in San Francisco on the American brig, <i>Eagle</i> .	
53		● Perry Expedition
54		● Commodore Matthew Perry of the U.S. Navy signs the Convention of Kanagawa with the Japanese government.
60		● "Kanrin-Maru," the first official Japanese vessel to visit San Francisco, arrives.
68		● Meiji Restoration
69	● A group of Japanese immigrants from Aizu Domain settles on a property northeast of Sacramento, CA, later regarded as the first permanent Japanese settlement in North America	
70	● Consulate of Japan in San Francisco opens.	
80	● California Civil Code is amended to prohibit the issuance of a marriage license to a white person and a "Negro, Mulatto, or Mongolian"; Filipinos added in 1933; repealed in 1948.	
82	● The Chinese Exclusion Act bans immigrants from China becoming naturalized citizens; repealed in 1943.	
83	● The U.S. Supreme Court rules anti-miscegenation prohibitions constitutional.	
88		● The Meiji Constitution of Japan is promulgated.
94-95		● First Sino-Japanese War



Murayo Sawai (1928-2001)
A San Francisco native and a graduate of UC Berkeley, she worked for the International Institute of the East Bay for 23 years as a social worker and a coordinator of Himawari-kai. The rise of diversity awareness in the 1960s across the US encouraged people of Japanese ancestry to reveal their once-abandoned cultural heritage and ethnic identity. Such a social environment generated the need for a bilingual social worker familiar with the cultures of both US and Japan, which motivated the Bay Area's Japanese and Japanese-American communities to acquire the position that Mrs. Sawai occupied until her retirement from IIEB in 1993.

1900

01	● Japanese language and cultural instruction begins at University of California Berkeley, appointing Yoshisaburo Kuno, a graduate of the university, as a full-time instructor.	● Russo-Japanese War
04-05	● Kyutaro Abiko establishes Yamato Colony in Livingston, California.	● San Francisco earthquake
06		
07-08	● Gentlemen's Agreement between the U.S. and Japan	
07	● Consulate of Japan in San Francisco upgraded to Consulate General of Japan.	
10	● YWCA reports a need for specialized services and activities for newly arrived, non-English speaking immigrant women and girls, the idea of which develops as the establishments of International Institutes in North America.	
13	● The Californian Alien Land Act, aimed at Japanese farmers, bars aliens from owning land; further restrictions area added in 1921 and 1923; repealed in 1948.	
14		● WWI begins. Japan joins Allies in 1914 and the US in 1917.
18	● The first staff meeting of the International Institute of San Francisco (IISF), which later becomes the parent organization of Himawari-kai, is convened.	
21	● The Japanese government voluntarily prohibits female emigration to the United States because of American hostility to picture brides.	
22	● The US supreme court rules Japanese immigrant cannot have access to citizenship.	
	● The Cabel Act: If a female U.S. citizen marries an alien ineligible for citizenship, she loses her citizenship. The law remains in place for 14 years.	
24	● Immigration Quota Act excludes all aliens ineligible for citizenship (all Asians except Hawaiian and Filipinos) and allows entry of alien wives of Chinese merchants, but not alien wives of U.S. citizens until 1930, when Public Law 349 admits wives married before 26 May 1924.	
25		● Japanese government implements Peace Preservation Law making it illegal to advocate either change in the national polity or the abolition of private property while enacting universal manhood suffrage giving all male subjects over 25 the right to vote.
29	● JACL, Japanese American Citizen League, is founded.	● The crash of U.S. stock market and the world depression followed by the tumble of Japanese economy
37		● Second Sino-Japanese War
41		● Beginning of Pacific War. Triggered by the attack on Pearl Harbor
42	● Executive Order 9066 authorizes the military to prescribe military zones from which persons may be excluded; 112,000 Japanese Americans are incarcerated in ten relocation centers as a result.	
45	● War Brides Act, GI Fiancées Act, and Act of 9 August 1946 facilitate entrance of Asian war brides, fiancées, and children. An estimated 200,000 Asian war brides are immigrants to the United States after World War II.	● American troops land on Okinawa Island. ● The U.S. drops atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
46	● The international Institute begins a project to provide assistance, activities, and a social network to the large number of Japanese war brides who were settling with in the area with their American husbands.	
47		● The new Japanese constitution takes effect.
48	● The California Supreme Court invalidates a state anti-miscegenation law.	● Korean War begins.
50		● Japan-U.S. Security Treaty
51		● The Amami Islands are returned to Japan.
52	● The McCarran-Walter Act upholds the national-origin quota based on the 1920 U.S. Census but retains the same quotas for Asia-Pacific triangle countries of the 1924 Immigration Act; alien previously ineligible to citizenship are allowed naturalization rights.	
53		
58	● Officials in Nevada tries to prevent the radical union leader Henry Bridges from marrying his Japanese American fiancée. ● The Center for Japanese Studies is established at UC Berkeley.	
60	● Funding from the Rosenberg Foundation in 1960 helped the IISF to continue its program activities for Japanese war brides, which by this time was focusing on the stresses inherent in intercultural marriage.	● U.S. and Japan renegotiate 1952 security treaty and replace it with amended Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security. ● President Eisenhower's trip to Japan is canceled due to anti U.S. demonstrations over the revision of the treaty. ● Vietnam War begins.
63		● Assassination of John F. Kennedy
64	● Civil Rights Acts of 1964	● Martin Luther King, Jr. delivers his I Have A Dream speech. ● The Shinkansen high-speed rail system and the Metropolitan Expressway are inaugurated. ● Tokyo Olympic
65	● Voting Rights Act	
68	● Fair Housing Act of 1968	● Martin Luther King, Jr. is assassinated. ● The Ogasawara Islands are restored to Japanese sovereignty. ● Japan's GDP surpasses that of West Germany to become the second largest economy after the US. ● Apollo 11 lands on the lunar surface. ● The Expo '70 World's Fair opens in Osaka.
68-69	● Third World students strike at San Francisco State College and the University of California, Berkeley, successfully call attention to the need for ethnic studies in the college curriculum; Asian American Studies is inaugurated as a result.	
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71	● Murayo Sawai is employed as a social worker for IIEB. ● The first official gathering is planned. The first newsletter is published. ● The first meeting "Get Together With The Japanese People in The Community" is held on April 10th. Since then, Himawari-kai has held periodical workshops and lecture series for forty years with various themes (e.g., legal issues, medicine, education, economy, international marriage, family & child psychology, family identity, cooking, art, etc.) ● District social gatherings are organized in Oakland, San Francisco, and El Cerrito. ● The first short trip is organized on September 23rd, which becomes the organization's annual summer tradition.	
72	● Japanese government passes Working Women Welfare Act	● The United States returns control of Okinawa to Japan.
73		● Oil Crisis
74	● "Himawari-kai" becomes the official name of the organization on March 12th. ● Fritz Michi becomes the official assistant of Murayo Sawai on December 11th.	● Watergate scandal: U.S. President Richard Nixon announces his resignation. ● Vietnam War ends.
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76	● Hina-Matsuri Doll's Festival bazaar is organized on Feb 28th.	● United States Bicentennial: The United States celebrates the 200th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.
77	● Hina-Matsuri bazaar on March 5th. Himawari-kai donates chairs to IIEB and also raises funds for East Bay Issei Housing Project. Since then, Himawari-kai has organized multiple fund-raising events to support other community organizations in East Bay. ● Bus trip to Montrey & Carmel on August 26th.	
82	● Eden branch is founded.	
83	● First food bazaar on May 15th; Himawari-kai participates in Oakland Museum's Asian Cultural Festival. ● Food bazaar on October 1st. Himawari-kai donates part of the profits from sales to East Bay Japanese for Action, Inc.	
84	● Sango Harumi becomes the assistant of Murayo Sawai on November 1st and begins news letter publication.	● Los Angeles Olympic
85	● Contra Costa branch is founded on Jan 16th. ● Speaker session "Children born between international parents" on March 16th. ● Himawari-kai celebrates the 16th anniversary on Sep 22nd.	
86	● First flea market ● Bus trip to Carlistoga on August 22nd ● Holiday visit to Eden Issei Terrace and Cypress Home on December 9th, which becomes an annual event since then	● Space Shuttle Challenger disintegrates 73 seconds after launch.
87	● The form of news letter shifts from hand writing to word processors on April 25th. ● Ballet appreciation at San Francisco Opera House on April 25th	● Japanese American Museum of San Jose is founded.
88	● Japanese reference room is established inside IIEB Library.	● Congress passes bill publicly apologizing for the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II and paying \$20,000 to each eligible former internee.
89		● Loma Prieta earthquake
90	● One-day workshop "For a secure retirement life" on September 15th.	
91	● 20th anniversary on September 29th.	● Gulf War begins.
92	● Co-hosting workshop with Korean, Community Center, "Procedure for the Acquisition of Permanent Residency" on April 21st ● Co-hosting the panel discussion with Nobiru-kai, "Children born between Japanese/American parents" ● Extraordinary meeting on June 13th ● Lecture "Permanent Residency Renewal" on October 22nd ● El Cerrito branch is founded.	● Los Angeles riot ● Yoshihiro Hattori, a 16-year-old Japanese exchange student, mistakes the address of a party and is shot dead.
93	● Murayo Sawai retires. Masayuki Asai becomes the coordinator of Himawari-kai	
94	● Ishizue-kai begins referrals and workshops for Japanese-speaking individuals and families in San Jose Japantown.	
95	● Aiko Suga becomes the coordinator of Himawari-kai.	● The "Great Hanshin earthquake" occurs near Kobe, causing loss of 6,434 people lives. ● Sarin gas attack on the Tokyo subway by members of Aum Shinrikyo
96	● The first book fair is held.	
98	● Acquisition of U.S. citizenship with the support of IIEB attorneys ● 25th anniversary on November 3rd ● Co-hosting the celebration for the US citizenship acquisition with other eight organizations ● Relocation of the monthly book fair site to Jay Vee Center, El Cerrito, on December 13th	
99	● Himawari-kai participates in Japanese International Marriage Convention held in LA.	● President Bill Clinton signs Executive Order 13125 to increase participation of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Federal Programs.
00	● President Bill Clinton signs Executive Order 13186 to improve access to services for persons with limited English proficiency.	
01	● 30th anniversary on February 16th ● Murayo Sawai passes away.	● The September 11 attacks ● The United States invades Afghanistan.
02	● Screening of "Aru Okinawa no Josei no Monogatari/The Story of an Okinawan Woman" filmed by Makiko Matsumoto ● Tree-planting ceremony in remembrance of Murayo Sawai on September 30th	
03		● The Iraq War begins with the invasion of Iraq by the U.S. and allied forces.
04	● Relocation of IIEB office on July 1st	
06	● 35th anniversary and the panel discussion "Japanese/American International Marriage: A Half-Century History and Its Future" on October 7th	
07	● IIBA (International Institute of the Bay Area) is founded with the merger of IISF (International Institute of San Francisco) and IIEB (International Institute of the East Bay).	● United States presidential election, 2008: Barack Obama is elected the 44th President of the United States, becoming the first African-American President-elect.
08		
10	● January 30th is designated as "Fred Korematsu Day."	
11	● 40th anniversary in October	● A 9.1-magnitude earthquake and subsequent tsunami hits the east of Japan, followed by the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster.



Gentlemen's Agreement of 1907:
This informal agreement between the United States and Japan was aimed at restricting the number of Japanese immigrants to the United States while assuring the rights of existing Japanese residents, allowing them to bring over wives left in Japan, families, and "picture brides."

Immigration Act of 1924:
The act was initially aimed at restricting Southern and Eastern Europeans, as well as prohibiting the immigration from China and Japan.

International Institute of the Bay Area:
The goal of the organization is to provide immigrants, refugees, and fugitives with legal assistance, welfare services, employment supports, and cultural adjustment trainings.

International Institute of the East Bay (IIEB), one of predecessors of IIBA, has started a project for war brides from Japan already in 1946. Many Japanese women migrated to the U.S. with their American husbands, and Japanese-American communities to acquire the organization's headquarters had been located.

Suffering from cultural solitude, war brides were facing multiple obstacles in adjusting to their new environments. IIEB organized a group for those women to learn American culture and social conventions, which had continued for ten years.

A war bride is a foreign national of over fifty countries who married an American member of the armed forces or an American civilian who was in a foreign country as a result of U.S. mobilization for World War II. The number of the subsequent military occupation.

The Constitution of Japan is the fundamental law of Japan enacted in 1947 during the US occupation. Arguably the best known but also the most controversial section of the constitution would be Article 9, commonly regarded as "no war clause." The amendment of the clause has been debated both by Japanese public and in the Diet for half a century.



Voting Rights Act of 1965 was aimed at assuring voting rights equally to every US citizen and at eliminating all kinds of discrimination against voters. With this act, literacy tests and similar devices that were conventionally used to dilute minority votes have all become illegal.

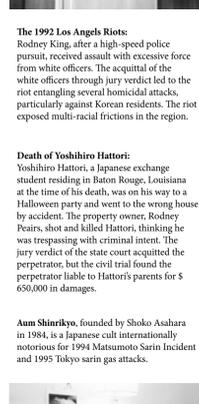
Fair Housing Act of 1968 was aimed at providing for equal housing opportunities regardless of race, creed, or national origin.

Murder of Vincent Chin :
The increasing market share of Japanese automobiles have led to the many lawsuits in Detroit's auto industry, triggering Japan Bashing. Chinese American Vincent Chin, taken to be Japanese, was beaten to death by two men. The perpetrators were leniently sentenced.

Fred Korematsu:
Japanese American Fred Korematsu was arrested for his rejection to the forced displacement, claiming that the Presidential Order 9066 enacted in 1942 was unconstitutional.

The US Supreme Court upheld the legality of the internment order in 1944, but overturned the sentence in 1988. President Bill Clinton awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Korematsu in 1998.

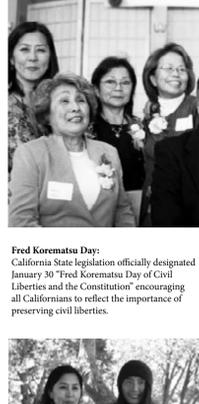
Japanese women in work settings:
The social role of women in the pre-war Japanese society has been described as "be a good wife, a wise mother," tacitly requiring them to give up professions outside their homes and to focus on domestic obligations. Along with the new constitution that assures women's rights, Japanese government has prepared a series of laws to eliminate the discrimination against women in various social occasions. In spite of those legal changes, actual situations surrounding Japanese women particularly in their working environment have not seen conspicuous progress, exposing institutional structures that continuously limiting women's social opportunities.



The 1992 Los Angeles Riots:
Riots broke out after a police pursuit, received assault with excessive force from white officers. The acquittal of the white officers through jury verdict led to the riot escalating several homicidal attacks, particularly against Korean residents. The riot exposed multi-racial frictions in the region.

Yoshihiro Hattori:
Doshu of Hattori, a Japanese exchange student residing in Baton Rouge, Louisiana at the time of his death, was on his way to a Halloween party in Baton Rouge, Louisiana by accident. The killed Hattori, Rodney Pears, shot and property owner, Rodney Pears, shot and killed Hattori, thinking he was trespassing with criminal intent. The jury verdict of the state court acquitted the perpetrator, but the civil trial found the perpetrator liable to Hattori's parents for \$ 650,000 in damages.

Aum Shinrikyo, founded by Shoko Asahara in 1984, is a Japanese cult internationally noted for the 1994 Matsumoto Sarin Incident and 1995 Tokyo sarin gas attacks.



Fred Korematsu Day:
California State legislation officially designated January 30 "Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution" honoring all Californians to reflect the importance of preserving civil liberties.

Last of all, the author wishes to acknowledge Junko Kenmotsu, the current president of Himawari-kai, Mikino Dongon, Sango Harumi, Ineko Ito, Aniko Journey, Junko Kawai, and Yuko Leong.

Tuesday, March 4th, 2014
Chikara Ushiki

2000

00	● President Bill Clinton signs Executive Order 13125 to increase participation of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Federal Programs.	
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