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Book Review of Japanese translation of Hans Brinckmann's book, *The Call of Japan*

(The following is the English translation by Hiromi Mizoguchi of the original review in Japanese)



Ten books which business leaders must read to see into the essence of things

Reviewed by **Kazuyoshi Ishiguro** for *Zaikai* magazine (2022 November 16 issue)

Mr. Ishiguro was born in 1944 in Aichi prefecture. Graduated from the department of engineering in 1967, and the department of law in 1970, of Nagoya University. He served as president/chairman/chief advisor of IT companies in Japan. He has studied Buddhism at Bukkyo University and currently he is working on his doctoral program. He published books on business and Sumo.

Zaikai is a biweekly business magazine. They have a wide range of readership from corporate managers to entrepreneurs with a circulation of 53,000.

“It is not at all easy to see into the essence of things. You have to keep your curiosity high and never stop questioning. I would like to introduce ten books that may be useful for you to spend the coming years of your life and enrich it.

Italian Journey: 1786-1788 by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Kodoku to iu michizure (What keeps me busy and fulfilled everyday) by Kishi Keiko, famous Japanese actress

Book of the Dead: Tibetan religion by Nakazawa Shinichi, Japanese anthropologist

***Watashi to Nihon no Nanajunen* (Me and Japan 70 years) by Hans Brinckmann**

Mikaku Hourai by Uoya Tunekichi, Zen monk and cooking expert

Kim by Rudyard Kipling

Russians by Izutsu Toshihiko, Japanese linguist and philosopher

Laughter is the Best Medicine by Norman Cousins

The Fox by Frederick Forsyth

Kirawareta Kantoku by Suzuki Tadahira, Sportswriter

Watashi to Nihon no Nanajunen by Hans Brinckmann

Brinckmann came to Japan in 1950 at the age of 18. He was active on the frontlines of the Japanese economy and built a successful career as an international banker for 24 years in Japan while he played an important role for cultural exchange between the Netherlands and Japan through Nichi Ran Kyokai (JNS). He proclaims that ‘I’ve always been attracted by Japan’s generally caring, non-violent, balanced way of

life.’ I wonder: Do we still maintain such ‘caring, non-violent, balanced way of life?’”