

Manga Japanese Church History

マンガ日本キリスト教史 上巻 国籍は天にあり
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This cartoon history starts with the edict of 1587 expelling all missionaries from Japan within 20 days by Toyotomi Hideyoshi and goes on to tell how Francis Xavier met a Japanese in Malacca 40 years previously and came to Japan as a missionary. What follows is the story of Christian mission in Japan from the sixteenth century through the period of persecution before and after the closing of Japan to the outside world (鎖国^{きこく}) in 1633 until it became open again to Christian missionaries in the nineteenth century.

This is not a read for the faint-hearted! There are many unfamiliar names although with hiragana and historical footnotes giving explanations where necessary. In conversations there are what may be unfamiliar verb endings both colloquial and dialectal. However, if you want to read the Christian history of Japan in Japanese then this is probably the easiest way to do it.