



# 日本の生活

## JAPAN - SEASON BY SEASON

( Color, 3 reels, 28 min. )

企画：国際観光振興会  
製作：株式会社桜映画社

Planned by: Japan National Tourist Organization  
Produced by: Sakura Motion Picture Co., Ltd.

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ねらいと内容

異国をたずねると、自然や名所旧跡にも興味を覚えるが人間の生活には一そうひかれる。しかし、短期間の観光的な旅行者は、異邦人の生活を余り立ち入って見ることが出来ない。

その意味で、国際観光映画として、敢えて日本人の生活を取りあげて、その特質を理解してもらおうとしている。

自然に順応して暮らし、季節感が生活のリズムとなっている日本人独特の生活——この季節を縦糸とし、日本の現

When they visit a foreign country, tourists are taken to see places of natural beauty and historical interest, but what usually interests them more is the life of the people. It is hardly possible, however, for visitors on short sightseeing tours to penetrate to any great extent the life of the people of a foreign land.

It is to fill this gap that we have produced this international tourist film that attempts to show something of the actual life of the Japanese people.

An outstanding characteristic of the Japanese is the way they adapt their life to nature, and their intense awareness of the changing seasons that give the year its rhythm. Using this for our "warp," as it were, we have tried to weave a picture of modern Japanese life that shows clearly how its strands, in spite of having absorbed much from the West, are still closely entwined with tradition.

An old Japanese art form is the scroll or screen decorated with genre paintings depicting



代生活には西欧から受け容れた近代化にどういふ伝統がからんでいるかを横糸として調べながら、美しく描いてみた。

日本には昔から、絵巻とか、風俗画や、名所づくしの屏風絵という形式がある。いろいろな場面を描きながら、楽しくはなやかにまとめられている。この映画は、いわば映画の絵巻というねらいも持っている。

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大きな構成としては、イントロダクションで、花に託して日本人の季節感と、また伝統的な手工芸品を例にとつて温暖でやわらかいこの国の風土の影響というものにふれている。

次で、春は日本ではすべて「始まるの季節」であるとして、入学（教育）、就職（近代産業）、春の行楽と近代的な一面を取り上げた。

夏では、近代的なデパートと伝統的な縁日の市を比較して、日本の近代化の底には伝統が流れていて独自の展開をしていることを明らかにしている。

秋は古来行楽の季節として、収穫のあとに観菊と、紅葉と、野点てを描いている。

冬は、近代生活にもどつて、近ごろ季節を征服しつつある都市生活を見せながら、しかもなお日本人の感覚の中に根強く生きている季節感にふれ、そうした日本人の生活感情の奥にある地方の生活も描いている。

日本の生活の近代化は今も急テンポで進んでいるが、ユニークな日本の風土と、そこから生れる季節感、これからも長く日本人に影響を与えていくであろう。



famous places and all sorts of scenes from everyday life. These paintings are gay and amusing, and artistically pleasing. We wanted this film to be a sort of e-maki or picture scroll.

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The film is constructed along the following general lines. Flowers introduce the underlying theme of Japanese sensibility to the seasons, followed by scenes of a pottery kiln to show how the gentle, mild climate of this country has influenced its traditional arts and crafts.

Spring is presented as the "season of beginnings" in many areas of life. In education, since the Japanese school year starts in April, and in modern industry since that is the time when graduates start their new jobs. Important spring events, such as the blossoming of Japan's famous cherry trees, are also shown.

Summer is the time of the annual mid-year sales, and the film compares the modern department store with the traditional festival fair, showing clearly how modern Japanese life has its roots in old traditions that have evolved in their own way to suit the times.

Autumn, the harvest season, is, like Spring, a splendid time for enjoying the out-of-doors. The film shows how the fine, clear weather is ideal for viewing the chrysanthemums and the Autumn tints.

Besides the fact that Japanese winters are relatively mild, life nowadays is very comfortable in winter as modern science increasingly conquers the seasons. But although the typical character of each season is gradually being lost in city life, a keen artistic sensibility to the seasons is still firmly rooted in Japanese minds, and in the provinces, seasonal events can still be seen in their original state.

The film concludes with the observation that although the modernization of Japanese life goes on at a brisk pace, Japan's unique climate and the intense "season-awareness" that it produces, will no doubt continue to influence Japanese life and art for a long time to come.

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