



Memorial event on Bronisław Piłsudski on the occasion of the centennial of his death in 1918

A meeting entitled *Poland, Sakhalin and Hokkaido* and consisting of three lectures, a film exhibition and the recital of three relating poems

Place: Hokkaido University, Conference Hall

Date: Sunday, July 29, 2018

Part 1: Lectures 13:30-15:00

Koichi Inoue, Professor Emeritus, Hokkaido University, “Life and work of B. Piłsudski”

Shiro Sasaki, Professor Emeritus, National Museum of Ethnology, “Ainu clothing culture collected by B. Piłsudski”

Fujiko Arai, Graduate student, Hokkaido University, “B. Piłsudski’s images left after in Japan from the Era of Meiji up until today”

Part 2: Documentary film by Waldemar Czechowski 15:15-16:15

Piłsudski Bronisław — zesłaniec, etnograf, bohater. Film o Bronisławie Piłsudskim, starszym bracie Marszałka Piłsudskiego (2016, with Japanese subtitle)

Part 3: Poetry recital 16:30-18:00

Noriko Nagaya, poetess, “An elegy of blind Chuhsamma” (to be read by herself — ‘Chuhsamma’ is B. Piłsudski’s Ainu wife)

Jun Shirai, poetry reader, from “Epic narratives on Chuhsamma, B. Piłsudski and Tomi” (written by **Kohei Hanazaki**, issued by publisher Michitani, Tokyo, 2018.5 — ‘Tomi’ is the author’s beloved Ainu lady)

Shigeyasu Sakatani, poetry reader, “On Penriuku and Bahunke” (a poetry written by **Yoshimi Dobashi** — the former is Biratori chief of Hokkaido who met B. Piłsudski in 1903, whilst the latter — Ai chief of Sakhalin and Chuhsamma’s uncle)

Bronisław Piłsudski (1866-1918) was an excellent Polish anthropologist born in Lithuania. Exiled to Sakhalin Island, he was forced to live for nineteen years in the Far East and engaged in Far Eastern indigenous studies on the Ainu, the Nivkh, and the Uilta. Nowadays he is esteemed as one of the most important pioneers in the given research domain.

In the mid-1980s, scientists at Hokkaido University successfully reproduced those sounds which B. Piłsudski had recorded on wax cylinders in 1902-1905. On this occasion, an eventual recovery of the oldest sounds of Ainu speech evoked a big resonance not only in Japan but all over the world.

This year coincides with the first centennial of Bronisław Piłsudski’s death in 1918 in Paris. In Poland a series of events are to be taken place with the aim to commemorate Polish-Japanese cultural relations: a centennial of B. Piłsudski’s death and regaining independence of Poland in 2018, and that of the establishment of Polish-Japanese diplomatic relations in 2019.

In Japan we organize along with the three lectures by specialists and the film exhibition, also the recital of three poems dedicated to Chuhsamma (B. Piłsudski’s spouse) as well as her uncle Bahunke. At our event you will be able to witness how Piłsudski studies are extending their range in Japan.