Jacob H. Schiff and Japan: The Continued Friendship after the Russo-Japanese War

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He (Schiff) may have judged the capabilities of Japan in the first instance merely from the technical point of view of a banker. But during the course of his transactions with the Japanese government, his interest in our country became deeper, his heart was touched by our national traits, and he now entertained in regard to our people a warm feeling of hope, confidence, and concern. Not only did he tender me advice on matters of immediate concern, but he was mindful of the prospective economic development of Japan, and warned me of financial difficulties that would confront us after the War. I saw in him a true friend of my country, and my personal friendship with him may be said to date from that time.

—Korekiyo Takahashi\(^1\)

**Introduction**

Korekiyo Takahashi (1854-1936) wrote the above in memory of his longtime American friend, Jacob H. Schiff (1847-1920). Schiff, an American Jewish banker, is best known for his role in the Russo-Japanese War. Born to a prominent Jewish family in Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany in 1847, he

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\(^1\) **Note:** The text following the quote is an excerpt from the introduction of the chapter. The full context and citations for the text are not provided in the given excerpt.
immigrated to the United States at the tender age of 18, and began working in finance. By age 38, Schiff served as the president of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., an investment bank in New York, successfully expanding it within the following two decades into the largest investment bank in the United States saved for J.P. Morgan.2)

Schiff and Takahashi found each other through the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-05. During the War, Takahashi, the vice-president of the Bank of Japan at the time, was appointed by the Japanese government as a commissioner to raise funds through the sale of bonds. When Takahashi was struggling to find additional foreign investors to meet the expectation of the Japanese government, he encountered Schiff. Schiff told Takahashi that he was willing to float the foreign loan in the United States. By the end of 1905, Kuhn, Loeb&Co., to the surprise of many, floated a bond issue in the sum of $200 million – equivalent to some $4.5 billion in today’s money. Schiff’s loans were an important factor—and his extensive financial involvement, a deciding factor—in bringing victory to Japan. Schiff and Takahashi were both leading figures in their respective homelands: Schiff, a leading American banker and importantly, one of the most influential Jewish communal leaders, and Takahashi, a leading financier and politician who later became Prime Minister of Japan. Their friendship, founded both on a common interest in Japan’s financial and political development and a deep personal affection, also persevered after the war.

This paper concerns Jacob H. Schiff’s relationship with Japan after the Russo-Japanese War. Previous studies have already dealt with Schiff’s early interest in Japan and his motivation in financing Japan during the War.3) Yet, his relationship with Japan after the war has not received critical attention.4) While the U.S.-Japan relations grew rivalrous with Japanese expansion into Southern Manchuria, Schiff stayed a close friend to many
important Japanese officials, and remained an unofficial financial adviser to the Japanese government. Previously, scholars such as Gary Dean Best and Naomi W. Cohen explained that Schiff’s decision to float Japanese foreign loans was largely based on his deep consideration for Russian Jewry. In particular, the Kishinev pogrom, which occurred ten months prior to the outbreak of the War, shocked Schiff. On the other hand, Daniel Gutwein saw Schiff’s motivation in making a profit as a financier.5) Cohen claims, Schiff continued to support Japan for business reasons and from his anti-Russian sentiment after the War.6) The condition of the Russian Jewry at the time, which occupied Schiff’s mind, did not recover through Russia’s defeat in the War. Schiff was able to make an impression on Russia during the Portsmouth Peace Treaty by meeting with Sergei Witte, a former Finance Minister of Imperial Russia and the Russian Emperor’s plenipotentiary during the negotiation. Jewish leaders including Schiff and Witte discussed Russia’s treatment of the Jews for three hours.7) Nevertheless, Japan’s victory in the Russo-Japanese War did not ease the situation of the Russian Jewry, rather, it made it worse. Between late October and November 1905, 600 pogroms occurred and resulted in the deaths of an estimated 3,000 Jewish victims—more than ever.8) Still, Schiff’s close ties with Japan showed no sign of abating.

Schiff was interested in the future of the new emerging nation. As a banker with a keen sense of business, he naturally saw a good opening for further transactions, but this alone cannot explain his motivation of keeping a close relationship with Japan. The Japanese bonds quickly lost its popularity after the war due to the increasing labor of the Japanese immigrants, and the Japanese victory over Russia in 1905, which left many Americans to fear Japan as an expanding imperial power. Some Americans even feared that the bond would be used for Japan’s military expansion.9) The perceived
Japanese threat left Schiff open to criticism for supporting Japan. Nevertheless, the financier continued to offer sincere guidance to Japanese officials. From the reasons above, the motivation of Schiff’s relations to Japan after the war should be considered separately from the ones before and during the war.

His relationship to Japan was not as business-oriented as others have implied in previous studies. At the same time, Schiff’s anxiety over Russia was an important factor in his relationship with Japan, but this cannot account for his post-war involvement. Apparently, he highly valued his friendship with Japan, and sympathized with its people. His continued friendship was a product of financial and political, but by and large a personal interest in and sentiment for Japan.

Schiff’s connection to Japan after the war is important for two reasons. First, it made an impact upon Japan’s relationship with the United States. Schiff visited Japan in 1906 with his wife and some friends, and was treated as a celebrity among Japanese politicians and aristocrats. His friendship with influential Japanese figures proved long-lasting, ending only with his death in 1920. From the perspective of the Japanese, Schiff was not merely considered a Jew, but also an influential American tycoon, with financial and political power in the United States. In America, meanwhile, Schiff, as an influential financier, was the first American Jewish Orientalist familiar with Japan. He served as something of an “expert” on the Japanese people and nation to the American people. Taken together, Schiff’s unique commercial, political and personal relationship with Japan opens a window on how an elite American Jew thrust himself into the midst of the international events of his day. With some appreciation for the changing structure of world politics, Schiff played far more of a role than has hitherto been appreciated in affecting Japan’s emergence on the world stage at the beginning of the
twentieth century. Second, the story took another turn in later years, when Schiff’s relation to Japan influenced Japan’s treatment of the Jews. It is the purpose of this paper to unravel the threads of Schiff’s influence both in the arena of U.S.-Japan relations and in the Japan’s later treatment of Jews, in which Schiff played an important role.

I. Schiff’s Visit to Japan, 1906

In 1906, Schiff visited Japan for two months. He left New York on February 22, 1906 with his wife, Therese Loeb Schiff, their nephew Ernst H. Schiff of Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany, Mr. Alfred Heidelbach, a famous banker in Paris and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Budge of Hamburg, Germany, and Mr. and Mrs. Sigmund Neustadt, a wealthy banker in New York, and the parents of Schiff’s daughter-in-law.11)

Upon his arrival in Japan on March 28, he was invited to a luncheon by the Meiji Emperor, and was awarded the Order of the Rising Sun. It replaced the Second Order of the Sacred Treasure of Japan, which he had received from the Emperor in 1905 for his contribution to Japanese war loans. In addition to the fact that the second award was more prestigious than the first, the Emperor directly thanked Schiff for his important assistance during the War. It was a memorable moment for Schiff when the Emperor received him alone, standing in a reception room. He shook Schiff’s hand, and told him that he had heard of the important assistance which Schiff had given the nation at a critical time, and that he was pleased to have an opportunity to thank him in person for it.12) Remarkably, Schiff was the first foreign recipient ever to receive the Order of the Rising Sun. While, previously, foreign princes had been honored by the Emperor, Schiff was the first private citizen from a foreign country to be invited to the Imperial
Schiff’s visit was received as a “great event” in Japan, and was reported widely in Japanese newspapers. *The Yomiuri Shimbun*, the most widely-read newspaper in Japan at that time, dedicated thirty-one articles to Schiff’s visit. Most articles appeared on the front cover or on the second page of the newspaper. His contribution during the War was much appreciated by important figures such as politicians, financiers, entrepreneurs, and aristocrats, many of whom hoped to organize parties for him.¹⁴)

Schiff was hosted by the most important members of the Japanese political and financial world. They included Korekiyo Takahashi; Yoshiro Sakatani, the Minister of Finance; Baron Kentaro Kaneko, a Harvard graduate and a member of the Privy Council; Kihachiro Okura, a Japanese tycoon; Shigenobu Okuma, statesman; Baron Eiichi Shibusawa, industrialist; Baron Hisaya Iwasaki, entrepreneur; Koukichi Sonoda, former delegate to London and entrepreneur; Baron Takamine Mitsui, 10ᵗʰ president of Mitsui Zaibatsu; Juichi Soyeda, a president of the Bank of Formosa; and Earl Masayoshi Matsukata, politician. Among them, three of them were former and future prime ministers of Japan.¹⁵)

When Sakatani, the Minister of Finance, hosted Schiff, he addressed him as “the most distinguished guests we have ever had from the United States of America.”¹⁶) He thanked Schiff by saying “I do not have language suitable enough to give utterance to the national feeling of thankfulness to the full extent.”¹⁷)

At another welcome party, Takahashi dedicated the following words to Schiff:

The financial support given by the American people was a material expression of their warm sympathy toward our nation. We
are happy, therefore, to express our gratitude to the American people upon the present occasion of Mr. Schiff’s visit. But considering the fact that no Japanese loan had previously been issued in America, the remarkable success that attended each issue there during the past two years must be attributed, in addition to the sympathy of the American people, to the efforts of the influential firm of Messrs. Kuhn, Loeb & Co. and their associates who have such a large following among the American public.18)

Both remarks made by the Japanese officials show how Schiff’s contribution was received by the Japanese, and that by large, he was treated as an American representative. Schiff was an American banker, but in fact, Schiff’s decision of floating the loans did not represent the attitude of American bankers towards Japanese bonds. Evidently, when Takahashi consulted with some American bankers during the War, he did not see any prospects in the United States, he therefore left for Britain within five days of his arrival in New York.19) What Schiff’s decision did represent was the American Jewish response to the Russo-Japanese War.20) It was also reflected in the remark made by the Russian minister of finance, Vladimir Kokovtsov several years after the Russo-Japanese War: “Our government will never forgive or forget what that Jew, Schiff, did to us...He alone made it possible for Japan to secure a loan in America.”21) Kokovtsov also knew that Schiff saw the war as a tool to avenge Russia, which he considered deserving of punishment.

The Bank of Japan also arranged a party in Schiff’s honor, and three hundred to 400 guests were invited to the party.22) Schiff met Japanese Prime Minister, Kinmochi Saionji, and most of the other ministers, ambassadors, and even naval officers, most famously, Admiral Togo Heihachiro, who was a war hero.23)
In addition, Schiff and his party were welcomed into the households of Japanese aristocrats, who displayed American flags in order to honor the American banker on this special occasion.\textsuperscript{24} According to Schiff’s travel journal, many Japanese he met spoke French, German, or English. And many were westernized, and did not appear foreign to him. On the other hand, he was impressed with Japanese culture and tradition: in particular, he enjoyed hot springs, and appreciated the Japanese flower arrangement “Ikebana”.\textsuperscript{25}

The general Japanese population also knew about his contribution to Japan. His journal suggests that the Japanese public was also well informed of his contribution. When Schiff visited a dentist to make a temporary filling for his tooth, the dentist refused to take the fee from Schiff. Schiff wrote: “I have found all over Japan that people who have heard of me are anxious to render me any service they can; it is really touching – the appreciation and gratitude of these people.”\textsuperscript{26} In other occasion, when Schiff took a boat ride along the Sumida River, people gathered in the bank and waved American flags to greet him.\textsuperscript{27}

It is unclear how the general Japanese population knew about Schiff’s contribution during the war, because not a single article on his contribution was reported in the newspaper during the war. Nevertheless, learning about him from the report of newspapers during his visit to Japan, people appreciated Schiff for his contribution during the War, and wherever he went, he was treated with special hospitality.

Meanwhile, Japanese newspapers never mentioned Schiff’s motivation in financing Japan or his Jewish background. Since his motivation in financing Japan was not relevant for many, the Japanese were not particularly interested in Schiff’s religious and ethnic background. The majority of the Japanese people were not yet familiar with Jewish people and Judaism at
the time. Very few Jews lived in Japan, and Japan had no significant interaction with Jews before the War. Schiff was therefore introduced instead as a wealthy American banker in the Japanese newspapers.

Despite his busy schedule in Japan, he made sure to extend his philanthropy to the Japanese people. He visited the Red Cross hospital in Tokyo, and donated 2,000 yen* to the hospital, with 500 yen specifically earmarked for wounded soldiers. As a result, Schiff and his wife were awarded honorary memberships by the Red Cross in Japan. He also visited an orphanage and donated 2,500 yen. These events were all reported in the local newspapers, and the readers appreciated his acts of kindness. Schiff made a great impression not only on the Japanese officials as a trustworthy friend, but also on the Japanese public with his humble and respectful attitude. At the same time, his visit to Japan left him with a good impression of the Japanese people and their government. In particular, he appreciated “great intelligence, industry, and modesty” of the Japanese people, and he reassured himself of how the Japanese government is perfectly organized, proceeding conscientiously in all departments, and not greatly influenced by public opinion.

On May 18th, after two months of stay in Japan, Schiff left Yokohama to return to the United States. The friendship he established during his visit continued until his death in 1920.

II. Schiff’s Role after the Russo-Japanese War, 1906-1914

Schiff remained a good friend to Japan. Evidently, he hoped to become a bridge-builder between the United States and Japan. For one significant example, in 1907, he and other Americans established the Japan Society in
New York. The Society was an organization of Americans and Japanese who strove to encourage friendly relations between the United States and Japan. The organization still exists today.

Schiff’s relationship to Japan after the Russo-Japanese War can be examined on three different levels, first, his business relationship with Japan, second, his personal relationship with his Japanese friends, and third, his response to the growing American antagonism against Japan, in which he acted as a keeper of Japanese rights in America.

1. A Non-Official Financial Advisor to the Japanese Government

After the War, Schiff served as a non-official advisor to Japanese financial markets, and he was largely considered a friend of Japan. Correspondence between him and his Japanese friends show that he remained an important figure to the country. Schiff obviously cared about the economic growth of Japan, and her relationship with America. On a number of occasions, he gave advice to Takahashi regarding the Japanese position in world politics and finances.

One concern that Japan had at the end of the Russo-Japanese War was the fact that military expenditures were still significant. Takahashi asked Schiff for his advice, and he told him that he would be ready to take up a Japanese loan with the cooperation of his German friends. Takahashi was invited to spend the weekend at Schiff’s villa in New Jersey, where they exhaustively studied every aspect of the project together. After the War, Kuhn, Loeb &Co. also issued many the City of Tokyo Bonds, the only Far Eastern municipal loan ever undertaken up to that time, in the United States.

Subsequently, Schiff’s attitude toward Japan vacillated, changing several times over, in particular, in regards to her relationship with America and
Russia. In order to maintain a good relationship between Japan and U.S., Schiff believed the Open Door policy was crucial. Schiff had become aware of Japan’s imperialistic plans to expand into China as early as 1906. As evidence, in a personal letter to Max Warburg in Hamburg, which he sent from Japan, he wrote: “The Japanese policy is very evidently directing all its attention to the creation of new markets by colonization, especially in Korea and Manchuria. There is no doubt that everything is being done to bring China and her great resources under Japanese influence.”

On the other hand, upon his departure from Japan in 1906, Schiff told a journalist that he was “convinced that as far as Japan is concerned, the principle of the Open Door in Korea and Manchuria, will be scrupulously honored, and that Japan will keep faith in every direction and meet every engagement, actual or moral.” What made him believe so was the attitude of Japanese people. He explained that “nothing is heard or seen of the effect of the recent war in Japan…and the people neither talk about it, nor have they become overbearing or in any manner intoxicated by their great victory.” Thus, he returned to the U.S. with the conviction that the Japanese would not attempt to restrict trade, and that they were determined to dominate the Far East, to be its great power, with all that the term implies.

Schiff’s opinion had an impact on U.S.-Japan relations. He published an article titled “Japan after the War” in the *North American Review*, a prestigious literary magazine, in which he described the War as “the momentous struggle between the Northern Goliath and the Far -Eastern David”. In the article, he focused particularly on Japanese finances and the country’s commercial prospects. As a financier and businessman, Schiff was surely interested in how this emerging country in the Far East would develop on the international stage. He considered Japan’s development as “an impetus to the commerce of the entire world, from which Europe and the
Another matter, which Schiff had taken a great interest in, was the South Manchuria Railway. In the Portsmouth Peace Treaty, all Russian rights and interests in South Manchuria, which included the Russian-built Chinese Eastern Railway, were transferred to Japan. Japan renamed the railway the South Manchuria Railway and in 1908, the American railroad king, Edward H. Harriman, attempted to purchase it using Schiff’s connection with Japan. Schiff’s firm, Kuhn, Loeb&Co. was well known for its success with railroad business. Schiff worked with Harriman on railroad ventures since 1890s, and thus, supported Harriman and tried to convince Japan to make the sale.

In 1908, he wrote to Takahashi, and inquired whether Japan would agree to sell the South Manchuria Railroad to Harriman, explaining that it would remove Japan’s investment burden. Surely he saw a profitable transaction in it, but he also believed that is desirable in regards to the Open Door policy in China. He wrote to Takahashi, “reiterating their [Japanese government] understanding as to the open door in China, it would in itself be a desirable thing to accomplish.” Nevertheless, he wrote: “we want, in the first instance, to be certain that we do what is satisfactory to your Government.” Japan, however, was enthusiastic about advancing into Manchuria, and therefore declined Harriman’s offer.

Schiff’s interest over the South Manchuria Railway continued until 1913, but finally, when the Wilson Administration came into office, and the government no longer wanted the American bankers’ cooperation in the International Consortium, Schiff wrote to his friend, “The China affair does not seem to be getting anywhere...I am glad we were able to get out of it honorably.”

Another event soon disappointed Schiff. In 1908, U.S. territorial
possessions in the Pacific, and its Open Door policy in China were guaranteed by the Japanese in the agreement signed between U.S. Secretary of State Elihu Root and Japanese Ambassador Kogoro Takahira; the so-called Root-Takahira Agreement. The goal was to reduce tensions between the two countries. However, Japan gradually established more formal control over South Manchuria by forcing China to give Japan ownership rights to the South Manchuria Railway. For the U.S. government, this was a clear act of violation of the Open Door policy, and it worried Schiff as well. In 1910, Schiff learned that the Russo-Japanese Agreement was signed, in which two sides would provide each other with “friendly assistance” in improving their railroad lines in Manchuria. Schiff was in particular disturbed about two issues: first, he could not hide his disappointment that Japan was allying herself with Russia, which he considered “the enemy of all mankind.” Second, he feared that the agreement would lead to further competition between Japan and the United States over political power in the Far East.

At a luncheon organized by the Republican Club in, 1910, he publicly denounced Japan by making the following statement:

The most difficult problem we have to deal with is the Far East problem. I am sorry to have to say it, but we are in danger of war over this same question. As a friend to Japan, one who helped to finance its late war, I regret this inevitable conclusion. During the last few weeks it has developed to my personal notification that Japan has joined hands with the enemy of all mankind—Russia.

Schiff’s statement, which showed his bitterness toward Japan, was published by many American newspapers and made a wide impression. The New York American, a leading morning paper, commented that Schiff’s
statement and his attitude were significant in view of the fact that in his public utterances he has always been most friendly toward the Mikado’s people. Japan also took Schiff’s criticism seriously. From January to May 1910, there were several debates in the Japanese government about Schiff’s changing attitude.

In an effort to soothe tensions, Schiff was invited to a banquet given by Consul General Kokichi Mizuno in New York in honor of the birthday of the Emperor of Japan. The event underscored the special relationship between Schiff and the Mikado, but did not mollify the banker. He declared that the Americans:

> have regretted that Japan has recently found it necessary to enter into alliances creating a situation in the Far East which we fear cannot but result to the detriment of American interests, and if we have frankly expressed our misgivings because of this, we have done so solely in the earnest desire to prevent a weakening of the friendship which has existed since many decades between Japan and the United States.

Evidently, the Japanese government was not the only one who concerned Schiff’s attitude. Schiff’s remarks led Japanese newspapers to accuse him of unfriendliness. Yorozu Choho commented, “While Mr. Schiff’s opinion maybe at fault, such an opinion from such an influential capitalist is more weighty in influencing the diplomacy of his Government than the opinions of eighteen ordinary men would be.” Some were afraid that his views reflected those of the President. But they did not. President Taft himself reassured Japan on this score. “In the Russo-Japanese agreement relating to Manchuria, signed July 4, 1910,” he declared, “this Government was gratified to note an
assurance of continued peaceful conditions in that region and the
reaffirmation of the policies with respect to China to which the United States

together with all other interested Powers, are alike solemnly committed."\(^{56}\)

During this time, Schiff received many criticisms. While he was criticized
by Japan, he was criticized by American newspapers as well. One newspaper
warned that Japan should look out, because Schiff was powerful enough to
bring about war between Japan and the United States.\(^{57}\)

Schiff soon backed down. Fearing that he had been misunderstood and
eager to repair relations with Japan, he published a letter in *The Japan
Advertiser*, clearly targeting Japanese readers:

Much to my regret, mistaken versions of what I actually said
have been published and perhaps your courtesy gives me the proper
opportunity to say to the people of Japan that I have never given as
my opinion, as has been variously reported that an armed conflict
between their and our country was a likelihood or a possibility.
What in the main I did say was that the American people viewed
with alarm the fact that a compact had evidently been made
between Japan, Russia and England in Manchuria which in the
course of time was certain to lead to nothing but irritation, if not to
an intense struggle, in which I counseled the United States should
take part, not by might and not by power, but in the spirit of
righteousness only (…) America would be the last to deny Japan’s
dearly bought rights to work out its manifest destiny on the Asiatic
continent, but Japan must not seek to do this by acting in unison
with Russia, whose methods of government are not such that its
‘blessings’ ought to be permitted to extend beyond its own borders.
(…) I have not abated one iota of my respect and friendship for the
people of Japan, and just because of this fact I have deemed it well
to sound a note of alarm when I find these people entering upon
paths which can only lead to complications and estrangement from
those who in the past have proved their most disinterested friends.58)

It was not just his friendship with Japan that motivated this remarkable
letter. He also knew that his company, Kuhn, Loeb &Co. was still marketing
Japanese bonds (it would continue to do so until 1914). So maintaining good
relations with Japan was also good business for Schiff. Japanese leaders
gave him the benefit of the doubt. “He was the benefactor of Japan during
the Russo-Japanese War,” a high government official recalled, “and the
Japanese entrusted him with the great task of raising foreign loans putting
full confidence in his financial talent and his good will toward Japan. After
the lapse of only six years, we should not disregard the benefactor or consider
him as an enemy.”59)

Schiff was viewed as important contact until later. In 1917, he received a
letter from Tanetaro Megata, Chief of Japan’s Special Finance Commission
to the United States. They met each other when Schiff was in Japan back in
1906. Now Megata was responsible to investigate the financial and economic
measures adopted by the United States. Megata asked Schiff if he could offer
him “kind and valuable suggestions and assistance.”60)

The episode demonstrates that Schiff remained an influential figure in
Japan, so much so that the Japanese took careful notice of what he had to
say. Even when the Japanese government did not appreciate his remarks,
they considered him a friend.

2. A Personal Friend to Japanese Leading Figures

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Schiff’s close friendship with Japanese officials was not established during the Russo-Japanese War, but after it. Takahashi and Schiff became especially good friends and exchanged a number of letters. The closeness between Schiff and Takahashi can be seen in the following examples. Schiff had a summerhouse on the Jersey coast, which he and his family visited every summer. One of the rooms in that house was called “the Takahashi Room” because Takahashi visited the house and was the first guest to occupy the room in 1905. Fourteen years later, the room was still called by the same name.

The closeness of their relationship was also reflected in the fact that Takahashi sent his fifteen-year-old daughter Wakiko to live with Mr. and Mrs. Schiff in America for three years. Sending a single young girl to a foreign country was very uncommon during this period. Wakiko was enrolled to Briarcliff School, a boarding school, which was located 50 km north of New York City, but stayed with Schiff during holidays. Correspondence between Schiff and Takahashi suggest Mr. and Mrs. Schiff took a great care of her. In 1909, she returned to Japan. Later, Wakiko married Toshikata Okubo, the son of a distinguished financial family, and lived in London for more than a decade. The Schiffs and Wakiko remained as close as family.

Besides Takahashi, Schiff maintained friendships with other Japanese officials. He was comfortable expressing his concerns to his Japanese friends. One time, he heard that Shigenobu Okuma made anti-Semitic remarks in the interview, which has appeared in the St. Petersburg Novoye Vremya, the organ of the reactionary party of Russia. Schiff immediately wrote to Okuma, “being myself an adherent of the Jewish faith, and knowing much of your own liberal and progressive views, I can hardly believe that you should have made the expressions as reported, but whether you have done or not, may I
ask that you inform me of the correct facts relative to the interview referred to.” Schiff kept alert to anti-Semitism in Japan. It is quite possible that he believed he could turn the Japanese opinion in favor to Jews.

Schiff was the person to meet whenever Japanese officers landed in New York. When Eiichi Shibusawa visited the United States in 1915, Schiff hosted him. Schiff also became acquainted with Kikujiro Ishii, a special envoy to the United States, who was in charge of the Lansing-Ishii Agreement of 1917, which was signed to defuse tension between the two nations. Schiff clearly valued his contacts with Japanese officials. Even after World War I, when the daughters of Soichiro Asano, the head of the Steamship Company, came to the United States to study, they were hosted by Schiff. Takahashi appreciated Schiff’s hospitality and wrote, “It is gratifying to know that you found the time to meet so many Japanese friends of mine.”

Takahashi reciprocated Schiff’s friendship. He hosted Schiff’s friends who visited Japan. Most famous among them was Lillian Wald, a well-recognized American Jewish social worker. When she visited Japan in 1910 as part of her six-month tour to observe the sociological conditions in the Far East, she was introduced to Takahashi through Schiff and was hosted by him. Wald had worked closely with Schiff on the Henry Street Settlement, a social service agency that brought nursing care and education to poor immigrants in New York, which Schiff had generously financed.

The relationship did not end with the death of Jacob Schiff in 1920. Remarkably, the close relationship between the Schiff family and the Takahashi family, continued for four generations and expanded through the years. Takahashi built a good relationship with Max Warburg of Hamburg through Schiff, since Schiff’s daughter Frieda was married to Felix Warburg, the brother of Max Warburg, and the Schiff and Warburg families were related. Wakiko and her husband had five children together, and years later,
their oldest daughter Yuriko married a son of another famous financial family, Yasuda. Yuriko, who grew up in England, was fluent in English. When the Warburg family visited Japan, she hosted them.\textsuperscript{73} 

These two families became close not only because of their unique interaction through the Russo-Japanese War, but because they shared many things in common. Besides their friendships, the social structure of German-Jewish and Japanese bankers was similar. Like German Jewish banking families in the United States, Japanese banking families of the time emphasized ties of kinship. After World War II, these \textit{zaibatsu}, financial associations, were broken up by Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers led by General Douglas MacArthur during the American occupation of Japan; however, their descendants remained connected to finance. Makoto Yasuda, Wakiko’s grandson, is a chairman and founder of a financial company, Yasuda EMP Limited. To this day, he maintains a warm relationship with Schiff’s descendants. When he was in the U.S., he was warmly welcomed by Frederich Warburg, Schiff’s grandson.\textsuperscript{74} Schiff’s interaction with Japan one hundred years ago resulted in these long-lasting relationships, which affected both personal and financial ties. Yasuda’s relationship with Schiff’s descendants, for example, involves both personal ties and banking. Yasuda is an international investment banker, and one of his banking contacts is M. M. Warburg-Brinckmann, Wirtz & Co., a banking firm in Hamburg. Today, Takahashi’s portrait signed by him proudly decorates the wall of Warburg-Brinckmann, Wirtz & Co. headquarters.

3. A Keeper of Japanese Rights

With the changing American attitude toward Japan after the Russo-
Japanese War, Schiff was concerned about growing anti-Japanese sentiment among Americans. He was also sympathetic towards Japanese immigrants regarding their rights in America. Besides his close friendship with the Japanese, his Jewish background also reflected upon these matters. While Schiff was a successful banker, he also experienced anti-Semitism. For instance, although he was a prominent financier, his name was not listed in the Social Register, a directory of the names of prominent American families who are considered social elite. 75) His family was denied memberships to a country club in New Jersey because of their Jewishness. 76) Such discrimination, which existed in America at the time was no stranger to Schiff.

The U.S.-Japanese treaty signed in 1894 had guaranteed the Japanese rights to immigrate to the United States, and to enjoy the same right as U.S. citizens. At the time, America needed a labor force, and several thousand Japanese immigrated to the United States seeking opportunities. However, the situation changed after the Japanese victory in the Russo-Japanese War, when Japan was no longer seen as a minor power, and with the rapid increase of Japanese immigrants to California. In 1906, when the San Francisco Board of Education enacted a measure to send Japanese children to segregated schools, the Japanese government protested that it was a violation of the 1894 treaty. President Theodore Roosevelt intervened, and in late 1907, the U.S. government and the Japanese government agreed upon the so-called Gentlemen’s Agreement, whereby the U.S. government pressured the San Francisco authorities to rescind their segregationist measure, and the Japanese government promised to impose quotas to limit Japanese immigration to the United States. 77) The Japanese not only became the subject of hatred because of their differences in appearance and culture, but also because of their success in business ventures and their large land
holdings. Later in 1913, the California legislature threatened U.S.–Japan relations by placing limitations on land ownership by aliens.

Jacob Schiff opposed California’s anti-Japanese measures. Besides his friendship with Japanese, perhaps, as a Jew, he sympathized with the victims of group hatred. In 1908, in response to the growing anti-Japanese sentiment, he invited forty American financial and educational leaders to a party, which he organized for Japanese government officials in a bid to ameliorate tensions.78)

In 1913, Schiff again spoke out on behalf of Japanese rights when California enacted the Alien Land Act barring Japanese from owning or leasing land for longer than three years. “I am not all-American, nor am I all Japanese,” he explained. “I am all-human race.” He gave his own experience of dealing with the Japanese as an example of Japanese loyalty. “I have had business relations with Japanese people in which many hundreds of thousands of dollars were involved, and never have I had the least cause to doubt their honesty or fair mindedness.”79)

Even though he was a successful banker, he had faced plenty of anti-Semitism in his own career. Thus, fighting against social discrimination was one of his interests.80) He stood against anti-Japanese policies, not only because he was a friend to many Japanese, but also because he did not agree to such prejudice.

III. World War I: Transition, 1914-1918

The incident that shook Schiff’s relationship with Japan the most was World War I, which was a source of great concern for Schiff. When the war broke out, President Woodrow Wilson declared America neutral. This time,
Japan allied with Russia against Germany, which left Schiff greatly disappointed. In October 1914, Japan issued the South Pacific Mandate, the Japanese League of Nations mandate of Micronesia, which came under the occupation of Japan after the defeat of German Empire, and in November, Tsingtao, a port city, identified by German authorities as strategically important, was occupied by Japan.

Schiff’s private friendship with Japanese figures was affected by these developments. Privately, he explained to Takahashi:

I am sure you will understand that while a state of war exists between Japan and Germany, my friendly relations with Japan as a whole must be suspended. As a native German my sympathies are naturally with the country I have been born in and in which my forefathers have lived for many centuries.

In October 1914, he resigned from the Japan Society, of which he was a founding member. Schiff was not the only member who resigned from the Society. After the outbreak of the war, the society lost five percent of its thousand members, because some could not sympathize with the action of Japan in entering the war. Oscar S. Straus, former Secretary of Commerce under Roosevelt and a German Jew like Schiff, resigned from the Society along with Schiff. While Schiff openly claimed his sympathy for Germany as the reason for his resignation, Straus claimed that it was not because of his sympathy for Germany, but because he desired to increase his contributions to various relief funds. Many American Jewish leaders at the time were of German origin, and at the beginning of the war, hoped for their fatherland’s victory for two reasons. First, they naturally carried a strong sympathy for Germany, and second, they were hostile toward anti-
Semitic Russia, and hoped that Russia would be defeated by Germany. Whatever the reasons behind their resignation, Schiff and Straus were two well-recognized members of the Society, and their resignation was understood to reflect reduced support for Japan among America’s Jews.

In the midst of growing antagonism between Japan and the United States during the war, Schiff was also influenced by the major political currents of the United States. The principle of the Open Door policy was maintained by the Japanese and U.S. governments, and they both kept equality in Manchuria. However, in January 1915, the Twenty-one Demands were made by Japan to China, which required China to immediately cease leasing its territory to foreign powers and assent to Japanese control over Manchuria and Shandong among other demands. When Americans learned that Japan was claiming a special “sphere of influence” in China, which meant economic and political dominance over China, Japan was roundly criticized. The U.S. demanded that Japan live up to its treaty obligations and that all countries should have the same opportunity to market their products to the Chinese.

Meanwhile, Takahashi and Schiff continued to correspond. When Takahashi could not share the details on domestic affairs with Schiff, Schiff respected it and wrote to Takahashi: “I can well understand that with the conditions that are now prevailing in the Far East, you prefer not to discuss the political affairs of your country. That is right, and be assured that I fully appreciate this.”

Schiff, who had often before spoken out on Japanese matters, declined to be quoted on them during the war. Although he spoke privately to a journalist from The London Times in 1915 regarding his views, he refused permission to be quoted on the record. He explained to Takahashi in a letter, “I have declined to give my permission, insisting that it [my remarks] must remain confidential, for the situation is so delicate all over that, for the time being at
least, it is best for the neutral outsider to say as little as possible, lest it may be misunderstood and lead to irritation upon one side or the other.” He sent a copy of his remarks to Takahashi as a reference, and asked him to keep them confidential. His opinion, we now know, was favorable toward Japan and its policies:

I think it is the shrewdest and wisest move Japan has ever made...Speaking for myself, I do not see why the United States should actually oppose Japan’s ambition in China, if Japan gives guarantees that she will live up to her treaties with us. All we want in the East is the open door, and I do not think Japan would find it either practicable or prudent to shut the door against us. You ask about the Philippines, and whether they would not be the next object of Japanese designs. We are preparing, I think, to hand the Philippines to the Filipinos with certain guarantees of commercial rights and safeguards for ourselves, I should think, we should experience no difficulty in obtaining from Japan an agreement to respect both the independence of the Filipinos and our preferential position in the Islands, after our withdrawal from their government.

Privately, Schiff was even more forthright concerning his views, explaining to Takahashi that:

Japan has taken an important position in Chinese affairs, and I cannot but say that I believe it will be for the good of both countries if they come into closer union, even if, as must necessarily be the case, under the predominance of Japan. China needs the
administrative talent and efficiency which Japan can so well instill into the Chinese government and into the development of its great natural resources, while Japan on her part, can make the most advantageous use of the products of Chinese agricultural, mineral and other resources to the great benefit of both countries.\(^{90}\)

But Schiff did not forget to advise Takahashi of the following: “The main thing, in my opinion that need be done by Japan, if peace is to be kept in the Far East, is the strict observance of the principle of the Open Door for all nations who need and wish to seek Far Eastern markets.”\(^{91}\) On several occasions, Schiff enclosed a few clippings from American newspapers to show Takahashi the views and opinions of the American people.\(^{92}\) Time to time, they corresponded very carefully as they both concerned about offending the other. Takahashi diplomatically avoided disagreement with his old friend, and stressed the financial ties that bound them together:

The case of Japan is, indeed, very difficult, and your observation has given me much food for reflection. I thank you for the keen and well-wishing interest you always take in the financial affairs of my country. Whatever facts or opinions you may impart to me concerning these points will always be greatly appreciated by me.\(^{93}\)

Overall, the war years were difficult ones for the aging Schiff. Schiff’s deep sympathy for Germany even made him try to prevent America’s entry into the war.\(^{94}\) Nevertheless, Schiff did not subscribe to the German-American Literary Defense Committee, which was formed in New York in 1914 in aim of publishing materials which undermined the cause of Entente and demonstrated the necessity of Germany’s actions to the citizens of the United
States. Many prominent German Americans contributed to the organization. He explained, “I believe I may say that my sympathies for the land of my birth are as warm as anyone’s, but I have been an American for fifty years.” When the United States declared war on Germany in 1917, Schiff volunteered President Wilson his service as an American citizen. Schiff was heartbroken not only because the United States fought against his German fatherland, but also because the war affected members of his own family, and devastated Europe’s Jews. When the United States entered the war in April 1917, Schiff’s oldest grandson, who was scarcely twenty was training in the Army, and his granddaughter’s husband, who had married in the previous year, had gone into the Administrative Offices of the Navy. Schiff’s nephew joined the nascent American Aviation Service. At the same time, because of his hesitation to stand against his fatherland Germany, his rival, J.P Morgan took an initial role in financing the Allied Nations during WWI.

After America had entered on the same side as the allies, including Japan, Takahashi and Schiff corresponded more freely about political matters. In a letter written in 1918, Schiff expressed his feeling about Japanese policy over China frankly to Takahashi:

I am afraid it will be a considerable time yet before we shall have real peace, in particular in the Far East, for not to speak of China, Russia as a whole and Siberia in particular, will keep the entire world on the anxious seat until more orderly conditions be established again in these dominions, and naught can be likely done in this respect without the active co-operation of your country.

By then, Schiff’s sympathies for Germany had dimmed, the Russian Tsar was overthrown, and Schiff was looking ahead. He wrote “The news from the
European war zones have been wonderfully satisfactory of late, and I should not be surprised if before this reaches you, the Allies and we had arrived at something positive which will bring peace at least measurably into sight.”

Takahashi wrote to Schiff: “America and Japan must co-operate, not only in the prosecution of the War, but also in the reconstruction after the War, and I hope to avail myself of opportunities to exchange views with you.” He reiterated these views in a follow-up letter:

In some quarters of America, there seems to be suspicion about Japan’s inclination toward militarism. But you know this sort of misgiving is entirely groundless; nor do I believe that the great bulk of the American people are affected by it. Only I think we must strive to wipe off this cloudy spot in the international sky, however small it may be.

The cloudy spot in the international sky was not wiped as Takahashi hoped, and both Schiff and Takahashi would never see the peace between Japan and U.S. The tension between the two countries only increased with Japan’s militarization and the rise of anti-Japanese sentiment in the U.S.

IV. Schiff’s Death, 1920

Schiff’s health weakened since the summer of 1919. Although he had been suffering from cardiovascular problems, on Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement, in 1920, Schiff fasted the entire day, and three days later on September 25, 1920, he passed away. Yet, his legacy in Japan continued after his death in 1920. According to Cyrus Adler, Schiff’s friend and
biographer, in June 1921, the Japanese Consul in New York attended the opening of Schiff Parkway in lower Manhattan, which was dedicated to the memory of the late Schiff. Kengo Mori, the Japanese Financial Commissioner who met with Schiff when he visited Japan, laid a wreath on Schiff’s grave.\(^{105}\) When Adler published a biography of Schiff in 1928, he wrote that Japanese representatives kept his memory in mind, and as evidence, they still made “a pilgrimage to his grave” from time to time.\(^{106}\)

Besides the Japanese officials who had personally knew Schiff, his legacy was passed on to the future generations. While it is impossible to speculate how many people remembered Schiff, some written evidence exist today. Much later in 1936, Juji Nakada, a Japanese Holiness evangelist and the first bishop of the Japan Holiness Church, wrote in his book, “During the Russo-Japanese War, the person who undertook Japanese foreign bond and helped our country greatly was a Jew of New York, named Jacob Schiff. \(\cdots\) We should not forget that there was a great deal of Schiff’s support behind the Japanese victory.”\(^{107}\) Not only did Nakada articulate Schiff’s contribution to Japan, he also continued:

To be honest, as people say, it is true that the Jews who make excessive profit from war, Jews as moneylenders or thieves at a fire do exist. Yet, we cannot say that all Jews are like that. Not to mention, when we were fighting to endeavor our luck, it was Jews who supplied the lack of our funds [indicating Schiff’s contribution in the Russo-Japanese War], and strengthened our arms, and we should not forget their kindness...Japanese should not take the attitude in which whenever we are in trouble, we seek help, and later on forget about the big favor, and step on it.\(^{108}\)
In 1918, Japan sent troops to intervene in the Russian Revolution along with other foreign powers. Not only was it the first time for the Japanese to encounter the western anti-Semitism, but also obtained a copy of the infamous *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*. It was translated by Norihiro Yasue into Japanese language in 1924. Such figures as Yasue and Koreshige Inuzuka were influenced by *The Protocols*, and both the Japanese army and navy made them observe Jews.109 Yet, the Japanese feeling toward Jews was a love/hate relationship. While anti-Semitic ideas spread among many, they still admired Jewish successes in business and politics.

Nakada was certainly not the only one who recognized Schiff’s contribution to Japan. Akira Watanabe, a grandson of Iwao Oyama and Sutematsu Yamakawa, remembered what his grandmother Sutematsu told him when he was in nursery school. She told him “if Mr. Schiff from the United States didn’t stand on the side of Japan during the Russo-Japanese War, Japan had never won the war. Don’t ever forget his name.”110 His grandfather, Iwao Oyama (1842-1916) was in fact, commander-in-chief of the Japanese armies in Manchuria during the Russo-Japanese War. Likewise, thirty years after the War, Morito Morishima, a Japanese consul general, remembered that the Japanese appreciated the kind help and good will expressed by the Jewish people at the time of the Russo-Japanese War.111

As late as 1958, when there was concern that anti-Semitic sentiments existed in Japanese government circles, Keita Goto, a financial tycoon said: “I do want our countrymen to reflect on what would have happened in 1905 if Jacob Schiff, or Kuhn, Loeb & Co. did not extend a helping hand to Japan by taking the lead in raising a loan for us in the midst of the Russo-Japanese War.”112

Successive emperors remembered Schiff’s contributions. A former Israeli Ambassador to Japan, who served between the years of 1966-1970, recalls
his visit to the Imperial Palace. Hirohito, the Showa Emperor (1926 -1989) told the ambassador that the Japanese people could never forget Jacob H. Schiff’s contribution in the Russo-Japanese War. Succeeding Israeli Ambassadors were told the same thing by the Emperor. The Showa Emperor frequently heard about Schiff from his grandfather, Meiji Emperor (1867-1912), who decorated Schiff with The Order of Rising Sun in 1906 for his service during the Russo-Japanese War.\textsuperscript{113)}

While the majority of the Japanese did not particularly remember Schiff as a Jewish banker, emperors and government officials recognized and remembered him both for his banking and for his religion. Not all Japanese remembered Schiff’s contribution, but Schiff’s legacy clearly had a large impact on important figures, and it may even have helped prevent anti-Semitism from becoming prevalent in Japan.

At the same time, the relationship between the Japanese and the Jews on the national politic level started with the Russo-Japanese War, with their affiliation with Jacob Schiff. One of the major turns of event that occurred in relations to his friendship with Japan was regarding Jewish refugees from Russia who escaped from the Russian Civil War. Previously, some have suspected that Schiff’s legacy developed into save lives of Jewish refugees during WWII, but in fact, Japan’s appreciation for Schiff resulted in saving lives of Jews almost three decades beforehand. During the Russian Civil War of 1917-1922, an estimated 1.5 million to 2 million refugees fled or were expelled from the territory of the former Russian Empire.\textsuperscript{114)} Between 1917 and 1918, 1,706 Russian Jewish refugees fled the menace of the Russian Civil War and found refuge in Japan.\textsuperscript{115)} They resided in Yokohama until they found their way to their final destinations. In order to assist these refugees, Hebrew Immigrant and Aid Society sent Samuel Mason, Managing Director, to Japan. Japanese officials made clear that their dealings with Jewish
refugees were influenced by Jacob Schiff’s assistance to Japan back in the Russo-Japanese War. Mason wrote in 1918, “I am sure that so much would not have been accomplished had I not had Mr. Schiff’s very influential endorsement.”116) One of important Japanese figures Schiff introduced Mason to meet was Shibusawa. Shibusawa personally met with Mason, and promised to Schiff, “I shall be very glad to extend to him whatever assistance in my power.”117) Mason wrote to Schiff:

It was principally through your great influence that this special concession was made by the Japanese Government. Your letters introducing me to some of your friends in Japan have helped me to make the necessary connections through which this was accomplished.118)

In short, Schiff’s personal connections with important Japanese figures helped to save the lives of Jewish refugees.

**Conclusion:**

The correspondence between Schiff and Takahashi illuminates Jacob H. Schiff’s relationship to Japan after the Russo-Japanese War. Through financing Japan in the Russo-Japanese War, he established a special relationship with the Japanese. Not only was he appreciated by many for his contributions to the Japanese government during the Russo-Japanese War, he remained a financial adviser to the Japanese government, and at the same time, a close personal friend to many Japanese officials. The Japanese saw him as an American representative, and valued his opinions regarding

Schiff’s affiliation with important Japanese figures became well known among Americans. He served as a reference on the Japanese people and nation to the American people. While he privately remained a close friend to many Japanese, his relationship to Japan as a nation changed over the course of the years. In the end, though, he came down in favor of Japan’s Far-Eastern policies. Schiff’s relationship with Japan raised his own stature as a banker and student of the world, and shaped the course of history.

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6) Cohen, p.34.
9) Tanaka, 15.
11) The details of Schiff’s journey can be found in a journal he wrote: *Our Journey to Japan*. His family published the journal as a surprise gift on his 60th birthday.
14) See Schiff’s *Our Journey* for the detail.
15) Takahashi (1921-1922): Okuma (June 1898- November 1898 AND 1914-16); Matsukata (1891-1892 AND 1896-1898).
16) Schiff, p.23. While Schiff was not treated as an official state guest, his arrival was welcomed. As for the state guest from the United States, Ulysses Grant came to Japan in 1879, and stayed for two months. See Ulysses Grant, *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant*. Volume 29: October 1, 1878-September 30, 1880. Edited by John Y. Simon (Southern Illinois University Press, 2008).
18) Ibid., 27. (March 29th)
22) Schiff, no page number.
23) ibid., p.25.
24) ibid., p.42.
25) Schiff, April 3 to 5, he visited Hakone. He was impressed by the Ikebana arranged by Shigenobu Okuma.
26) ibid., May 14, 1906.
27) Schiff, April 8, 1906.
28) *Schiff shi no Kifu* [The Donation of Mr. Schiff] *Yomiuri Shimbun*, April 14, 1906, 2.
29) “Schiff shi ni Yukosho” [Reward to Honor to Mr. Schiff]
30) *Yomiuri Shimbun*, April 19, 1906, p.2. According to the article, he donated to Fukudakai Orphanage.

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33) Takahashi, pp. 210-213.

34) Adler, Jacob H. Schiff, I, 223.


37) “Japan will Keep Faith,” Los Angeles Times May 19, 1906, p. 17.

38) “Japan is Sure to Grant Open Door: Jacob Schiff, Back from Far East, Gives Assurances of Opening of Manchuria,” The Minneapolis Journal June 9, 1906, p. 9.


41) ibid.

42) Louise Young, Japan’s Total Empire: Manchuria and the Culture of Wartime Imperialism (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1998), p. 25


44) ibid., p. 36.


46) Adler, I, p. 249.

47) ibid., p. 249.

48) ibid., p. 258.


50) “Schiff Sees Peril in Japan: Now She’s Allied with the Enemy of All Mankind,” The New York Times (March 6, 1910).


54) “Japan Tiff with Mr. Schiff,” The Literary Digest, December 17, 1910.

55) Ibid.


58) Quoted in “Japan Read Schiff’s Speech,” The Sun June 1, 1910, p. 14. This letter was published in The Japan Advertiser, an English newspaper published in Japan, which highly educated Japanese people read. The Yomiuri Shimbun, also reproduced the translated version of the letter.
ibid.

59) Letter from Megata to Schiff, October 8, 1917, Schiff Papers 450/7, American Jewish Archives.

60) Cohen, Jacob H. Schiff, pp.11-12.


62) According to Schiff’s journal, the original plan was for two years, but she ended up staying in the U.S. for three years.

63) Cohen, Jacob H. Schiff, pp.11-12.


65) According to Schiff’s journal, the original plan was for two years, but she ended up staying longer, which also suggest her good relationship with Schiff family. See Adler, I, p.238.


68) Cohen, p.34.


70) Schiff to Takahashi, August 16, 1917. Takahashi Papers.

71) Takahashi to Schiff, November 25, 1918. Takahashi Papers.

72) Cohen, pp.91-95.

73) Schiff’s granddaughter Carola Warburg married to Walter N. Rothschild.

74) From the interview with Makoto Yasuda. Interview held at the office of Yasuda EMP Limited, Tokyo, Japan. June 19, 2006.

75) Cohen, pp.53-54.

76) Ibid., p.54.


80) Cohen, pp.48-54.


83) Memorandum written by Takahashi for Schiff’s biography. Schiff papers, Reel 678. American Jewish Archives. Cincinnati, OH.


Schiff to Takahashi, March 24, 1915; Takahashi to Schiff, February 11, 1915. Takahashi papers.

Schiff to Takahashi, undated letter. It was received by Takahashi on March 28, 1915. Takahashi papers.

Schiff to Takahashi, undated. 1915. Takahashi Papers.

ibid.

Schiff to Takahashi, June 18, 1915. Takahashi Papers.

Schiff to Takahashi on June 18, 1915: Takahashi to Schiff, September 10, 1915. Takahashi papers.

Takahashi to Schiff, September 10, 1915. Takahashi Papers.

ibid.

Schiff to Takahashi, June 18, 1915; Takahashi to Schiff, September 10, 1915. Takahashi papers.

ibid.

Schiff to Takahashi, July 26, 1917. Takahashi papers.

Schiff to Takahashi, January 15, 1918. Takahashi Papers.

Schiff to Takahashi, 1918. Takahashi Papers.

Schiff to Takahashi, October 11, 1918. Takahashi Papers.

Takahashi to Schiff, October 10, 1918. Takahashi Papers.

Takahashi to Schiff, November 25, 1918. Takahashi Papers.

Cohen, Jacob H. Schiff, pp. 100, 245.

Adler, Jacob H. Schiff, I., p.242; “40,000 Honor Schiff at Parkway Opening; Mayor and Officials Eulogize Philanthropist at Dedication of Memorial Street,” The New York Times, June 15, 1921, p.1; Schiff, Our Journey to Japan, p.19.

Adler, I, p.242.


ibid. p. 39.


Akiko Hisano, Showa Tenno, Saigo no Gogakuyu [Showa Emperor, the Last Schoolmate], (2000), pp.188-189.

Gao, 19.


Samuel Mason, “Our Mission to the Far East,” (Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society of America, 1918). Also see Mina Muraoka. Chapter 4 “Jews and the
Russo-Japanese War: The Triangular Relationship between Jewish POWs, Japan, and Jacob H. Schiff (PhD diss., Brandeis University 2014).


117) Letter from Shibusawa to Schiff on February 23, 1918. Schiff Papers 456/2, American Jewish Archives.

118) Mason to Schiff, March 18, 1918. Jacob H. Schiff Papers 459/4, AJA.