



1st HASEKURA CHORUS FESTIVAL

Commemorating Launch of the “League of Hasekura Cities”

PROPOSAL

The lord **Date Masamune**, who built Sendai (now the biggest city in Tohoku region) and “Date’s Black Ship” (San Juan Bautista) as a founder of Date Clan in 1600, dispatched **Keicho Delegation** headed by **Hasekura Tsunenaga** to Spain and Rome in 1613. The mission arrived in a small town called Coria del Rio in Seville province in 1614, when they were presented to King Felipe III in Madrid. Next year, they arrived in another port called Civitavecchia in Italy to have an audience with Pope Paulus V in Rome. They stayed in Coria area for some time, where their descendants are believed to live under the surname **Japón** (more than 700 in Coria area and over 1,000 in entire Seville area).

Mr. Modesto Gonzalez Marquez, mayor of Coria del Rio, advocated the proposal “League of Hasekura Cities” in 2017 which intends to establish a brand-new international partnership based on the historical ties by and between the cities where Hasekura Tsunenaga or The Keicho Mission visited, in collaborating and developing in the various sectors including culture, education, sports, trades and tourism. The League is now expected to launch during this year among Prefecture of Miyagi, Province of Seville, and cities of Sendai, Ishinomaki, Onagawa, Osato, Kawasaki, Yonezawa, Coria del Rio, Seville, Espartinas and Civitavecchia. Vatican City State, and cities of Rome, Acapulco, Havana, Saint-Tropez, Genova and Manila may join later.

Now, commemorating the launch of the League, the 1st HASEKURA Chorus Festival will take place under the following manner;

1. Date: October 29 (Thursday), 2026
2. Venue: Hitachi Systems Concert Hall, Sendai, Japan
コンサートホール | 日立システムズホール仙台
3. Admission: Free
4. Participating Choirs (provisional)
 - Coro Dabar, from Coria del Rio
 - Escolania de Tomares, from Tomares, Seville (They may join the youth chorus festival if it is materialized)
 - Coro Epikanten, from Civitavecchia and more from Spain, Italy or France
 - Choir of Italo-Giappone di Sendai



- Coro Hasekura in Miyagi
and more
- 5. Length of Performance: 10-15 minutes each, depending on the total number of participating choirs.
- 6. Music: Free. A traditional song representing locality of the choir may be welcome.

Organized and sponsored by: League Hasekura Support Group (provisional), San Juan Museum in Ishinomaki, NPO Circle Wind (USA)

Supported by each municipality of participating choir, embassies, related entities, and media

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ハポン・ハセクラ後援会ウェブサイト: <https://www.japonhasekura.com/>
Welcome | NPO Circle Wind
Japan Choral Harmony～合唱団「とも」| オフィシャルサイト (ich-tomo.org)