

The Specially Created Exhibition

THE MEMORIAL EXHIBITION OF THE 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
AFTER THE DEATH OF HIROBUMI ITO



**HIROBUMI ITO AND HIS TIME**

Japan is the first country in Asia which established the modern constitutional nation. In the process, Hirobumi Ito, first Prime Minister, made a great contribution to establishing the Constitution and the Diet. Here we are to think of the course he followed for the purpose of constituting the modern nation of Japan.

**Sept. 12 (Saturday) ~ Nov. 18 (Wednesday) , 2009**



The Hagi Museum

355 Horiuchi, Hagi City, Yamaguchi 758-0057



**Hirobumi Ito (1841~1909)**

He was born in Hikari city, Yamaguchi prefecture, on September 2, 1841. His by-name was Shunsuke. Later he moved to Matsumoto village in the eastern suburbs of Hagi and changed his name to Ito. In 1857, he entered the Shokasonjuku Academy hosted by Shoin Yoshida at the age of 17. He joined in the movement of reverence for the emperor and expulsion of the barbarians together with Kogoro Katsura (Takayoshi Kido) and Shinsaku Takasugi. In 1863, he went to the UK illegally and studied in the University of London with Kaoru Inoue, Yozo Yamao, Masaru Inoue, and Kinsuke Endo. All of them became the great leaders of modern Japan. Later, they came to be called “the Choshu Five.” After coming back to Japan, he committed himself to the overthrow of the shogunate, which led to establishing the New Government.

After the Meiji Restoration he was appointed as Government Councilor, Governor of Hyogo prefecture, and Minister of Engineering. He made an inspection tour of Europe and America as the vice-envoy of the Iwakura Mission. After returning to Japan, he advanced higher productivity and promotion of industry. In 1878, he became the Minister for Home Affairs, and in 1885, he became the first Prime Minister. Later, he contributed to establishing the Constitution as the Privy Council Chairperson. He formed the Cabinet four times and in his later years he was nominated as the senior statesperson. In 1905, after the Russo-Japanese war, he became the first Resident General in Korea. He was assassinated in Manchuria by Jukon An, a Korean nationalist.



(Colored woodblock print of the ceremony of the promulgation of the Constitution)



(Sakecup of Hagi Pottery (Matsumoto pottery) with a picture drawn by Hirobumi Ito)

(Ceremonial dress worn by Hirobumi Ito)



(Writing named "Kagai" by Hirobumi Ito left at the place remembered in connection with the Osaka Conference)



(Prominent figures of the Satsuma and the Choshu domain at the send-off party held in honor of Iwao Oyama, Hirobumi Ito : the fifth from the right in the front row)

#### First exhibition



(Last writing by Hirobumi Ito)



(Shirt worn by Hirobumi Ito when he was assassinated)