

GLOSSARY

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Many of the terms used in this volume are highly debated, and readers are urged to look carefully in each essay for discussions of usage. This glossary is therefore not a definitive guide.

Assen and Haken Gyosha: Japanese words referring to labor brokers (*gyosha*) who act as intermediaries (*assen*) between workers and employers by hiring the former and dispatching (*haken*) them to work in the latter's factories.

colônia-jin: a term by Japanese and their descendants in Brazil to represent permanence rather than a desire to return to Japan.

dekasegui (including the Portuguese variant *dekassegui* or the Japanese romanization *dekasegi*): in its original usage in Japan, this term was used for people who left their birthplace to work temporarily elsewhere. More recently it has come to mean foreign workers of Japanese descent in Japan.

empreiteira: contract employment firm. These companies recruit Brazilian workers to and in Japan.

front door and back door: types of governmental policies controlling admission of unskilled foreign workers. A front-door policy makes contract labor programs legally available to unskilled foreign workers; a back-door policy officially prohibits unskilled foreign workers from being employed but in practice admits them through the "back door" of artificial contract labor programs.

gaijin: outsider or foreigner; a person who is not Japanese. In Brazil this term is often used by Nikkei for non-Nikkei Brazilians.

haiku: Japanese seventeen-syllable poetry.

imin: immigrant.

isei (or *issei*): Japanese immigrants (to Brazil or elsewhere).

japonês: person of Japanese descent (sometimes restricted to those born in Japan).

jus sanguinis and *jus soli*: *jus sanguinis* (law of blood) refers to the principle of citizenship law by which one becomes a citizen of a nation by being born to a parent who is a citizen, whereas *jus soli* (law of land) refers to a rule by which one becomes a citizen by being born in the territory of a state.

Kasato Maru: the first ship with Japanese immigrants to Brazil (1908).

kenjin-kai: prefectural association.

mestiçagem: racial and cultural mixing.

mestiço: person of mixed race.

Nihonjin: Japanese.

nihonjin-kai: Japanese associations.

Nikkei: person of Japanese descent born overseas.

Nikkeijin: see *Nikkei*.

Nipo-brasileiro: Japanese Brazilian.

nisei (or *nissei*): child of Japanese immigrants (to Brazil or elsewhere).

san k (three k's): a term used to describe the work that migrant workers accept, usually in factories—*kitani* (dirty), *kitsui* (difficult), *kigen* (dangerous).

sansei: grandchild of Japanese immigrants (to Brazil or elsewhere).

saudade: a term used frequently in Brazil that includes notions of homesickness, nostalgia, and longing.

Seicho no Ie: a nationalist religion that became popular after World War II for its belief that Japan was the center of the world and that the center of Japan was its emperor.

transnationalization: social process by which characteristics (social, economic, technological, political, etc.) are widely diffused beyond the borders of their countries of origin.

Tupi: name of the largest indigenous nation in South-West Brazil—almost annihilated during the colonial period.

Uchinanchu: a term used by Okinawans for themselves.

Uchinanguchi: Okinawan dialect.

Yakuza: Japanese word referring to organized criminal gangs or their individual members.

Yamatonchu: a term used by Okinawans to designate Japanese from the mainland.

Yonsei: great-grandchild of Japanese immigrants (to Brazil or elsewhere).