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Sommario/riassunto	The fact that the Portuguese opened up the Far East to European maritime enterprise is well known, but the prosperity to which their trade attained in that region is less so, as historians have tended to dwell on the English or Dutch activities. The period of Luso-Japanese trade is therefore of interest in more ways than one, and in particular the first decade of the seventeenth century when Japan was being

moulded by Tokugawa Ieyasu and when the country was still open to foreigners regardless of their race or religion. This volume involved considerable research in four languages and most
