

Ushiku Film: *Press Portal*

 *Recommended Reading*

Schilling, M. “Detained but not silent-Stories from inside Japan’s immigration centers” in *The Japan Times*, June 11, 2021.

Mark Schilling takes a behind-the-scenes foray into the methods used to access Ushiku’s immigration detention centre, film the participants, and gather video evidence of abuses.

Source: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/culture/2021/06/11/films/ushiku-documentary-immigration-centers/?fbclid=IwAR31VIYL6YerJUqXYiU3ayytG7FX4p8u1ResURe4NSEs1HiSaMjGXAbI3mY>

PDF: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Jc9BzBsM2yDbtBdFUJYdAWdNDwwrbOHw/view?usp=sharing>

 *Recommended Reading*

Yukinao, K. “Horrible ‘hospitality’: Detainees talk about reality of Japan immigration facility in film” in *The Mainichi*, July 2, 2021.

In an interview with the director, Yukinao Kin explores Thomas Ash’s motivations to make the documentary and spread awareness of the workings of Japan’s immigration system.

Source: <https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20210701/p2a/00m/0na/020000c>

PDF: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Y1NjjXHfEQFjll6MOOr40N7HZf10DvyiC/view?usp=sharing>

 *Recommended Reading*

“In the land of humanity, now” in the *Catholic Shimbun*, October 10, 2021.

This article explores violations of the human rights of undocumented foreigners who shared their stories in the documentary film “Ushiku.” Japanese immigration policy allows the immigration detention facility to detain undocumented foreigners indefinitely, exposing them to medical negligence, violence, and verbal abuse.

PDF: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DhxfVZJPwkSnYqXTgWyUJJhJPhYHugpZ/view?usp=sharing>

 Recommended Reading

Kozuki, H. “Asylum seekers speak out about cruel detention in secretly shot film,” in *The Asahi Shimbun*, Oct. 11, 2021.

This article provides a brief outline of the stories from the film’s participants, after “Ushiku” premiered in the *Perspectives Japan* programme at the Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival on 9 October, 2021.

Source: <https://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/14458573>

PDF: https://drive.google.com/file/d/16SSeTZK5JC-DWEv1ifgR_PXxuS5oNTk2/view?usp=sharing

 Recommended Reading

Doi, T. “Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival Review 6 ‘Ushiku’” on *Facebook*, October 15, 2021.

The documentary film “Ushiku” documents the severe situation of asylum seekers in Japan, which has been neglected by Japanese citizens for a long time. The director’s attitude towards the participants is more than as simply an interviewer, but he treats them as people whose human rights and dignity were taken away. “If political pressure is hindering this film from receiving its deserved recognition here in Japan,” writes journalist and documentary filmmaker Toshikuni Doi in this statement, “then I hope film festivals abroad will see its real worth.”

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/toshikuni.doi/posts/10226341053528550>

PDF: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PEGVxOjOSKmXFeDAQps45XdpXcz_7jmw/view?usp=sharing