In commemoration of the 40th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and Singapore, Chado Urasenke Tankokai Singapore Association and co-organiser, the Embassy of Japan, will be holding a Tea Gathering Demonstration at the Asian Civilisations Museum at Empress Place.

Showashiki Demonstration – To introduce traditional Japanese culture through tea procedure, flower arrangement, incense procedure and making verses through a special group training exercise which is called “Showashiki”. Between 13:00 to 13:45 and 15:00 to 17:00, there will be served Japanese sweets and matcha tea to the public. Admission is free.

Date: Saturday 9 September 2006 & Sunday 10 September 2006, 14:00 to 14:45
Venue: Asia Civilisations Museum Empress Place 2 Roof Foyer
Enquiry: Chado Urasenke Tankokai Singapore Association Tel: 6334-4175 Shiraishi

HANAYOSE / FLOWER PROCEDURE: A hanging scroll and five different flower vases filled with water are displayed at the alcove. The teishu/host carries a tray of flowers to the alcove and selects desired flowers and places them in the vase. The principle guest and the rest of the guests take their turn accordingly.

MONKO / INSENCE PROCEDURE: The host carries an incense tray and prepares for incense procedure. On the incense tray there are Koro/incense burner, a layered incense case, silver tongs, wooden chopsticks. Incense and a mica chip are placed in the incense boxes. When the incense is ready, the host tests whether the incense is releasing its fragrance adequately and carries the incense burner to the principle guest to enjoy the delicate fragrance of the incense and the rest of the guests follow after him/her.

TEA PROCEDURE: On the tea preparing position, there is a potable boiler, a kettle, a water container, a utensil stand, a thick tea caddy and a thin tea container displayed for Tea Procedure. The host prepares a bowl of thick tea and takes a seat to share a bowl of thick tea together. Three bowls of thin tea will be prepared in the kagetsu manner which employs “brisue” and contains five “tuda”; Flower, Moon, One, Two and Three. The person who picked the Moon lot will partake of sweet and a bowl of thin tea and the person who picked the Flower lot will prepare a bowl of thin tea.

UTA / VERSES: The host carries a five-layered writing box. In order of precedence, verses will be made related to each individual flower as placed in the flower vase earlier, write them on their strip of papers and give choral speaking.