



6-1-2010

In Memoriam

East Lib

H- Asia

Japan Foundation

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/jeal>

BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

Lib, East; Asia, H-; and Foundation, Japan (2010) "In Memoriam," *Journal of East Asian Libraries*: Vol. 2010 : No. 151 , Article 10.

Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/jeal/vol2010/iss151/10>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Journal of East Asian Libraries* by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact scholarsarchive@byu.edu, ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.

IN MEMORIAM

Yoneo Ishii (1929-2010)

Dr. Yoneo Ishii, Professor Emeritus of Kyoto University and the Director of the Japan Center for Asian Historical Records (JACAR), passed away on February 12, 2010 at the age of eighty.

Dr. Ishii was a scholar in history, religion, and linguistics and was known worldwide for his research on Southeast Asian history, especially on Thailand. Prior to finishing his undergraduate studies he worked for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan in the Embassy of Japan in the Royal Kingdom of Thailand, before returning to Japan and completing his undergraduate and graduate degrees. He was the founding Director of the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University; President of Sophia University, Tokyo; President of Kanda University of International Studies, Chiba; and President of the National Institute of the Humanities, an inter-university research institute in Japan. While Director of the Center of Southeast Asian Studies Dr. Ishii set up programs with bookstores in Thailand to purchase books in the Thai, Lao, and Khmer languages for the CSEAS library and arranged for librarians from Thammasat University and Bangkok Bank to help sort and catalogue the Thai books at the library.

Dr. Ishii was the first Director of JACAR, which promotes digital archives on the pre-World War II history of Japan and Asia. He was well-known for his efforts to internationalize Asian studies in Japan and for promoting a better understanding of Asia. A notable feature of Professor Ishii's scholarship was his interest in developing basic research tools and source materials for the benefit of all scholars. In 1987 he was awarded the Third Degree Medal of the White Elephant by The Royal Kingdom of Thailand, and in 1995 Japan awarded him the Medal of Honor with Purple Ribbon.

Dr. Ishii's publications include *Jozabu Bukkyo no Seijishakaigaku: Kokkyo no Kozo* [The Politico-Sociology of Mahayana Buddhism: The Structure of a National Religion] (Tokyo: Sobunsha, 1975), *Junk Trade from Southeast Asia* (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 1998), and *Tai Kindaishi Kenkyu Josetsu* [An Introduction to Research on the Modern History of Thailand] (Tokyo: Iwanami Shoten, 1999).

Following a private family service, a public memorial service was held March 22 in Tokyo. A Buddhist memorial service was held March 5 in Bangkok.

(Compiled from memorial postings to Eastlib, H-Asia, and the Japan Foundation website)