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A Tribute to Hideo Kaneko (金子英生) 1934-2013

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I first met Kaneko-san in May 1973 at what was then the East Asian Collections of Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. That was during my two week trans-continental drive by Toyota Corolla from the University of British Columbia (UBC) in Vancouver, BC, Canada to Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A. On the same road trip, when I visited Harvard-Yenching Library 燕京図書館, I met Dr. Alfred Kai-Ming Chiu (Qui Kaiming 裘開明) (1898-1977). Dr. Chiu was emeritus scholar-librarian and the founding director of that library, serving from 1931 to 1965. At Harvard-Yenching, I also met Dr. Eugene W. Wu 吳文津, then the incumbent and second director of the library, and Mr. Toshiyuki Aoki 青木利行, head librarian of the Japanese Collection. At the Yenching Library I observed the splendid Chinese collection, high in both quality and numbers of volumes, far exceeding the Japanese and Korean collections. It was quite impressive to me. Also unforgettable to me were voluminous Tibetan Buddhist sutras wrapped in traditional preservation cloths piled up in one of their Library’s basement rooms, at that time still uncataloged.

I had originally learned about Kaneko-san, Curator of the Yale Collections, from Mr. Tsutomu Nakamori 中森強 of Japan’s National Diet Library (NDL) 国立国会図書館 in the fall of 1970 when he came to visit our Asian Library at UBC. Mr. Nakamori was one of my seniors at the Japan Library School (JLS) 日本図書館学校 of Keio University 慶應義塾大學 in Tokyo. He was in the first class of JLS in 1951, and I was in the tenth class in 1960. Two other retired CEAL members, Mrs. Teruko Kyuma-Chin 陳久間照子 (Washington, Seattle) and Ms. Shizue Matsuda 松田静江 (Indiana) were also among the first class students of JLS. Mr. Nakamori was dispatched from NDL to the University of Washington in Seattle in 1970, and then to Yale in 1971 for a total of two years as a visiting librarian in NDL’s overseas research study program. Visiting the East Asian libraries at both institutions, he did research on American library systems and management practices, and in 1972 he returned to Japan to work at NDL. Mr. Nakamori retired from NDL in the mid-1980s and became a professor of library
science at Shobi Gakuen University 尚美学園大学 in Saitama Prefecture, Japan.

During my visit home to Japan in 1971, I also heard about Kaneko-san from Mr. Hisao Matsumoto 松本久男, then Field Director of the LC Tokyo Office (LC 東京事務所), when I paid my visit of courtesy to him. At that time their Tokyo Office was leasing one floor of the building of Japan Publications Trading Co., Ltd. (JPT) (日本出版貿易株式会社) in Kanda Book Town (神田書店街), Tokyo. After they collected new and antiquarian Japanese books, they immediately catalogued them and also produced a printed card of each book by the Japanese Kanji Typewriter for The National Union Catalogue (NUC) and shipped both books and printed cards to LC in Washington, D.C. by the US Military Cargo every weekend from the Yokota Air Force Base in the suburbs of Tokyo. Mr. Matsumoto praised Kaneko-san as an excellent administrative librarian at Yale and a brilliant liaison librarian between Japanese and North American libraries. Kaneko-san used to visit NDL, LC Tokyo Office, JPT, and other antiquarian bookstores in Kanda, during a trip to Japan on his summer vacation, when he renewed his library business relationships and private friendships, as well.

It seems to me that nowadays most of the incumbent CEAL members don’t know about the Japan Library School (JLS). Therefore, let me make a brief description of it for them. JLS was established in 1951 by the Civil Information and Education Section of the General Headquarters of Supreme Commander for Allied Powers (CIE, GHQ-SCAP) (連合国軍最高司令官総司令部民間情報教育部) in Occupied Japan as a post-war reform program in higher education in co-operation with the American Library Association (ALA) (米国図書館協会) providing teaching staff members and texts and Keio University (est. 1858) preparing school facilities. Prof. Robert Gitler (1909-2004), then Director of the Library School at the University of Washington (on Sabbatical Leave in 1951/52), was appointed to this first university level professional library school in Japan as founding director (1951-56). After returning to the U.S.A., he served for A.L.A. as executive secretary of the Library Education Division (1956-60). I was honoured to be one of his last class of students in 1961, when he served as Visiting Professor at JLS for the second time. In total, twenty American and one Canadian faculty member in library science selected by ALA came to JLS for teaching between 1951 and 1961. Since then JLS has successfully developed to the present
School of Library and Information Science (SLIS) at Department of Humanity and Social Sciences, Faculty of Letters, Keio University (慶応義塾大學文学部人文社会学科図書館情報学系). The school officially changed its name from JLS to SLIS in 1968. SLIS retains the undergraduate course of JLS for a B.A. in librarianship (in contrast to the demise in the 1960s of such undergraduate library schools in North American institutions), instituted a Master’s course in 1967, and further started a PhD program in 1975. JLS and SLIS have produced a total of approximately 3,000 graduates over the past 60 years.

When Kaneko-san and I first met with each other during my coast to coast travel by car in 1973 at Yale, after chatting about our mutual library friends and colleagues, he kindly showed me around the Yale East Asian Collections. I was very much impressed with Yale’s fine collection of Kotenseki 古典籍 (Rare Antiquarian Materials) and Kanseki 漢籍 (Sino-Japanese Classics), most of which were kept in traditional book cases. Mr. Kaneko explained to me that many of them were purchased by the former scholar-curator, Professor Kan’ichi Asakawa 朝河貫一 (1873-1948), a Japanese historian, during his collection and acquisition trip to Japan in 1906-1907 and some parts of them were gifts from the Yale Association of Japan. Some of the volumes were also donated to Yale by the great Japanese entrepreneur Mr. Eiichi Shibusawa 澁澤栄.


3 Asakawa Kan’ichi, The Documents of Iriki=Iriki Monjo 入来文書 (Tokyo, Kashiwa Shobo, 2005).


一 (1840-1931), who was involved in the founding of some 500 companies during his lifetime. Mr. Shibusawa also donated many fine works of Japanese art to Yale's art museum. He left his great mark during the emerging period of modern Japan not only in industrial economics but also in international relations, public welfare, education, and other areas. One of our colleagues of the Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL)(東亜図書館協会), Association for Asian Studies (AAS)(米国アジア学会), and the North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources (NCC)(北米日本研究資料調整協議会), Ms. Izumi Koide-Yasue 小出安江いずみ, is presently serving at the Shibusawa Memorial Museum (澁澤史料館) in Nishigahara, Kita-ku, Tokyo 東京都北区西ヶ原. Over the years, during my local East Asia library visits at the AAS-CEAL annual conferences, I noticed that similar very large collections of Shibusawa's historical materials formed the core of most of the major Japanese collections in North America. I also observed during my tenure at UBC that Mr. Kaneko and Dr. Warren M. Tsuneishi常石ミチオ・ワレン (1921-2011), former Head of the Asia Division of the Library of Congress (LC)(米国議会図書館), were jointly key players on the U.S. side in the 1970s and 80s as organizers and hosts of the Japan-U.S. Conference on Libraries and Information Science in Higher Education (日米大学図書館会議). Kaneko-san was very active in promoting exchanges of library materials and librarians between North America and Japan as a part of this and various other international library programs. During his career, in addition to his main duty to manage the administrative, budgetary, and planning functions as curator of the East Asian Collections at Yale, he also contributed substantially to the East Asian library community by writing professional articles, presenting at conferences, and serving as president of CEAL (1979-1982). Scores of retired Japanese Study librarians emerita/tus such as Ms. Emiko M. Moffitt 益子恵美子(Stanford), Mrs.Yoshiko Sawa 澤佳子(Toronto), Mrs. Miwako Kendlbacher 磯部美和子(Toronto) (8th class of JLS), Ms. Ryoko Toyama 外山良子(Rutgers), Ms. Sumiko Takaramura 宝村スミ子(LC), Mrs. Ichiko T. Morita 森田一子(LC), Ms.Yasuko Matsudo 松戸保子(Michigan), Mrs. Yasuko Makino 牧野泰子(Princeton), Mrs. Mihoko Miki 三木身保子(UCLA), Mr. Eiji Yutani 由谷英治(UCSD), Mr. Kenneth K. Tanaka 田中一雄(Maryland), Mr Eugene Cavalho (Kansas), Mr. Masaesi Saito 齊藤雅英(Michigan), Mr. Kenji Niki 仁木賢司(Michigan)、Mr. Hisayuki Ishimatsu 石松久幸(UC, Berkeley)(20th class of SLIS), and other CEAL CJK colleagues including Mr. Eizaburo Okuizumi 奥泉栄三郎 (1940-2013) (Chicago) (13th
class of JLS), who just passed away on this July 21, 2013, had fond memories of Kaneko-san as a successful builder of an international library bridge across the Pacific Ocean through his sincere dedication to global library services.

Beginning from the mid-1970s Mr. Kaneko was also one of the main proponents of computerized cataloguing of East Asian materials. He served on the "Steering Committee for a Study of the Problems of East Asian Libraries of the American Council of Learned Societies" along with then eminent East Asian librarians, Dr. Warren M. Tsuneishi (LC), Dr. Eugene W. Wu (Harvard), and other prominent scholar-librarians such as Dr. Tsuen-hsuin Tsien 錢存訓 (Chicago), Dr. Thomas C. Kuo 郭成棠 (Pittsburg) and the forward-thinking library administrators, Mr. Weiying Wan 萬惟英 (Michigan) and Mr. Karl Lo 盧國邦 (1935-2007) (Washington, Seattle). All of these farsighted librarians bravely tackled an unprecedented challenge that would eventually affect all East Asian language speakers throughout the world: adapting East Asian languages to modern computers. As in East Asian countries, these North American library innovators faced issues relating to the digitization of CJK text (Hanzi/Kanji/Hanja), but specifically with regards to CJK in library records for a North American audience. By 1979, the basic technology for the input, display, and manipulation of East Asian scripts in CJK bibliographic records had been developed, but it had not been used in library systems. It was still a huge challenge, and required more time. During the developmental period over the next few years, I used to look forward with great anticipation to progress reports from the study group. The pioneering efforts of this committee's members eventually led to today's new era of advanced CJK-capable online cataloguing systems in North American East Asian Libraries. The birth of this new era came with the first CJK cataloguing record, which was entered by LC on September 12, 1983.6

The late esteemed senior librarians, Ms. Naomi Fukuda 福田なをみ (1907-2007) (Michigan), Ms. Miwa Kai 甲斐美和 (1913-2011) (Columbia), and Dr. Masato Matsui 松井正人 (1930-1998) (Hawaii), were always thinking of grand plans for the total development of Japanese Collections in North America from their broader perspectives.

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Kaneko-san played a significant role, usually behind the scenes, of being the intermediator between leaders’ ideals and younger generation’s practical proposals. Far-sighted views of senior librarians led to the current shared acquisitions project of the North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources (NCC). Younger librarians’ proposals have been initially realized as the NDL Training Program for Japanese Studies Librarians abroad, jointly organized by the National Diet Library (NDL) and the International House of Japan with a funding from the Japan Foundation, and this project began in 1997 and ceased in 2007. This can be called a harbinger of similar international library workshops such as the CEAL Committee on Technical Processing (CTP) Sponsored Cataloguing Workshop started in 2006, the Tenri Antiquarian Materials Workshop launched in 2007, the NDL Japan Specialist Workshop—one week training programs co-sponsored by the International House of Japan that began in 2010, and the Junior Japanese Librarians Training Workshop held in 2012 at the University of Toronto Libraries, under joint sponsorship of the Canadian Task Force and NCC with a financial support of the Japan Foundation.

I still remember vividly when I visited the Library of Congress (LC) for the first time during my inter-continental car travel in May 1973 and met Messrs. Warren M. Tsuneishi and Andrew Y. Kuroda 黒田良信 (1910-1997) in their Japanese Section. Mr. Kuroda wrote a retrospective review of the Japanese Collection at LC. He served on the LC Tokyo Office as its second field director for a few years from 1979 to 1981 after Mr. Matsumoto returned to the U.S.A. in 1979. What greatly impressed me on my first visit to LC was the huge number of catalog-card filers, probably a few hundred clerical workers, who were in a very large room and were quietly processing many big piles of catalog-cards on rows of tables. Sometime later I found out that prominent Professor of Japanese Literature, Dr. Donald L. Keene (Navy), and Asian Studies Librarian, Dr. Warren M. Tsuneishi (Army), were both U.S. Military Intelligent Officers during W.W. II. These two veterans knew each other very well, despite belonging to

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191
different branches of the military, according to *War-Wasted Asia; Letters, 1945-46.*

This is a collection of letters exchanged by information officers engaged in Japanese translation and interpretation during the Pacific War campaign. I met Dr. Keene only once at the AAS-CEAL annual conferences held in the early 1990s at New Orleans. During our short conversation at the AAS reception he told me that he was living at Nishigahara in Kita-ku, Tokyo, near the Shibusawa Memorial Museum, for half a year, and in New York for the other half, every year. In January 2012, he obtained his Japanese citizenship and decided to settle down in Japan for the rest of his life after teaching at Columbia University over 50 years. Just before he left New York for Tokyo on August 31, 2011, former Curator of the C.V. Starr East Asian Library, Dr. Amy V. Heinrich, and their Japanese Studies Librarian, Dr. Sachie Noguchi, came to help him clear his apartment, according to the monthly literary journal, *Shincho.*

Another general intellectual magazine, *Bungei Shunju* 文藝春秋, also reported that Dr. Keene donated about 600 volumes of his private collection to his neighbors' Public Library in Kita-ku, Tokyo. Needless to say, book-lover Keene-Sensei also donated a countless number of Japanese books to Columbia’s East Asian Library as well as to the Donald Keene Center for Japanese Culture. Mr. Jim Cheng, present Director of the C.V. Starr East Asian Library at Columbia, made an announcement in an Eastlib listserv posting on August 6, 2012, which was later reprinted in *The Journal of East Asian Libraries*, that their Library recently honoured Prof. Emeritus Donald Keene with a commemorative plaque permanently displayed in its historic reading room in recognition of his ongoing generous support of the Japanese Collection. Currently, prominent literary publisher Shinchosha of Tokyo has been publishing *The Collected*

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11 Takuya Sugiyama 杉山拓也, “Nihon no Kao, Donarudo Kiin: Donald Lawrence Keene, Nihon Bungaku Kenkyusha 日本の顔 ドナルド・キーン: Donald Lawrence Keene, 日本文学研究者,” *Bungei Shunju* 文藝春秋, Vol 90, No.2 (February 2012), Photo gravure p. 5.
Works of Donald Keene in Japanese. Many of his readers hope that one day in the future his complete works shall be published in English, as well. Then, this would contribute greatly to the advancement of a comparative study of world literature.

Mr. Hideo Kaneko was born on April 13, 1934 in Osaka, Japan and passed away on February 4, 2013 in Patch Cheshire, Connecticut, U.S.A. He received his first degree, a B.A. in Social Science at George Fox University in 1957, and the second one, an M.A. in Philosophy of the University of Oregon in 1959, and further obtained an M.A. in Library Science from the University of Michigan in 1961. He also did graduate work at other U.S. institutions. He started his professional career at Yale in 1961 as a cataloguer, served on the East Asian Collections of the University of Maryland as its Head from 1963 to 68, and was appointed to the position of Associate Curator of the East Asian Collections at Yale in 1968. In 1969 he was promoted to Curator, a position he held until his retirement on August 31, 2000. He published numerous publications, and he also devoted much research time to the life of his mentor, Dr. Kan’ichi Asakawa, and to his major field of library and information science, which he pursued even in his retirement days.

Kaneko-san’s love and passion for East Asian books and libraries was inspiring and contagious. During his time CJK collections were increased and CJK librarians were developed and well trained at Yale and other CEAL institutions. I had the honour of being associated with Kaneko-san as a CEAL colleague for 33 years during my tenure at UBC (1969-2002), and I have high admiration not only for his professional achievements in East Asian and international librarianships but also for his personal philosophy of what is important in life. Over his career, he was the classic workaholic, an organizer for library programs and a genuine curator of CJK collections. He was a lifelong visionary and also showed an enthusiastic CEAL spirit for inter-cultural

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development of libraries between East and West through his non-stop working. He was a wonderful librarian, a sophisticated gentleman, and a beloved family man. My heartfelt sympathy goes out to Mrs. Kaneko and the family. Gassho (hands clasped in prayer!)

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