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Introduction

Toshiyuki Takamiya

Professors Shinsuke Ando and Haruo Iwasaki retire from their full professorships at Keio University at the age of 65 in March 1998, and the present collection of new essays is intended to reflect the high esteem and gratitude felt by their former students and colleagues who form the contributions. Since their academic publications and their activities within and outside Keio University over the years are already widely known, this introduction will rehearse something of their earlier and less public lives.

Shinsuke Ando was born in Tokyo on 1 July 1932, the eldest son of Yoshiyuki Ando and his wife, Tome. Soon he was joined by a brother and a sister. Earlier generations of the Andos had been middle-class landowners in an agricultural village near Taketa, Oita Prefecture, but the estates had passed out of the family's hands soon after the World War I, and when Shinsuke Ando's father arrived in Tokyo, it was to run an agency for fire and marine insurance companies. For a business man, Yoshiyuki Ando was of a sensitive and scholarly disposition, an assiduous collector of Japanese antiques, and it is doubtless from him that his son inherited a fine aesthetic sense, which expresses itself variously in his feelings for literature, music, art and artefacts, such as ceramics. His mother was noted for the generosity and tolerance of her nature, and those qualities are also clearly manifested in Shinsuke Ando's temperament.

Ando's musical sense revealed itself at an early age. When he was six years old he suffered from the distressing childhood ailment of whooping-cough, and in order merely to distract him from its effects, his parents gave him a toy piano. To their surprise, they found he was able to reproduce a melody that he had heard on the radio. Naturally, they cultivated this talent by letting him take piano lessons, and his abilities as both an instrumentalist and as a singer (eventually extending even to German *Lieder*) began to develop.

Shinsuke Ando's association with Keio University and its educational tradition began at an early age. When he started attending a primary school affiliated to Keio, the headmaster was Eiichi Kiyooka, a grandson of Yukichi Fukuzawa, Keio's founder, and the translator into English of that great man's autobiography. A graduate of Cornell University, Kiyooka maintained a liberal and pacifist outlook even in the extremely militaristic climate of the late 1930s and early 1940s. During the Pacific War, Ando was obliged to take part in the group evacuation of his primary school to Shuzenji Spa, where he and his classmates suffered hunger owing to the general shortage of food, whilst his headmaster, protecting the children from the worst excesses of militarism, endured severe criticism from local officials on account of his pacifism.

In his early schooling, Ando was greatly influenced by a teacher who followed and encouraged his development for nearly six years. This was Mr Yoshio Kakegai, a Waka poet, whose feelings for the Japanese language, in both its spoken and written forms, communicated a lasting impression. Later, Ando was evacuated to Taketa, his father's home town, attending a local middle school where there was a very different atmosphere.

After the war, Ando moved on to the newly-formed Keio High

School, which provided an outstandingly stimulating environment for his later formative years. Amongst intelligent and intellectually ambitious classmates, Ando began to show his aptitude for literary criticism, contributing, for example, an essay on the French novelist Romain Rolland, whose *roman fleuvre* entitled *Jean Christophe* chronicles the life of a musical genius. Many of Ando's high-school contemporaries went on to distinguish themselves in their own spheres, as composers, musicians, scholars and men of the theatre.

Ando's father (whose health was seldom good—he died early, in 1948) would have liked his son to have attended medical school, which he was well-qualified to do. But Ando elected to read English at Keio University, and went on to write a B.A. thesis on T.S. Eliot's maturest and most difficult work, the then recently-published *Four Quartets*. Such confidence, and indeed precocity, did not pass unnoticed, and upon his graduation the University awarded Ando a silver watch as a mark of his outstanding academic achievements. It was during his time as an undergraduate, however, that Ando heard Keio's premier medievalist, Fumio Kuriyagawa, read aloud Chaucer's *Pardoner's Tale* in Middle English, and this crystallized his determination to study at graduate level Medieval English literature, and particularly the poetry of Chaucer. First, however, the proper foundations for a career as a medievalist had to be laid, and it is now a legend amongst us that Ando devoted his first summer as a graduate to a minute scrutiny of the text of *Beowulf*. For his M.A. dissertation he chose the fertile subject of 'Chaucer's Concept of Nature', whilst at the same time sustaining an interest in contemporary English literature with an essay on T.S. Eliot in a Keio graduate publication.

Upon obtaining his M.A., Ando became an assistant lecturer in the English Department at Keio, but not all his time was taken up by

academic pursuits. Another of his latent talents was brought into the open when he was invited to play the part of an English county parson in a production of John Whiting's drawing-room comedy *A Penny for a Song*, which was being staged by the Tokyo Amateur Dramatists Club, a group of English expatriates in Tokyo. So convincing was his performance (under the baffling stage-name Geoffrey Chaucer) that he was awarded a special prize at the cast's subsequent Christmas party. A few years later, in 1962-3, Ando took the opportunity to study in England as a recognized student at Oxford under Neville Coghill and J. A. W. Bennett, and the first play he went to see in London's West End was *A Penny for a Song*. And Ando noticed that the Royal Shakespeare Company production was a little better than that in Tokyo! Ando's gift for mimicry has sometimes also been displayed privately, and foreign academic visitors to Tokyo have been no less diverted than his native audience by accomplished post-prandial impressions of well known actors and professors.

Given his abilities and achievements, it is not surprising that Ando was appointed a Professor of English at Keio in 1971 at the age of only 38, since when he has taught not only at Keio, but occasionally elsewhere, such as the University of Tokyo. When Keio made him a professor they recognized not only an outstanding scholar, but also an able administrator, qualities that are not necessarily always combined in academics. He has been especially noted for his wide acquaintance in the network of Keio's alumni. Other beneficiaries of his administrative skills have been the English Literary Society of Japan, of which he served as an auditor and director in the ten years leading up to its fiftieth anniversary in 1979, and the Shakespeare Society of Japan, where he played an important part behind the scenes in hosting the World Shakespeare Congress at Tokyo in 1991. Organizational

ability was also manifest when Ando became one of the earliest editors of the international journal *Poetica*, launched in 1973, doing much to ensure its regular publication despite a period of management difficulty. From 1989 to 1992 he was President of the Keio Society of Arts and Letters, and it is in this context that the present volume of essays in tribute will be particularly meaningful.

Shinsuke Ando is a many-sided and indeed myriad-minded man of culture. He is now an internationally-known Chaucerian, appropriately witnessed in the first Festschrift, published for him in Britain in 1992. He is recognized as a gifted teacher with a fine command of the English language—more English than the English, it is sometimes said. His sociability, hospitality and generosity are a by-word, and all of us know his mischievous and occasionally ironical vein of humour. A family man, he is married to Hiroko, née Iwamatsu, who with their four daughters (and now a granddaughter who was born on 29 September 1997), has played an important part in welcoming visitors from abroad to the special privilege of a visit to the Ando household in Tokyo, or to their cottage in the mountains. By nature conservative, Shinsuke Ando has sought to express in his life and work the best of Keio's traditional values.

Haruo Iwasaki seemed destined to follow his father's academic career in English philology. Born 7 March 1933 to Mr. Tamihei Iwasaki and his wife, Masae, Haruo was the fourth child, a long-awaited son who followed upon three daughters. A reserved and well-behaved boy, the young Haruo looked upon his father, the illustrious Professor of English at Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, with awe and respect. Mr Iwasaki was one of the greatest Japanese/English lexicographers. Haruo was thus not, however, the centre of his parents' attention, but he was brought up at home surrounded by attentive sisters. So used was

he, in fact, to feminine society, he did not know how to play with boys when he started attending a local primary school. Throughout his childhood his industrious father instilled into Haruo a knowledge of the vices of luxury and idleness, and of the virtue of patience.

In common with the great majority of his generation, Haruo Iwasaki's childhood was deeply marked by the shattering effects of the Second World War and its aftermath. With the onset of enemy air attacks on Tokyo, Haruo and two sisters were evacuated to their father's native town in Yamaguchi Prefecture, where he attended a local middle school. All that he recollects now from the year-long stay is the indelible memory of the hunger that he suffered, and the extreme militancy of the soldiers of the Japanese army. Returning to Tokyo after the war, he found his house totally reduced to ashes in the air raids, along with a sizeable number of his father's books, though a set of the *Oxford English Dictionary* was saved—the set that he still cherishes today.

The whole family was obliged to move twice before they finally settled in a house with a spacious garden situated near the main campus of the University of Tokyo. Iwasaki was admitted to one of the prestigious middle and high schools affiliated to the Tokyo University of Education. He excelled in English and physical pursuits. As a member of the school's gymnastic club, his *forte* was the floor exercises. In leisurely hours, he and three other classmates used to get together and enjoy playing cards and table tennis. He also enjoyed reading Western classics and modern literature, as well as the Japanese 'Gothic' novels of Izumi Kyoka.

Iwasaki went up to the University of Tokyo, reading linguistics, with a graduation thesis on the subjunctive mood in English. During his undergraduate days, he became increasingly interested in gardening,

frequenting the nurseries at Angyo, famous for plants and horticulture. He liked to adorn his garden with such blossom-bearing varieties as the Camellia. Much later, when the future of university education was endangered by the student movement and its endless strikes and barricades, our faculty members discussed (half in jest) possible alternatives to their university professions. Iwasaki said without hesitation, 'I shall be a gardener,' whilst I opted to be a taxi-driver, and Ando a saloon pianist.

Upon graduating from university, Iwasaki found a couple of part-time jobs teaching English in middle and high schools, as he had no intention of working in an office. But soon an encounter with *English Literature and Language in the Middle Ages* by the late Professor Fumio Kuriyagawa, doyen of medieval English studies in Japan, literally pointed the way to his future career. He entered Keio University's Graduate School, where he was supervised by Professor Kuriyagawa in both M.A. and Ph.D. courses.

For the topic of his M.A. dissertation he chose the perfect tense in Old and Middle English, and in 1962 he was made an assistant lecturer in the English department, concurrent with the Ph.D. course. Since then he has concentrated on philological analyses of Early Middle English texts such as Layamon's *Brut* and the *Peterborough Chronicle*. For the latter, he found in his colleague, who was to become Professor Shūyū Shimizu, a co-researcher, and they jointly published a series of no fewer than seven articles towards 'The Language of the *Peterborough Chronicle*'. Likewise, several philological articles by Iwasaki alone became a book on *The Language of Layamon's Brut* (Tokyo: Kenkyusha).

In 1966, when he became a lecturer at Keio, Iwasaki married Noriko Wada. Mrs Iwasaki has become very popular amongst faculty

members, for, amongst other things, her home-baked cakes and biscuits, which her husband would bring to comfort us every winter during our hellish task of marking thousands of entrance exam papers. They have two sons.

When Professor Kuriyagawa retired, he was succeeded by Iwasaki, teaching the History of English and Old and Middle English at both undergraduate and graduate level. He has proven a most conscientious teacher in these disciplines, and a worthy successor to his former master. In 1977 he was made a professor, and in 1981 he edited, together with Ando and myself, *Selected Writings of Fumio Kuriyagawa* in two volumes (Tokyo : Kinseido).

He seems to have deliberately avoided any involvement in lexicography, perhaps because he had learnt—from watching his father at work—how laborious and time-consuming is the compiling of dictionaries. His ineluctable destiny, however, brought him an invitation to edit Japanese-English dictionaries, and he is now updating his own father's distinguished *Pocket English-Japanese Dictionary*. At the same time from 1986 to 1993 he served as a councillor and director of the English Literary Society of Japan, and since 1992 he has been a councillor of the Japan Society for Medieval English Studies.

All who know Professor Haruo Iwasaki will agree that he has been regarded with respect and admiration, as a gentle (in both the Middle English and modern sense of the word) man, noted for the mildness of his character and a natural sense of humour.

Quite different to one another in character, temperament, and taste, Professors Ando and Iwasaki have long formed an excellent team, steering the English Department at Keio, seemingly because through no fewer than thirty-five years in office they have never fallen

out over the difficult problems with which they have been faced. By the standards of English departments the world over this must be judged a very rare phenomenon. It is important to note that they were both instrumental in developing medieval English studies at Keio, so admirably initiated by Professors Junzaburo Nishiwaki and Fumio Kuriyagawa in the early 1930s, to an internationally recognized standard. Ando especially has travelled widely and given presentations at international conferences, and both have taken care to foster the work of younger medievalists. So much will be evident from all the contributions in English to this Festschrift, which is offered to them in their honour by their former students and colleagues in the Faculty of Letters at Keio.