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V. OBITUARY

Yamaguchi Susumu

The late Professor Yamaguchi Susumu, a distinguished leader of Japanese studies of Indian Buddhism, was a man who liked to describe himself as a student neither sharp nor shrewd but slow and arduous. It was he who brought to the country a new method of comparative study of the Sanskrit, Tibetan and Chinese versions of Buddhist texts. He edited, translated, and carefully investigated a number of fundamental books, both Mādhyamika and Yogācāra. Under his guidance many able scholars were trained and now work in several universities and colleges.

Around 1920, when he was a student at the Shinshu Otani Daigaku (the present Otani Daigaku), it was presided over by Nanjio Bunyu, the pioneer of Sanskrit study in Japan. Among the rare books of the college library collection there was a huge set of the Tibetan Tripitaka in the Peking edition, which 50 years later he made available for public use by having it photo-reprinted. Sasaki Gessho and Sakaki Ryosaburo were the teachers who directed him in the study of Buddhism in the S.O.D. and of Sanskrit in the Kyoto Teikoku Daigaku respectively. Rev. Sumita Chiken was the guru who profoundly influenced his Nembutsu faith.

His two-year stay in France was fruitful. In Paris he was happy to be a pensionnaire in the house of René Grousset, who was so affectionate towards him as later to dedicate to him his work *Sur le traces du Bouddha*. There were then two giants in Europe whom he approached: Sylvain Lèvi and L. de la Vallée Poussin. Yamaguchi was a constant admirer of both of them until his death. During his Paris days he contributed to *Journal asiatique*

with the studies on *Ālambanaparīkṣā* and the *Vigrahavyāvartanī*, both of which appeared in 1929.

His scholarly fame was established soon after his return to Japan with the publication of his excellent studies on the *Madhy-antāvibhāgaṭīkā* based on a manuscript from Nepal which S. Lèvi had entrusted to him for researches. Since then his tireless efforts bore a succession of achievements. In his later life he was not only ranked among first class scholars but also esteemed for his advisory opinion on the rapidly changing society of Japan.

Yamaguchi Susumu: a brief sketch of career

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|---------|---|
| 1895 | Born in Kyoto on Jan. 27. |
| 1922 | Finished the Post-graduate Course of Shinshu Otani Daigaku. |
| 1924-31 | Asst. Professor, Otani Daigaku. |
| 1927-29 | Studied in Paris. |
| 1934-64 | Professor, Otani Daigaku. |
| 1935-50 | During these years, made lectures in Kyoto Daigaku, Ryukoku Daigaku and other universities. |
| 1948-52 | A member of the Japan Science Council. |
| 1950-58 | President, Otani Daigaku. |
| 1957 | Selected for the honorary membership of la Societe Asiatique. |
| 1964-76 | Professor, Kyoto Sangyo Daigaku. |
| 1965 | Elected a member of the Japan Academy. |
| 1976 | Passed away on Oct. 21. |

A List of Prof. Yamaguchi's Principal Publications

1. Viṃśatikā-vṛtti, Chinese and Tibetan Versions Compared and Annotated (included in Sasaki Gessho: 唯識二十論の對譯研究 A Comparative Study on the Viṃśatikā of the Vijñāna School, Tokyo, 1923).
2. Mahāyānasamgraha, Text in Tibetan (appended to Sasaki Gessho: 漢譯四本對照攝大乘論 Mahāyānasamgraha; Four Chinese Versions Compared, Tokyo, 1931).
3. Sthiramati, Madhyāntavibhāgaṭikā, Exposition systématique du Yogācāravijñaptivāda. Edition d'après un manuscrit rapporté du Népal par M. Sylvain Lévi. Tome I—Texte, Nagoya, 1934.
4. 和譯稱友俱舍論疏 (一), (二) Abhidharmakośavyākhyā Ch. 2, a Japanese translation in collaboration with Wogihara Unrai, 2 vols., Tokyo, 1934-39.
5. 安慧阿遮梨耶造中邊分別論釋疏譯註 Sthiramati's Madhyāntavibhāgaṭikā, annotated translation into Japanese, Nagoya, 1935 (Tome II in sequence of 3).
6. 漢藏對照辨中邊論附中邊分別論釋疏梵本索引 Madhyāntavibhāga, Chinese and Tibetan versions compared, with an index to the Sanskrit text of Madhyāntavibhāgaṭikā as an appendix, Nagoya, 1937 (Tome III in sequence of 3 & 5).
7. 佛教に於ける無と有との對論 A Study on the Fifth Chapter of the Madhyamakahr̥daya, Tokyo-Kyoto, 1941.
8. 中觀佛教論攷 Essays in Madhyamaka Buddhism (including the studies on the Madhyamakakārikā, the Yuktiṣaṣṭikā, the Vaidalya-sūtra, the Catuḥśataka, etc.), Tokyo-Kyoto, 1944.
9. 淨明句論と名づくる月稱造中論釋 I, II Prasannapada Madhyamakavṛtti of Candrakīrti, Ch. I-XI, annotated translation into Japanese, Tokyo-Kyoto, 1947-49.
10. 般若思想史 History of Prajñā Thought, Kyoto, 1951.
11. 世親の成業論 The Karmasiddhiprakaraṇa of Vasubandhu (Tibetan text of the Prakaraṇa; a Japanese translation of both the Prakaraṇa and Sumatīśīla's commentary on it), Kyoto, 1951.
12. 動佛と靜佛—佛教に於ける實踐の体系—, Tokyo, 1952 (Eng. tr. by Watanabe Shoko: Dynamic Buddha and Static Buddha, Tokyo, 1958).
13. 世親唯識の原典解明 Textual Study in Vasubandhu's Vijñāna Thought (including annotated translation into Japanese of the

- Vimśatikā, the Triṃśikā and the Ālambanaparīkṣā, together with Vinītadeva's commentaries), in collaboration with Nozawa Josho, Kyoto, 1953.
14. フランス佛教學の五十年 Fifty Years of Buddhist Study in France, Kyoto, 1953.
 15. 俱舍論の原典解明 Textual Study on the Kośa (annotated translation into Japanese of the 3rd chapter of the Abhidharmakośa together with Yaśomitra's commentary), in collaboration with Funahashi Issai, Kyoto, 1955.
 16. インド文化史 Cultural History of India (a Japanese translation in collaboration with Sasaki Kyogo of S. Levi's *L'Inde civilisatrice*), Kyoto, 1958.
 17. 佛教學序説 What is Buddhism? —Introduction to Buddhology, in collaboration with Ocho Enichi, Ando Toshio and Funahashi Issai, Kyoto, 1961.
 18. 世親の淨土論 Vasubandhu's Upadeśa to the Amitāyuhṣūtra, Kyoto, 1962.
 19. 佛敎思想入門 An Introduction to Buddhist Thought, Tokyo, 1968.
 20. 山口益佛敎學文集上下 Selected Essays in Buddhist Studies by Yamaguchi Susumu, 2 vol., Tokyo, 1972–73.
 21. 佛敎聖典 Buddhist Scripture (ed.), Translation into Japanese of Selected Parts from the Nikāyas and Mahāyāna Sūtras, Kyoto, 1974.
 22. Index to the Prasannapadā Madhyamaka-vṛtti, 2 vols., Kyoto, 1975.