

学習院女子大学教授 古庄 信・玉川大学教授 青木 敦男
Makoto Furusho, Professor of Gakushuin Women's
College and Atsuo Aoki, Professor of Tamagawa
University.

1. Name of Pioneer

Fujiwara, Hiroshi (藤原 博) (1920-2005)

2. Birthplace

Dr. Fujiwara was born in Busan, Korea in 1920 and brought up in Onomichi city, Hiroshima.

3. Academic background

He graduated from the Department of English Literature, Faculty of Letters, Tokyo Imperial University (Tokyo University) in 1942.

4. Professional background

Professor of the Department of English and American Literature, Faculty of Letters, Gakushuin University (1965-1991). Professor of Teikyo University (1991-1997)

5. Social contribution (including academic activities)

On the Word-order of Gospel According to St. Matthew in OE. The Circle for Medieval English Language and Literature [中世英文学談話会] Tokyo Aoyama Kaikan, 22 December, 1973.

Chairman of the presentation by Takayuki Kishida, Tadayuki Tsuchiya. The Circle for Medieval English Language and Literature [中世英文学談話会] Tokyo Aoyama Kaikan, 13 July, 1974.

A member of the Japan Society for Medieval English Studies.

Host of the lecture meeting of the Japan Society for Medieval English Studies at Gakushuin University, on 5 December, 1981.

Host of the lecture meeting of the Japan Society for Medieval English Studies at Gakushuin University, inviting on 10 July, 1982.

Host of the lecture meeting of the Japan Society for Medieval English Studies at Gakushuin University, on 4 December, 1982.

Host of the lecture meeting of the Japan Society for Medieval English Studies at Gakushuin University, inviting Dr. Bruce Mitchell, Oxford University, as a guest speaker on 13 November, 1984.

Chairman of the presentation by Yoshihiro Yoshino "Some Neglected Aspects of Negation in OE Prose" at the National Congress [全国大会] Chukyo University,

6 December, 1866.

Chairman and lecturer of the symposium “On Word-order of the Subordinate Clause in English”, Otemae Women’s College 2 December, 1990.

6. Personal history (hobby, personality, activities as educator, academic friends)

First of all, Dr. Fujiwara was very diligent in his work. He never cancelled his lectures and dedicated his energies to the preparation for every lecture. Also his attitude to his own study and education was very strict. Especially in his teaching, he always showed his energetic outlook as a scholar to his students at classes. As regards his special study area, philology and syntax, in which he especially devoted himself to the study of word order in OE, he made his students consult the OED thoroughly, and his daily question to them was, “Which number of the list in OED can apply to the meaning of the word?” He not only let the students use the OED, but also prepared and typed extensive notes from it. In this way he showed his students how they should work as teachers and scholars. At the same time, his students often heard the names of the famous Japanese philologists and linguists, such as Kikuo Miyabe, Shoichi Watanabe, Shigeru Ono, Yoshio Terasawa and so on, during his lessons. Dr. Terasawa, Dr. Ono, Dr. Watanabe and Dr. Fujiwara were all under the direction of Dr. Miyabe. So with these great scholars, his competitors in his early career, he made a monumental contribution to inaugurating an epoch in English linguistic study in Japan.

He held a reading circle for us once a week while we were still in college. There are now many books which are intended for elementary Old English learners. One of the typical introductory books is *A Guide to Old English*, by Dr. Bruce Mitchell, a great philologist. As is well known, at that time, *Sweet’s Anglo-Saxon Primer* was a common elementary textbook, whereas today there are many books for beginners, such as Bruce Mitchell’s *A Guide to Old English*. Dr. Fujiwara read the *Gospel of Saint Matthew* together with his disciples. That was the first time for them to learn the basics of Old English, which took them a long time to understand. But to him his followers at Gakushuin owe what they are. Even now they recall that he would walk with a slight stoop on campus. The following episode will tell a lot about his character. He used to keep saying with a smile on his face in class, “I’ll explain this passage to you once again ...,” “Hi, guys. If you don’t understand, ... This is the last chance for you.” “When I write an article in Japanese, it is just for fun. On the other hand, when I do it in English, it means I do it seriously,” and so on.

7. List of Publications (books and articles)

[Books]

“Collected Papers on Word Order and Infinitive in English” *Gakushuin Library Series* 2. 1977.

“The OE Relative Particle *þe*” *Poetica* 15-16 (Shubun International, Tokyo), pp. 49-56. 1983.

“Introducing the Structure of English” (Standard English Lectures 5, edit. by Shoichi Watanabe) Taishukan, Tokyo. 1984. (「スタンダード英語講座[5]英語の構造」)

“The Life of King Richard the Third” (Japanese Translation of *The History of King Richard the Third* by Master Thomas More, Undersheriff of London c. 1513) Senjo. 1986.

“The Relative Clauses in *Beowulf*” *Linguistics across Historical and Geographical Boundaries in Honour of J. Fisiak* vol. 1: Linguistic Theory and Historical Linguistics, ed. D. Kastovsky and A. Szwedek. (Trends in Linguistics Studies and Monographs 32, Mouton de Gruyter) pp. 311-316. 1986.

“The VSO Construction in *Beowulf*” *Philologia Anglica: Essays Presented to Professor Yoshio Terasawa on the Occasion of His Sixtieth Birthday*, ed. Kinshiro Oshitari. Kenkyusha, Tokyo. pp. 60-70. 1988.

Wilhelm Franz’ “*Zur Syntax des älteren Neuenglisch*”, *Englische Studien* 17 (1892)-20 (1895) Translation by Kikuo Miyabe, Hiroshi Fujiwara and Tadao Kubouchi. Nan’un-do, Tokyo. 1991.

“Word-Order in English” Medieval English Literature Symposium Series 7. Gaku Shobo, Tokyo. 1994.

[Articles]

The Overseas News 海外新潮 E. J. Dobson: *The English Text of the Ancrene Riwle Edited from B. M. Cotton MS. Cleopatra C. VI (EETS No. 267)*, *Studies in English Literature*. The English Literary Society of Japan. pp. 327-331. vol. L, No.2. 1974.

The Overseas News 海外新潮 E. J. Dobson: *The Origins of Ancrene Wisse*, *Studies in English Literature*. The English Literary Society of Japan. pp. 183- 186. vol. LVI. 1979.

“On the Word Order in the Phrase of the To-Infinitive during the Transitional Period from OE to ME” *Essays and Studies* 13. (Faculty of Letters, Gakushuin University, Tokyo) pp. 61-81.5 February, 1967. ISSN: 04331117
URI: [http://hdl.handle.net/10959/2311_1-59+\(1953-2012\)](http://hdl.handle.net/10959/2311_1-59+(1953-2012))

“What was the Original Language of *the Ancrene Riwle*?” *Essays and Studies* 14. (Faculty of Letters, Gakushuin University, Tokyo) pp. 53-73. 5 February, 1968. ISSN: 04331117 URI: <http://hdl.handle.net/10959/2315>

“Some Aspects of Word Order in Old English” *Essays and Studies* 21. (Faculty of Letters, Gakushuin University, Tokyo) pp. 77-166. 20 March, 1975. ISSN: 04331117, URI: <http://hdl.handle.net/10959/2357>

“Sweord” *Key-Word Studies in Beowulf* 1 (Centre for Medieval English Studies, Tokyo), pp. 1-11. 1984.

“Sigeeadig bil, ealdsweord eotenisc ecgum þyhtig (*Beowulf* 1557-1559a)” *The Annual Collection of Essays and Studies* 32. (Faculty of Letters, Gakushuin University, Tokyo) pp. 25-35. 1985.

“ealdsweord... ecgum þyhtig.” (Japanese title: 「刃もて強き古の剣」 *Yaiba mote tsuyoki inishie no tsurugi*.) *Essays and Studies* 32. (Faculty of Letters, Gakushuin University, Tokyo) pp. 25-35. 20 March, 1986. ISSN: 04331117 URI: <http://hdl.handle.net/10959/2422>

“Pagan & Christian Strata in *Beowulf*” *Bulletin of the Language Institute of Gakushuin University* 10, 108-21. 1987.

“An Interpretation of *Hamlet* from the View Point of a Mediaevalist” *Bulletin of the Language Institute of Gakushuin University* 11. pp. 27-44. 1988.

“Element Order in the *Peterborough Chronicle* 1070-1121 (1)” *Essays and Studies* 36. (Faculty of Letters, Gakushuin University, Tokyo) pp. 99-118. 20 March, 1990. ISSN: 04331117 URI: <http://hdl.handle.net/10959/2460>

「英語のアルファベットの発音について」 “On the Pronunciation of the English Alphabet” *Bulletin of the Language Institute of Gakushuin University* 13. pp. 114-119. 1990.

“Element Order in the *Peterborough Chronicle* 1070-1121 (2)” *Essays and Studies* 37. (Faculty of Letters, Gakushuin University, Tokyo) pp. 89-107. 20 March, 1991. ISSN: 04331117 URI: <http://hdl.handle.net/10959/2469>

“Faire is foule, and foule is faire.” *Bulletin of the Language Institute of Gakushuin University* 15. pp. 64-65. 1992.

「Shakespeare の無韻詩への道」 “The Road to Shakespeare’s Blank Verse” *Bulletin of the Language Institute of Gakushuin University* 16. pp. 35-47. 1993.

“Landmarks of Word Order Study (1)” *Bulletin of the Department of English, Teikyo University* 25. (Teikyo University, Hachioji, Tokyo) 1994.

“A Comparative Study of the Literature in OE and ON” *The Rising Generation* [Eigo-seinen], Kenkyu-sha, Tokyo) January 1994.

「不定詞と語順---語学的エッセイ」 “Infinitive and Word Order: Linguistic Essay” 廣岡英雄先生喜寿記念論文集 pp. 79-83. 1994.

“Landmarks of Word Order Study (2)” *Bulletin of the Department of English, Teikyo University* 26. (Teikyo University, Hachioji, Tokyo) 1995.

“Landmarks of Word Order Study (3)” *Bulletin of the Department of English, Teikyo University* 27. (Teikyo University, Hachioji, Tokyo) 1996.

“*Carwash and Rent-A-Car: A Typological Investigation*” *Studia Anglica Posnaniensia* XXXI (Festschrift for Roger Lass on his sixtieth birthday), pp. 58-66. 1997.

[Review]

Michiko Ogura: Old English ‘Impersonal Verbs and Expressions’ *Studies in English Literature*, English Number (The English Literary Society of Japan) pp. 124-127. 1988.

8. Characteristics of research areas and fostering of successors

We can trace most of his studies that were published in the bulletin of Gakushuin University, where he devoted twenty-six years of his life to teaching and his own research. After resigning from Gakushuin, he moved to Teikyo University and continued his calling as a teacher and a scholar for six years.

Between the 1960s and 1980s, his main interest was in the word order of OE, in particular the explanation for its conservativeness. This resulted in his articles and books such as “On the Word Order in the Phrase of the To-Infinitive during the Transitional Period from OE to ME” (1967), “Some Aspects of Word Order in Old English” (1975), “Collected Papers on Word Order and Infinitive in English”(1977), “The Relative Clauses in *Beowulf*” (1986) and “The VSO Construction in *Beowulf*” (1987).

But at the same time, another object of his study in 1980s can be seen in the investigation of key-words such as *sweord*, *eard*, and some animal names in *Beowulf*, where an attempt is made to consider pagan and Christian elements in Anglo-Saxon civilization. Such researches are seen in “Sweord, Key-Word Studies in *Beowulf* 1” (1984), “Sigeeadig bil, ealdsweord eotenisc ecgum byhtig (*Beowulf* 1557-1559a)” (1985), and “Pagan & Christian Strata in *Beowulf*” (1987).

In addition to his OE studies, he tried to interpret *Hamlet* in the tradition of the oral heroic epic, with reference to Saxo and Belleforest in his “An Interpretation of *Hamlet* from the Viewpoint of a Mediaevalist” (1988). His interest was also shown in EModE, by publishing “The Life of King Richard the Third” (Japanese Translation of *The History of King Richard the Third* by Master Thomas More, Undersheriff of London c. 1513) in 1986.

In 1990s, his word order studies of OE continued. We can see this in the two volumes of “Element Order in the *Peterborough Chronicle* 1070-1121 (1) in 1990 and (2) in 1991”. Furthermore, his life-long study of word-order concluded with the monumental trilogy of “Element Order in the *Peterborough Chronicle* 1070-1121 (1)” in 1994, (2) in 1995 and (3) in 1996. In the meantime he produced an article for publication in an overseas scholarly journal in 1997. He tried to openly raise an objection to Lightfoot (1979), which criticizes the theory of language typology by taking up the problem of compounds. He reconsidered compounds, arguing against Lightfoot and to some extent Lehmann, while supporting Vennemann’s views. At the same time as these word-order studies, he showed us his talent in a phonological study, “On the Pronunciation of the English Alphabet” (1990), in which he clearly and skillfully explains why English alphabet “a” came to be pronounced /ei/, drawing on linguists such as Curme, Mossé and Jones.

His concern as a linguist did not end in word order, but extended to the literature in the Anglo-Saxon and early Modern English period, as in “Faire is foule, and foule is

faire” in 1992 and “A Comparative Study of the Literature in OE and ON” in 1994.

As for his educational endeavours, he raised his successors in a wide range of positions in English education and research: Kazuo Nakajima, professor of Seinan Gakuin University; Toshiaki Fukasawa, professor of Kanagawa University, Makoto Hayasaka and Takayuki Kishida, former professors of Gakushuin University; Keiko Ozeki, professor of Jissen Women’s Educational Institute, Atsuo Aoki, professor of Tamagawa University and Makoto Furusho, professor of Gakushuin Women’s College, and many English teachers in high schools in Japan.

Dr. Fujiwara, who had a profound knowledge of English Literature and was an ardent admirer of W. B. Yeats while young, devoted himself to the study of the development of English word order from the viewpoint of language typology.

He would often say that he was enormously impressed with Jespersen every time he read *A Modern English Grammar* and quote passages from it in class. Finally, his favorite linguist was W. P. Lehmann.

It is not too much to say that he is undoubtedly one of the scholars who has made a major contribution to the Japan Society for Medieval English Studies.

9. Obituary

“Collected Papers of Festschrift for Dr. Hiroshi Fujiwara: Look at the Lilies, how they grow.” ed. Atsuo Aoki and Makoto Furusho. Eiho-sha. Tokyo. 2007.

10. Some episodic information

In contrast to the strict stance mentioned above, he sometimes made his students laugh with a tiny joke during the classes. His usual comment at the beginning of his lessons was, “I have been making my own notes from OED until dawn, so I am tired.” In order to prove his efforts, he always distributed the copies of his own notes so as to teach his students how to consult the OED. With such an insistent approach, he enlightened every student in his classes.

He loved his family and his favorite TV program was a Japanese samurai drama. After 26 years’ service at Gakushuin University, he moved to Teikyo University in 1991 and continued his scholarly life for seven years. When he died at the age of 85 in 2005, Furusho, one of the writers visited his house to mourn his death, too. There in his study, an OED was left opened on his desk, by which he was laid peacefully. It seemed that he was not dead but just sleeping and at the next moment he was about to wake up and start his study again. We can surely say that he kept pursuing his scholarly goals until just before his death. He was a church member of Fujimigaoka Church in Nerima city, Tokyo, where his funeral was performed in the same year. Undoubtedly, he was called to heaven as an enthusiastic scholar as well as a Christian. He was a man.