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Name of Pioneer: Ukaji, Masatomo (宇賀治正朋) (1931-2011)\*

Masatomo Ukaji was born in Sanjo City, Niigata Prefecture on July 10, 1931. After graduating from Niigata Prefectural Sanjo High School, he matriculated at Tokyo University of Education in 1950. After earning a B.A. degree in English Language and Literature in 1954, he went on to the Master's and Doctor's Program of the same university. In those days, he was fascinated with the lectures on English Linguistics by Kotaro Ishibashi, Akira Ota and Minoru Yasui.

After completing the Doctor's program in 1958, he began his academic career as an instructor at Otaru University of Commerce, where he taught English from 1958 to 1963. During that period, he won Ford Foundation and Fulbright scholarships, and attended the University of Michigan (1961-1962), where he was inspired by the stimulating lectures of Albert H. Marckwardt, Sherman M. Kuhn, Kenneth L. Pike and others. He then developed his own ideas about the history and the structure of the English language. In 1965, he moved to the Liberal Arts Department of Tohoku University. After teaching English there for three years, he assumed a new post of Associate Professor at his alma mater, Tokyo University of Education, in 1968. There, he conducted seminars on Early Modern English and on English historical linguistics up to 1977, the year before Tokyo University of Education ceased to exist. Amidst the widespread disturbances on university campuses in the 1970s, he continued to diligently pursue his own agenda of research and publication, and completed his dissertation entitled *Imperative Sentences in Early Modern English* under the supervision of Professor Akira Ota, receiving the degree of Ph. D. in November 1976 from Tokyo University of Education.

In April 1975, he was invited to join the English Department of Tokyo Gakugei University (one of the core universities for teacher-training in Japan) as Associate Professor, and was promoted to full professorship in 1977. While working there, he also showed his remarkable administrative capacity: he held, among others, the position of Chair of the Department of Humanities and Social Science during the years 1988-1992. In addition, he undertook the painstaking task of negotiating with the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, to create a Joint Graduate School of Teacher-Training

Program. This program, in cooperation with Chiba University, Saitama University, and Yokohama National University, successfully started one year after his retirement. Needless to mention, none of these hard administrative works stopped him from being a research scholar, publishing many papers and supervising several Ph. D. dissertations.

After his retirement from Tokyo Gakugei University, he was invited to join Tsurumi University, where he taught English Linguistics, and continued his research to the age of 70 (1995-2002), while serving as a university administrator, Dean of the School of Literature and Director of the University Library.

One of his outstanding academic achievements is his aforementioned Ph. D. dissertation, which was later published as *Imperative Sentences in Early Modern English* (1978, Tokyo: Kaitakusha). For this book, he was awarded the Ichikawa Prize in 1979. This research was the first attempt in Japan to explore the problem of diachronic English syntax within the framework of generative transformational theory. Based on his careful observation and analyses, he succeeded in offering valuable new information concerning imperative constructions in Early Modern English as well as providing new insights into grammatical change between the earlier stage of Early Modern English and that of Contemporary English. This publication was reviewed favorably in *English Studies* (vol. 62, 1) by Liliane Haegeman in 1981.

Another one of his monumental books is *Eigoshi IIIA [History of English IIIA]*, (co-authored with Kazuo Araki, 1984, Tokyo: Taishukan), where he provided a detailed and comprehensive description of syntactic properties of Early Modern English. The real strength of this book lies in its clarity and preciseness, lending weight to its authority. Therefore, this book has helped many students and scholars of historical linguistics in Japan deepen their understanding of Early Modern English. It is also noteworthy that besides overviewing the familiar previous studies in this field, he also incorporated the fruits of long years of philological studies in Japan.

His contributions to academic societies, particularly to the English Linguistic Society of Japan (ELSJ), were remarkable: a member of the Editorial Board (1983-1989); Vice President (1990-1992) and President (1992-1996); a member of the Board of Directors (three terms during 1988-2001); and Advisor (2002-2011). In addition, he served as the Chair (1978-1979) of the Editorial Board of *Studies in English Literature*, the journal of the English Literary Society of Japan, and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Modern English Association (1983-2001) and as Advisor

(2004-2011) of the same association. Furthermore, he was also appointed as a member of the Editorial Committee of Japanese Scientific Terms (LINGUISTICS) of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (1986-1990;1992-1996), contributing to the compilation of *Technical Terms of Linguistics*.

In addition to his energetic service in Japan, his activity also extended overseas. In 1990, he read a paper “‘I not say’ : Bridge Phenomenon in Linguistic Evolution” at the Sixth International Conference on English Historical Linguistics (ICEHL) held at Helsinki University, Finland. (The extended version of the paper read there was later published in *History of Englishes: New Methods and Interpretations in Historical Linguistics*, edited by Matti Rissanen, Ossi Ihalainen, Terttu Nevalainen, and Irma Taavitsainen (1992) 453-462. Mouton de Gruyter.) In 2000, he read a paper “An Aspect of the Development of Negative Sentences in Modern English” at the Eleventh ICEHL held at the University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain. (Part of the materials for discussion he presented there was later published as Ukaji (2003<sup>a</sup>). See PARTIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY below. )

A partial list of his remaining publications is given below:

#### PARTIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF MASATOMO UKAJI

(almost exclusively containing articles or review articles written in English<sup>1</sup>)

1958. “Inverted Condition from Shakespeare to G. Greene”, *Studies in English Grammar and Linguistics: A Miscellany in Honour of Takanobu Otsuka*, 159-170. Tokyo: Kenkyusha.
- 1960<sup>a</sup>. “Studies in the Language of the Works of Sir Thomas Malory I. Word Order (1)”, *Humanities and Science* 20. 73-125. (Bulletin of Otaru University of Commerce)
- 1960<sup>b</sup>. “Studies in the Language of the Works of Sir Thomas Malory I. Word Order (2)”, *Humanities and Science* 21. 127-1163. (Bulletin of Otaru University of Commerce)
1973. “Imperative Constructions in Shakespeare”, *Studies in English Linguistics (SEL)* 2. 71-107. Tokyo: Asahi Press.
1976. “Deletion of the Complementizer to in Early Modern English”, *SEL*. 4. 67-77. Tokyo: Asahi Press.
1977. “Tag Questions in Shakespeare”, *SEL* 5. 265-280. Tokyo: Asahi Press.
1979. “Multiple Negation in Shakespeare”, *SEL* 7. 100-117. Tokyo: Asahi Press.
1991. [Review Article]. “Mieko Ogura: *Dynamic Dialectology: A Study of Language in Time and Space*”, *English Linguistics* 8. 244-257. (The Journal of ELSJ)

1993. “*Whether* in Early Modern English”, *Kindai Eigo no Shoso [Aspects of Modern English: The Tenth Anniversary Publication of the Modern English Association]*, 170-188. Tokyo: Eichosha.
1997. “A History of *Whether*”, *Studies in English Linguistics: Festschrift for Akira Ota on the Occasion of his Eightieth Birthday*, ed. by Ukaji, Masatomo, Toshio Nakao, Masaru Kajita and Shuji Chiba. 1236-1261. Tokyo: Taishukan.
1998. “On the Scope of Negative Concord”, *Negation in the History of English*, ed. by Ingrid Tieken-Boon van Ostade, Gunnel Tottie and Wim van der Wurff, 269-294. New York/Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
2002. “Some Aspects of Negation in the History of English”, *Proceedings of the Sophia Symposium on Negation*, ed. by Yasuhiko Kato, 169-92. Tokyo: Sophia University.
- 2003<sup>a</sup>. “New Developments of Negative Sentences in Modern English”, *Empirical and Theoretical Investigations into Language: A Festschrift for Masaru Kajita*, ed. by Shuji Chiba et al., 1-18. Tokyo: Kaitakusha.
- 2003<sup>b</sup>. “Subject Zero Relatives in Early Modern English”, *Current Issues in English Linguistics*, ed. by Masatomo Ukaji, Masayuki Ike-uchi, and Yoshiki Nishimura, 248-77. Tokyo: Kaitakusha.
2004. “Jespersen on Double Restriction in Relation to Contact-Clause”, *English Language and Linguistics* 18. 319-336. (Journal of the English Linguistics Society of Korea)
- 2005<sup>a</sup>. <Review> “Arne Juul, Hans F. Nielsen, Jorgen Erik Nielsen (eds.): *A Linguist's Life: An English Translation of Otto Jespersen's Autobiography with Notes, Photos and a Bibliography*, Odense: Odense University Press, 1995, xx+380pp.”, *Studies in English Literature* 46, 334-341.
- 2005<sup>b</sup>. “The Making of the Semi-auxiliaries *have to*”, *Recent Trends in Medieval English Language and Literature in Honor of Young-Bae Park*, ed. by Jacek Fisiak and Hye-Kyung Kang, vol. 1. 57-73. Seoul: Thaehaksa.

After his full retirement in March, 2002, he devoted himself to two tasks until his death (October 22, 2011). One of them was the compilation of *Eigogaku Bunken-kaidai Bunpou I* [The Kenkyusha Bibliographical Guide to English Linguistics and Philology, Volume 4 (Grammar D)] under the general supervision of Professor Yoshio Terasawa, which was published by Kenkyusha in 2010. His ultimate aim in this bibliographical book was to trace the detailed history of English grammars (including Traditional School Grammar and American Structuralist Grammar) back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century

(Bullockar 1586). The main part of this book offers brief overviews of about eighty monumental grammar books published during the years 1586-2005, which will certainly be invaluable for younger language teachers and researchers.

After the publication of the above bibliography, his continuing interest in the history of grammar research led him to reach further back to the ancient Greek or Latin Grammars. It was astonishing to find that he had been preparing a preliminary draft of a new book during the half year before his death. This unpublished manuscript starts with an examination of Greek philosophers' views on language or grammar such as Plato's *Cratylus* [his dialogue about language], Aristotle's *Peri hermeneias* [On Interpretation], and Stoic philosophers. It then proceeds to Greek and Roman (Latin) grammarians such as Dionysius Thrax (a Hellenistic grammarian), Apollonius Dyscolus, Marcus Terentius Varro, Donatus, and Priscianus. His keen interest in such bibliographical works might be attributed to his firm belief that the edifice of modern linguistics is nothing other than the product of long years of academic pursuits originating with Greek philosophers. Though it is absolutely regrettable that completion of such a significant manuscript was halted by his untimely death, his unbending spirit of inquiry will surely encourage and stimulate the next generation to work in the field. (Incidentally, his widow arranged after his death for a part of his posthumous manuscripts to be printed as a private version, entitled *Eibunpougakushi* [A History of (English) Grammar Research] (printed in 2012 by Kenkyusha Printing Co.). About six months after his death, a memorial gathering was held on 18 March 2012 at Meikei Hall, Tokyo. On that occasion, all the participants, presented with a copy of that booklet by his widow, were deeply impressed by his tremendous eagerness to pursue his research.)

At first glance, he had a somewhat serious persona, but he was actually a very warm-hearted and genial person. He was always quite modest, unassuming, and a good listener, always engaged in what others were saying. He would often be seen speaking amicably to faculty, staff, and students on and off campus. The topics of his conversation ranged from his research topics to education, literature, sports (especially, Japanese professional baseball), and the state of societal affairs. Whenever he was asked to do somebody a favor, he never failed to accept it no matter how difficult the task. True to his character, his actions were in accordance with his beliefs. For example, in 1991, the Japan Sumo Association was planning a three-day exhibition in London. One of the highlights of the event was to show Yokozuna-dohyoiri (ceremonial entrance of the Grand Champion) in the presence of Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace. This entailed a presentation

of the historical background and meaning of Dohyoiri in English. At the sudden request of the Sumo Association, he drew up an English version of its explanatory notes of Yokozuna-dohyoiri, and moreover, translated the entire Japanese script of the exhibition proceedings in a very short time. He would often say with a look of satisfaction that the Director of the Association came in person to his house to pick up the manuscript the day before their departure for London.

He passed away on October 22, 2011 at the age of eighty after a seven-year struggle with both radio- and chemotherapy for cancer. At the time of his death, he was Professor Emeritus at Tokyo Gakugei University. For his long-term efforts and invaluable contributions to education, research and management at universities and academic societies, he posthumously won two prestigious Prizes: one is the Special Prize of the 2013 English Linguistic Society of Japan Award; the other is a cultural award from the Japanese government (the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon).

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\*This article is written on the basis of “*Obituary: Masatomo Ukaji*” by Osamu Koma (2012), originally published in *English Linguistics* 29.1. 205-208.