

## Reference Material

### (1) Winner's CV

1. Name: Paul S. Atkins
2. Birth Year: 1969
3. Post: Professor, Department of Asian Languages and Literature, University of Washington, Seattle, United States
4. Personal history  
(In US)
  - 1990 B.A., Stanford University (Specializes in English literature)
  - 1994 M.A., Stanford University (Specializes in Japanese literature)
  - 1999 PhD, Stanford University (Specializes in Japanese literature)
  - 1999-2002 Assistant Professor, Department of Modern Languages & Literatures, Montana State University (Specializes in Japanese literature)
  - 2002-2007 Assistant Professor, Department of Asian Languages, University of Washington, Seattle, WA (Specializes in classical Japanese literature)
  - 2007-2016 Associate Professor, Department of Asian Languages, University of Washington, Seattle (Specializes in classical Japanese literature)
  - 2016-Present Professor, Department of Asian Languages, University of Washington, Seattle (Specializes in classical Japanese literature)

#### (In Japan)

- Oct. 1996-Mar. 1998 Foreign Research Student (Fulbright Scholarship), University of Tokyo
- Sep. 2001-Aug. 2002 Visiting Researcher, Kyoto Prefectural University (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science)
- Apr. 2006-Sep. 2006 Visiting Researcher, Institute for the Study of Religion and Culture, Nanzan University
- Oct. 2020-Nov. 2020 Visiting Professor, Shidobunko, Keio University
- Jul. 2007-Present Visiting Researcher, Nogami Memorial Institute of Nohgaku, Hosei University
- 2001 - Present Member of the Meigetsuki Kenkyukai

#### (Awards)

- 2021 Kyoko Selden Memorial Translation Prize (From Cornell University)  
Prize Winning Work: English translation of Zekkai Nakatsu's "Shoken Sho"
- 2011 William F. Sibley Memorial Translation Prize (From the University of Chicago)  
Prize Winning Work: English translation of Chikamatsu Monzaemon's "Nagamachi Onna no Harakiri"

#### (Major Works)

##### Authored Works:

- The Demon-Quelling Style in Medieval Japanese Poetic and Dramatic Theory, Monumenta Nipponica, 2003
- Revealed Identity: The Noh Plays of Komparu Zenchiku, Center for Japanese Studies, University of Michigan, 2006
- Nijō v. Reizei: Land Rights, Litigation, and Literary Authority in Medieval Japan, Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies, 2006
- Chigo in the Medieval Japanese Imagination, Journal of Asian Studies, 2008
- Meigetsuki, the Diary of Fujiwara no Teika: Karoku 2.9 (1226), Journal of the American Oriental Society, 2010
- Depictions of the Kawara-no-in in Medieval Japanese Noh Drama, Asian Theatre Journal, 2010
- The Word Monosugoshi and Changing Perceptions of Nature in Medieval Japan, Japanese Language and Literature, 2013

##### < Only Available in Japanese >

- 「アメリカの『明月記』」—ハーバード大学付属サックラー美術館蔵, (『明月記研究』) Amerika no Meigetsuki - Collection of the Sackler Art Museum, Harvard University, 2005
- 「英語圏における禅竹研究」竹内晶子和訳 (「世阿弥—中世の芸術と文化」), 2005 Eigoken ni Okeru Zenchiku Kenkyu (Zeami - Chusei no Geijyutsu to Bunka, Translated by Akiko Takeuchi), 2005
- 「言語の浮橋—禅竹の謡曲を英訳すること」(「能の翻訳—文化の翻訳はいかにして可能か」) Gengo no Ukihashi - Zenchiku no Youkyoku wo Eiyaku Surukoto (Noh no Honyaku- Bunka no Honyaku

- wa Ikanishite Kanou ka), The Nogami Memorial Noh Theatre Research Institute of Hosei University, 2007
- 「辺獄の歌人『定家』から『明静』へ」(「定家のもたらしたもの」日本女子大学日本文学科編) Hengoku no Kajin Teika Kara Myojo e (Teika no Motarashita Mono, Japan Women's University, Department of Japanese), Kanrin Shobo, 2018

Edited Works:

- Co-editor (with Davinder L. Bhowmik and Edward Mack), Landscapes Imagined and Remembered, Proceedings of the Association for Japanese Literary Studies, vol. 6, 2005

Jointly Edited Works:

- Sébastien Guillet, Christophe Corona, Clive Oppenheimer, Franck Lavigne, Myriam Khodri, Francis Ludlow, Micheal Sigl, Matthew Toohey, Paul S. Atkins, Zhen Yang, Tomoko Muranaka, Nobuko Horikawa, and Markus Stoffel. "Lunar eclipses illuminate timing and climate impact of medieval volcanism." Nature, vol. 616, pp. 90–95, 2023

**(2) Prize Winning Works**

1. Title: "Teika: The Life and Works of a Medieval Japanese Poet"
2. Year Published: 2017
3. Publisher: University of Hawai'i Press

**(3) Reasons for selecting this work for the prize**

Paul S. Atkins is Professor of Department of Asian Languages, University of Washington, Seattle. Specializing in classical Japanese literature, drama, and language of the medieval period, he has consistently achieved research results through precise study and accurate interpretation of difficult classical texts in various genres, ranging from Yokyoku to Waka poetry and Gozan literature.

The award-winning book, *Teika: The Life and Works of a Medieval Japanese Poet*, was published in 2017 as the world's first research book written in a language other than Japanese on Fujiwara no Teika, one of the most famous medieval poets. This work covers the biography of Fujiwara no Teika based on the "Meigetsuki," a diary written by Fujiwara no Teika for over 50 years; the new style of poetry called Shingihikyo no Darumauta, which he led; Japanese and Chinese issues based on "Matsuura no Miya Monogatari" and "Meigetsuki;" and the long history of his enjoyment of Japanese literature, which extends into the Meiji period. The author explores the reasons for the fame of Fujiwara no Teika, known as one of the most influential poets in the history of Japanese literature, and provides a unique discussion about his works.

This work, while keeping pace with today's Japanese research standards, incorporates the author's original insights, and comprehensively explores the character, poetry, writings, and influence of Fujiwara no Teika, demonstrating the significance of his position as a giant star of world literature. Written over a span of more than 15 years of research, this book is a must-read for anyone interested in Japanese poetry, history, and traditional culture.

The author participated in the "Meigetsuki Kenkyukai," a group that reads and studies the diary of Fujiwara no Teika, and learned to analyze the difficult Japanese-Chinese text and record forms, which he published in the group's journal, "Meigetsuki Kenkyu. In addition, he was invited to be in charge of Japanese materials in a project on medieval lunar eclipse records and volcanic activity conducted by a research group at the University of Geneva, and the achievements were published in *Nature*, the most prestigious chemistry journal, in 2023. In addition, the process leading to the publication of this work was largely due to the author's research achievements at various universities and research institutes in Japan, including Kyoto Prefectural University.

The author has taught classical literature at the University of Washington, where he works, and has taught students how to accurately understand Japanese classical literature. His methods have many references for education in the same field in Japan, and he has greatly influenced the study of Japanese classical literature mainly in the English-speaking world. For these reasons, Paul S. Atkins is a worthy recipient of the 28th Yamagata Banto Prize, and we are pleased to present the prize to him in recognition of his achievements in promoting Japanese culture throughout the world through his research on classical literature and language.

**(4) Message from the Winner**

It is a great honor to have been selected as the 28th recipient of the Yamagata Banto Prize, Osaka's International Cultural Award. I am deeply grateful to the selection committee, the Governor, and the people of Osaka for bestowing upon me this distinguished prize.

In addition to this delightful association with Osaka, praised as "the capital on the water" (mizu no miyako), and with the extraordinary townsman-scholar Yamagata Banto, it is gratifying to review the roster of past winners, beginning with my landsman, the late Professor Donald Keene, in the knowledge that, although I have not attained their level of erudition, I shall be listed alongside such learned scholars for many years to come.

Although it may not be apparent, it took me fifteen years to write the work selected for this award, *Teika: The Life and Works of a Medieval Poet*. During that time I incurred numerous academic debts that I can never hope to repay. Among them, in particular, was a postdoctoral fellowship from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science that enabled me

to spend the 2001-02 academic year in Japan. It was perhaps the best year of my life so far. The members of the Meigetsuki Research Group kindly admitted me as a member and taught me how to read Teika's diary. My affiliation was at Kyoto Prefectural University as a visiting scholar, where my stay was sponsored by the late Professor Akase Shingo, who taught me how to read Teika's poetry. It is to my keen regret that Professor Akase did not live to see this day. I would like to dedicate this prize to his memory.

I am acutely aware that my work to date does not yet merit this coveted distinction; indeed, I cannot but feel even that it has been wasted on me. Nonetheless, I resolve to endeavor to continue producing scholarship until such time as my publications truly and fully merit this honor. Even in times of difficulty, this Yamagata Banto Prize, Osaka's International Cultural Award will no doubt inspire me to withstand doubt and to persevere.

Yume nare ya / honoka ni kaoru / Naniwa no ume  
Was it a dream?  
The faint fragrance  
of the plum blossoms of Naniwa

## **(5) On Yamagata Banto**

### **YAMAGATA BANTO (1748-1821)**

Yamagata Banto lived during the late Edo period and achieved high recognition both as a successful businessman working as the head clerk of Masuya, one of Osaka's largest merchants at that time, and as a scholarly proponent of exceptional rationalism in feudal Japan, writing the voluminous work entitled *Yume-no-Shiro*. He was born Hasegawa Arimi and changed his name to Yamagata Yoshihide. He went by the name of Masuya Koemon and used the pen name Banto.

Born in Kazume village in Inami-gun, Harima (presently Takasago city, Hyogo Prefecture), Banto came to Osaka at the age of 13. He succeeded to a branch of Masuya and showed his remarkable ability when the head office was suffering from financial difficulties. Involved in the rice purchasing system in the Sendai feudal domain, Banto succeeded in the economic reconstruction of both the Sendai feudal domain and Masuya. He went on to develop Masuya into a major financier to dozens of feudal domains all over Japan. In recognition of his contributions, Banto was promoted in 1805 to become next in line to Masuya under the name of Yamagata. He was praised by the government for his virtuous conduct.

Banto studied Confucianism under Nakai Chikuzan and Nakai Riken at the Kaitokudo center for popular education. He also pursued studies in the field of astronomy under Asada Goryu and showed deep interest in learning Western sciences in Dutch. His scholarly achievements throughout his life are collected in the 12 volumes of *Yume-no-shiro*. He set forth an outstanding economic theory and advocated atheism, denying all mysticism. A proponent of the heliocentric theory, he even developed a daring macrocosmic theory contending the existence of innumerable solar systems similar to our own. Banto's realism and rationalism were rich in original and ingenious thought and stand out in the history of the development of the modern Japanese view of the world.