

OBITUARY NOTE

Kôsaku HAMADA

(1881—1938)

Dr. Kôsaku Hamada, President of the Kyoto Imperial University and a member of the Imperial Academy died on July 25, 1938.

He was born on February 22, 1881 in Kishiwada, a city in Osaka Prefecture. He entered the Tokyo Imperial University and completed the course of history in 1905. In 1913, he was appointed assistant professor of the Kyoto Imperial University and sent to Europe to study archaeology, where he stayed for three years, attaining proficiency in general archaeology under the instruction of professor Sayce and others. He came home in 1916, and being appointed professor of the Kyoto Imperial University the next year, occupied the chair of archaeology, the first of the kind to be created in our country. In 1917 he was conferred a degree of Doctor of Literature.

About that time when Oriental archaeology was still in its infancy with regard to Japan, China, Korea, and other countries of the Far East, his acquisition of many invaluable materials through the scientific excavations which he undertook of important ruins both at home and abroad, and his subsequent investigation of the said materials by the light of his profound knowledge and through new methods for the first time introduced by him into these fields, established a system of Far Eastern archaeology as a science and won him high recognition as the founder of archaeology in Japan. A collection of about twenty thousand remains, now housed in the Archaeological Museum of the Department of Literature of the Kyoto Imperial University, is an ever-lasting monument of that indefatigable diligence he showed in collecting materials and contains among the rest many important articles which he himself excavated.

He was elected a member of the Imperial Academy in 1931, was