CATALOGUE OF ANTHROPOLOGICAL MATERIALS IN THE HITOSHI WATANABE COLLECTION

by

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The Hitoshi Watanabe Collection

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This catalogue documents a collection of the notebooks, field records and ethnoarchaeological materials made by the late Professor Hitoshi Watanabe (1919-1998). About half of them were recently donated by his family to the University Museum, the University of Tokyo.

Professor Watanabe, educated in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Tokyo, and in the Department of Anthropology of London University, taught anthropology and prehistory at the University of Tokyo over thirty years since 1947. Following his retirement in 1980, he served as professor at Hokkaido University (1980-1983), Sapporo University (1983-1984), Waseda University (1984-1989), and Reitaku University (1984-1992). He taught as a visiting professor at the University of New Mexico (1974) and at the University of Michigan (1983-1984) as well.

His main interest of the long academic career was the history of human ecology. Thus diverse subjects of anthropology were dealt with, covering almost all the periods of the human history on a global scale. The strength of Professor Watanabe's research is derived from his extensive knowledge of contemporary people, which always allowed him to look at the human past with a unique insight. His numerous works include "The Ainu Ecosystem" (University of Tokyo Press, 1972/University of Washington Press, 1973), "Bow and Arrow Census in a West Papuan Lowland Community" (University of Queensland, 1975), "Human Activity System" (University of Tokyo Press, 1977), "Why Did Man Stand Up?" (in Japanese: University of Tokyo Press, 1985), "Jomon Stratified Society" (in Japanese: Rokko Shuppan, 1990), "The Jomon Clay Figurines and the Mother Goddess" (in Japanese: Dosei-sha Press, 2001) to mention a few.

The collection consists of 2769 items of the primary records from his research: publications (HW.A. 1-221), field day-notes and drawings (HW. F. 1-162), files of letters (HW. L. 1-37), research documents (HW. M. 1-381), ethnographic notes (HW. N. 1-253), fieldwork photos (HW. P. 1-77), color slides (HW. S. 1-131), video films (HW. C. 1-27), and ethnographic-archaeological objects (HW. E. 1-1480). Particularly useful are those related to his own fieldwork both in Japan and foreign countries. They include detailed ethnographic data on the Hokkaido Ainu (1957-1997), the natives of Papua New Guinea (1971) and Laos (1975), as well as excavation records on the Neanderthal caves of Amud, Israel, and Keoue, Lebanon (1960-1970) and other archaeological sites in Japan.