Brief Biography

1929	Born in Tokyo, Japan
1949	Graduated from the Humanities Course of the 8th Higher School
1952	Graduated from the Faculty of Economics, the University of Tokyo
1952-59	Assistant at the Institute for Oriental Culture, the University of Tokyo
1955-56	Studied at the Department of Ethnology, University of Frankfurt am Main
1956-57	Studied at the Department of Ethnology, University of Vienna
1957-58	Visiting Scholar at the Harvard-Yenching Institute, Harvard University
1958-59	Studied at the Department of Ethnology, University of Vienna
1959	Received the Degree of Doktor der Philosophie, University of Vienna
1962-66	Lecturer at the Faculty of Liberal Arts, the University of Tokyo (Cultural Anthropology)
1966-75	Associate Professor, the University of Tokyo
1967-68	Visiting Professor at the South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg
1975-90	Professor at the Faculty of Liberal Arts, the University of Tokyo
1982-84	President, the Japanese Society of Ethnology
1990	Professor Emeritus, the University of Tokyo
1990-96	Director, the Hokkaido Museum of Northern Peoples
1990-97	Professor at the Faculty of Culture and Communication, Tokyo Woman's Christian University
1994	Visiting Professor at the Institute of Japanology, University of Bonn
1996	Received the Asahi Award

Major Works

Kinship Systems of the Peoples of Mainland Southeast Asia, Nihon Gakujutsu Shinko Kai, 1955

The Origin of Japanese Mythology, Kadokawa Shoten, 1961 (new edition by Tokuma Shoten, 1990)

Origins of Funeral Customs, Kadokawa Shoten, 1965 (new edition by Chuokoronsha, 1997)

Introduction to Mythology, Chuokoronsha, 1966

Mythology of Rice Cultivation, Kobundo, 1973

The Structure of Japanese Mythology, Kobundo, 1975

Myths and Mythology, Daiwa Shobo, 1975

Yamataikoku-Tatooing, Poncho and Queen Himiko, Chuokoronsha, 1977

Story of Myths, Kodansha, 1979

Ise and Izumo, Kodansha, 1980 (French Translation: "Ise et Izumo" published by Rebert Laffont, Paris, 1985)

Kingship Myths in East Asia, Kobundo, 1984

The Structure of the Legendary Kingship of Singa Mangaradja, Seidosha, 1985

East and West, Sea and Mountain: Culture Areas of Japan, Shogakukan, 1990

Peoples and Cultures of the Arctic and Subarctic Areas, Yamakawa Shuppansha, 1991

The Genealogy of Japanese Mythology - In Search of the Origins of Japanese Mythology, Kodansha, 1991

The Provenance of Japanese New Year Customs - New Year Customs of Japan and China, Shogakukan, 1992 Myths of the Sea, Kodansha, 1993

Deities in the North and Heroes in the South:12 Chapters in Folklore of the Japanese Archipelago, Shogakukan, 1995

Ways of the Sea, Peoples of the Sea, Shogakukan, 1996 Peoples in Arctic and Subarctic Areas: Culture and Religion, Daiichi Shobo, 1997

Masks and Myths, Shogakukan, 1998

The Way of Galaxy, the Bridge of Rainbow, Shogakukan, 1999

*Titles without place of publication are published in Tokyo.