



Japan and Sherlock Holmes

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193 pages, hardcover, December 2004

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Higashiyama, Akane is a writer and translator. She is the founder of the Japan Sherlock Holmes Club with her husband, Dr. Kobayashi. She is a co-author of thirty books related to Sherlock Holmes with Dr. Kobayashi, in Japanese. She and her husband edited *International Illustrated Sherlock Holmes* with John Bennett Shaw.

Higurashi, Masamichi, BSI [“Baron Adelbert Gruner”] is a freelance translator of English-written literature and nonfiction books. He has translated more than eighty books, of which thirty were Holmesian/Doylean. He was awarded the Japan Sherlock Holmes Grand Prize twice (for the translation of Jack Tracy’s *Encyclopedia Sherlockiana* and Mathew Bunson’s *Encyclopedia Sherlockiana*). He is one of the four founders of The Black-Headed League, a scion of the JSHC, and a member of the Mystery Writers of Japan.

Hirayama, Yuichi, BSI. [“The Japanese Vase”] is a dentist. He is the founder of The Men with the Twisted Konjo, and the editor of an international Sherlockian magazine *The Shoso-in Bulletin*. He received the Irregular Shilling in 1993. “The True Identity of King of Bohemia” first appeared in *The Shoso-in Bulletin* volume 7, published by The Men with the Twisted Konjo in 1997.

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Kanto, Shin-ichi (unk.-1992) was one of the most earnest Sherlockian scholar of the Japan Sherlock Holmes Club in its early stage. “The True Identity of Stapleton” appeared in 1985 issue (volume 8) of *The World of Sherlock Holmes*, the official annual of the JSHC.

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Kobayashi, Tsukasa, BSI [“Baritsu”] is a psychiatrist, writer and former professor of Consulting Institute of Sophia University. In 1977 he founded The Japan Sherlock Holmes Club with his wife Akane Higashiyama, which is now one of the largest Sherlockian societies in the world. He has published more than seventy books on Sherlockiana and his profession. “The Baker Street Irregulars’ Dinner in the Snow” is a part of the book *The Journey to Sherlock Holmes II* published by Tokyo Shoseki in 1993.

Koga, Saburo (1893-1940) was one of the most popular mystery writer before WWII in Japan. He insisted that puzzles were the most important element of mystery, not literariness. “On Conan Doyle” first appeared in the book *Hanzai, Tantei, Jinsei (Crime, Detective, and Life)* published by Shin Shosetsu Sha in 1934.

Koike, Shigeru is a former professor of nineteenth English literature at Tokyo Metropolitan University and Tokyo Woman’s Christian University (now professor emeritus of the latter). He is a member of Dickens Fellowship, and the supervising translator of *The Annotated Sherlock Holmes* by William S. Baring-Gould. He is also a well-known fan of railroad and written many books on this subject. “Could Holmes Have Lunch in a Dining Car?” appeared in September 10, 1980, issue (volume 7) of the magazine *Suntory Quarterly*.

Kosakai, Fuboku (1890-1929) was a professor in the faculty of medicine at Tohoku Imperial University and a Doctor of Medicine. He was one of the earliest critic and writer of mystery novels in Japan. “Professor Moriarty” appeared in May 1924 issue of *Shinseinen* magazine.

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Makino, Count Shinken (1861-1949) was a diplomat, foreign minister, and minister of Imperial court. He was one of the members of the Baritsu scion society (The Baritsu Chapter of BSI), the first Sherlockian society in Japan. “Sherlock Holmes and ‘Baritsu’ “ was written in English and read by Ken-ichi Yoshida (grandson of the Count) at the meeting of the Baritsu Chapter held at Walter Symmons’ house in October 1948. The article was translated by Ken-ichi Yoshida into Japanese and appeared in the February 1949 issue of *Ondori Tshushin*.

Matsushita, Ryohei is a retired chemist and a member of the Japan Sherlock Holmes Club. He is interested in railroad in the Canon and wrote *Sherlock Holmes no Tetsudo-gaku (Railroad Study in Sherlock Holmes Stories)* which was published by JTB in 2004. “Fishing with Cormorants” appeared in 1991 issue (volume 14) of *The World of Sherlock Holmes*, the official annual of JSHC.

Naganuma, Kohki, BSI [“The Curious Incident of Sherlock Holmes in Japan”] (1906-1977) was the Administrative Vice-Minister for Finance of Japanese government (1949-1951), and the first Japanese member of the BSI. He published nine Sherlockian studies (in volume form) in Japanese and had a great influence on Japanese Sherlockiana. He was also translated mystery novels and critics including four novels by Agatha Christie into Japanese. “Some Observations on Tobacco” was included in his book *Secret of Sherlock Holmes* published by Bungei Shunju Sha in 1968.

Nakagawa, Yuro (1934-1995) was a professor of faculty of law at Hiroshima University. He was a writer including some mysteries, and one of the translators of *The Misadventure of Sherlock Holmes* (ed. by Ellery Queen). “Whereabouts of the Man with the Twisted Lips” is one of the chapters in his book *Sherlock Holmes wa Onn-a datta (Sherlock Holmes was a Woman)* published by Hayakawa Shobo in 1980.

Rampo, Edogawa (1894-1965) is the “Father of Japanese mystery.” He was not the first mystery writer in Japan, but his distinguished puzzle stories fascinated Japanese serious mystery readers, and set the fashion for mystery. Later he started to write sensational mystery novels, which also attracted many people. He was also a writer of juvenile mysteries, which are even now read by many boys and girls. He was the first president of Mystery Writers of Japan. “Japan Chapter of Baker Street Irregulars” appeared in the October 1948 issue of the newsletter of *The Detective Writers’ Club of Japan*. “Poe and Doyle” appeared in the newspaper *Tokyo Shimbun* on November 14, 1959.

Saneyoshi, Tatsuo is a writer on zoology and Chinese classic literature. He published three Sherlockian books, and all of his Sherlockian works were published as digital books in 2003. “Is it Possible to use a Fiend Dog for Murder” appeared in his book *Sherlock Holmes no Kimete (The Winning Move of Sherlock Holmes)* published by Seinen Shokan in 1980.

Sasano, Fumitaka is a clerk of Kushiro city hall in Hokkaido. He translated most of Doyle’s work to Japanese privately. “ ‘Le Comte de Monte-Cristo’ and ‘A Study in Scarlet’ “ is one of the chapters of his scholastic book *Sherlock Holmes no Kaimei (Elucidating Sherlock Holmes)* privately published in 1987.

Shimodate, Kazumi is a professor of the faculty of linguistics of Tohoku Gakuin University. He is a president of the Shakespeare Company (Japan). He translated “ ‘Le Comte de Monte-Cristo’ and ‘A Study in Scarlet’ ” in this volume.

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Suzuki, Toshio is a member of JSHC and the leading scholar of Sherlockian chronology in Japan. “Sherlock Holmes: The Chronology of His Adventures” is a part of his book of the same title privately published in 2002.

Takahashi, Fumiyoshi is a long time student of Conan Doyle and Kohki Naganuma. He had been published the private magazine *Diogenes*, featuring Doyle and Holmes, some thirty years ago. “The Tokyo Mentor, Forever and Ever” was written especially for this volume.

Tanaka, Kiyoshi, BSI [“The Japanese Cabinet”], whose detailed pen and ink drawing graces this issue, is a prominent Japanese Sherlockian. He is a member of the Japan Sherlock Holmes Club and the founder of the Baritsu Society of Japan. Six drawings and “Error Margin of the Number of the Bricks Under 3%” were created especially for this volume.

Ueda, Hirotaka, BSI [“Japanese Armour”] wrote Sherlockian essays in *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine*, published bimonthly by Kobun-sha publishing Inc., from March 1980 to 1999. His works have also been published as two volumes. “A Short History of the Juvenile Version of Sherlock Holmes Tales in Japan” was written especially for this volume.

Watanabe, On (1902-1930) was an editor of *Shin-Seinen* magazine which published many detective stories before WWII. He also wrote short stories which were fantastic and lyric. He died of a traffic accident. “The Death of a Soldier” first appeared in January 1927 issue of *Tantei Shumi (Hobby Detection)*.

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