

Preface

We publish here a new series of monographs on the *Lotus sutra*. When I took office as a director of the East Asian Culture Institute of Minobusan University, I organized three project units: a study of the *Lotus sutra*, another of Tendai Buddhism, and a third of Minobu bunko 身延文庫. The last had already been started and published as the series of the *Minobusan Shiryo Sōsho* 身延山資料叢書 begun by Prof. Eichi Terao 寺尾英智, the former director. I had asked Prof. Jinin Fukushi 福土慈稔 to become the chief of the Tendai unit but he retired due to a disease. And I became the chief of the *Lotus sutra* unit. Because Minobusan is a sacred place of Nichiren Buddhism, I decided to make Minobusan University the center of the study on the *Lotus sutra*. Then I asked three young scholars, Fumio Shōji 庄司史生, Yumi Katayama 片山由美, and Byung-kon Kim 金炳坤, to take part in my unit and I suggested to them to complete the bibliography of the *Lotus sutra*. This was the first step of this project.

The prototype of this bibliography comes from the dissertation of my father. When I assisted my father in writing his dissertation on the *Lotus sutra*, I had collected studies on the *Lotus sutra* and published that bibliography as a private edition, *the Bibliographical List of the Recent Studies on the Saddharmapuṇḍarīkasūtra (1980-97)*. I thought it might be useful although it was incomplete and sent it to some of my colleagues. Then young Prof. Michael Zimmermann told me the warm words of Prof. Seishi Karashima 辛嶋静志, that my bibliography had been useful to him, and so I wanted to publish it in a complete form sometime.

When I began my study on Buddhism, *Bongo butten no kenkyū* 梵語仏典の研究 was very useful for my study on the Mādhyamika literature. But this series was unfortunately stopped by the death of Prof. Keishō Tsukamoto 塚本啓祥, and the second volume on the Mahāyāna scriptures had not been published until now. Although Yasunori Sugawa 菅原泰典 published its draft on small scriptures privately as *Kyōbu shōkyō kaidai* 経部小経解題, the bibliography on the *Lotus sutra* was not included in it. And Akira Yuyama 湯山明 wrote me that a new bibliography was required forty years after his bibliography, *a Bibliography of the Sanskrit Texts of the Saddharmapuṇḍarīkasūtra*. I finally aimed at publishing the history of the study on the *Lotus sutra* and this bibliography is therefore the preliminary step for it. Because this bibliography should be regularly updated on the Web

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by adding new information on the study of the *Lotus sutra*, I ask you to send us your new publications for it. (lss@min.ac.jp)

Last but not least, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all scholars of the *Lotus sutra*. Especially, Prof. Shinjō Suguro 勝呂信静 gave me an opportunity to study the teaching of one vehicle in the *Lotus sutra*; Prof. Hirofumi Toda 戸田宏文 concluded my relationship with Toyō tetsugaku kenkyūjo 東洋哲学研究所 which publishes the series of the *Lotus Sutra* manuscripts; Prof. Sadahiko Kariya 荻谷定彦 always sends me his new suggestive publications; and Prof. Jonathan A. Silk and Prof. Chikō Ishida 石田智宏 also encouraged me to complete this bibliography. But I am very sorry that I was not able to send this book to Prof. Karashima, Prof. Yuyama, and Prof. Tsugunari Kubo 久保継成 because of a delay of the publication. Prof. Byung-kon Kim and Dr. Yumi Katayama greatly helped me with collecting these data. Without their help, it would have been impossible to have this book published in this shape. This work was supported by Nichiren shū shūmuin 日蓮宗宗務院.

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