



HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY

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TO
PROFESSOR KENZO YAGI

IN APPRECIATION OF HIS EXTENSIVE ACTIVITIES
AS A SCIENTIST AND TEACHER
THIS VOLUME IS DEDICATED ON THE OCCASION
OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CHAIR
OF MINERALOGY

1978



Kenzo Yagi

Professor KENZO YAGI

This volume is dedicated to Professor Kenzo Yagi on the occasion of his retirement. His colleagues and students join the authors of this volume in appreciation of his contribution to the Department of Geology and Mineralogy, Hokkaido University. He maintained a high level of performance as a scientist, teacher, and administrator.

Although Prof. Yagi's work covers a wide field of mineralogical science, his main interest is in experimental mineralogy and petrology. He was introduced to this field by Prof. Shukusuké Kôzu and later by Dr. N.L. Bowen and Dr. J.F. Schairer of The Geophysical Laboratory, Carnegie Institution of Washington.

Prof. Yagi was born on September 5, 1915, in Nagano City as the third son of Mr. and Mrs. Teisuke Yagi. His father, Mr. T. Yagi, a principal of junior high school, was very much interested in geology and made field studies in Nagano Prefecture. This inspired Prof. Yagi to take up geoscience. He graduated from the Institute of Mineralogy, Petrology and Economic Geology, Tohoku University in 1938, where he was trained as a mineralogist and petrologist by Profs. S. Kôzu, M. Watanabe, and J. Takahashi. He joined the staff of the same institute in 1938, where he contributed greatly to research projects conducted by Prof. S. Kôzu and was promoted to an Assistant Professor in 1941. During this period he studied the alkalic rocks of the Morotu District, Sakhalin and Nemuro Peninsula, Hokkaido. This work made a great contribution to the petrology of alkalic rocks and he received his D.Sc. in 1949. In the same year he was selected as an Exchange Student by the GARIOA Fellowship (later called Fullbright Fellowship) and was sent to the United States.

After spending one year at Colorado School of Mines, he was permitted to join the Geophysical Laboratory as a Visiting Scientist. There he completed study of the system $\text{FeO-Al}_2\text{O}_3\text{-SiO}_2$ with Dr. J.F. Schairer under the guidance of Dr. N.L. Bowen. This was his first experimental work and he was thus inspired to study experimental petrology. His hard work and cheerful personality earned him many good friends which include Drs. H.S. Yoder, Jr., F.R. Boyd, F. Chayes, W. Schreyer, and other noted petrologists.

Prof. Yagi established the evolutionary trend of alkali pyroxenes by the study of the alkalic rocks of Morotu, Sakhalin and intended to learn more about the crystallization behaviour of this group of minerals. He devoted himself in the later part of his career to the experimental study of pyroxene bearing systems.

After coming back from the United States, Prof. Yagi was appointed Professor at Tohoku University in 1951. He was invited to become Professor of Mineralogy at Hokkaido University in 1962, as successor to Prof. Z. Harada,

holding this post until his retirement in 1978. He established an experimental mineralogy and petrology laboratory in this department and thereafter concentrated in research and in training students. During the last ten years he studied many systems involving alkali pyroxenes, such as acmite, Ti-pyroxene, and fassaite, in order to understand the genesis of nephelinitic magma. On the basis of these works, he proposed a differentiation scheme of nephelinitic rocks and clarified the role of titanium in the evolution of alkali pyroxenes.

Prof. Yagi's broad interests led him to the study of volcanology and meteorites. He made excellent contributions to this field by his studies of volcanoes in northeast Honshu and the Yamato meteorite from Antarctica.

Prof. Yagi was invited to the Geophysical Laboratory as a guest investigator in 1960, and to the University of Pittsburg in 1966 and also to the University of Melbourne in 1975 as a Visiting Professor. He attended many international meetings and sometimes organized them with his boundless energy. He was elected to membership of the Scientific Council of Japan in 1971, and has been endeavoring on the general plan for promotion of science ever since. He served as the President of the Japanese Association of Petrologists, Mineralogists and Economic Geologists during 1972–1974 and has been the President of the Volcanological Society of Japan since 1976.

Prof. Yagi has three sons, Teiichi, Takehiko, and Shunsuke. Of them, Takehiko is now studying high pressure experiments also at Geophysical Laboratory. Many of his friends, who came from different corners of the world to visit him at his home in Sapporo, probably would never forget the hospitality of his kind and graceful wife Nobuko.

One of his friends once remarked, "If I had the ability, I would make a sculpture of Ken Yagi, who would have an hammer in one hand while the other would hold a painting brush. He would gaze at the sky with a broad smile on his face". That truly symbolized his character.

All his friends sincerely hope that he will continue after his retirement to contribute in the field of geoscience with great endeavor, as he has done in the past. May God give him good health and a long life!