

©2022 YHAL, YITP, Kyoto University
京都大学基礎物理学研究所 湯川記念館史料室
29th Pugwash Conference

Mexico City, Mexico 18 - 23 July 1979

Inauguration Ceremony
CEESTEM Auditorium, 18 July 1979

Memorial session for
Cyrus Eaton - Prof. Rotblat
Prof. S. Tomonaga - Prof. Toyoda

Toshiyuki Toyoda's address

Dear Friends,

It is with great sadness that I inform you that Professor Sin-itiro Tomonaga passed away ten days ago. Today a funeral service was held in Tokyo.

Tomonaga was born in 1906 and graduated from Department of Physics, Kyoto University in 1929 together with Professor Hideki Yukawa. Both won Nobel Prizes in Physics.

In the middle of World War II he proposed the super-many time theory and reached the idea of the renormalization method in quantum-electrodynamics, but the war prevented him from continuing research work.

Immediately after the dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki his colleagues brought to him the results of the scientific survey. Realizing the effects of atomic weapons, Tomonaga told us that after such a tragic sacrifice human beings would not be so foolish to start another world war so that we scientists could devote ourselves to seeking for truth. Indeed he did so.

However, against his optimism based on human mutual trust the world was moving in a very dangerous direction with the advent of hydrogen bombs. At that time Tomonaga's best friend, Yukawa signed the "Russell-Einstein Manifesto" and invited Tomonaga to join the first Pugwash Conference.

Since then he had been making every effort to realize the spirit of the Manifesto in Japan as well as to promote Japanese sciences. Before his operation he called me and left the following words. "It will be very difficult to eliminate nuclear weapons from world arsenals, but we have to continue our efforts."

Finally I would like to convey a message to you from Mrs. Tomonaga that she thanks Pugwash colleagues for their friendship and kindness extended to her husband during his life.

Thank you for listening.

C 082-007-003 の中