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Teaching at Howard University: Part II (Concluded)

John Lovell Howard University

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Teaching at Howard University: Part II

(Concluded)

by John Lovell, Jr

Professor of English, College of Liberal Arts, Howard University
Fulbright Lecturer, Osaka University of Foreign Studies, 1960-1961

But it is not my intention to dwell upon such sad prospects. My stay in Japan and that of my wife who accompanied me here have been very delightful indeed. First, our welcome by the officers and members of the Fulbright Commission in Tokyo, by the authorities and teachers of the Osaka University of Foreign Studies, and by the people belonging to the American Embassy and the various branches of the United States Information Service, has been little short of royal. Second, we

found a home in Kobe and a most amazing personality for a housekeeper. Before very long, we began to meet, in larger and larger numbers, the Japanese university student, who is full of rare surprises, inspirations, and curious insights. Along with him, we are touching the general Japanese citizenry, of every rank and class, and we find them uniformly fascinating. We have fallen in love with the Japanese countryside, and with both ultramodern buildings on the one hand and shrines, castles,

temples, stone lanterns, and ancient gardens on the other, particularly at Nara. We adore the national passions for precision, ingenuity, making the most of every minute, stand-up reading in bookstores and at magazine counters, using every tiny inch of space (especially in traffic), resiliency, courtesy, charm, color, art, and beauty. We admire especially the union of beauty and utility in everyday life. We have written our friends back home that Japan, indoors and outdoors, is the greatest art gallery in the world. And we glory in the fact that as soon as the people we meet discover our interests and our reasons for being here, they begin, as one man, to bend every oar-like the Kyōgen character in the Noh play, Funa Benkei-toward the mutual accomplishment of our interests in them and their interests in us.

Permit me to cite two examples. My wife, a public school counselor in Washington, had to take educational leave to get the chance to come to Japan; this means that she must do, among other studies, a

ハワード大学で教鞭をとりて その三

(完)

ハワード大学教養学部英語学教授 1960-1961 の間大阪外大における

フルブライト講師

日本の一般市民にも接したが,彼らは 一様に魅力的だった. 私たちは日本の いなかが好きになり, 一方では超近代 的な建物が, また一方では神社, 城, 寺 院、石灯ろう、古代の庭園、特に奈良 のものが好きになった. 私たちは日本 人の緻密さに対する熱意,寸秒の時間 も最大限に活用する器用さを大いに尊 敬する. どんなわずかな空間をも (特 に乗物の中ではそうだ)利用する,本 屋や雑誌売台での立読み, 快活さ, い んぎんさ、魅力、色彩、技巧、美、を 大いに尊敬する. 特に日常生活に現わ れた美と効用の結びつきを賞讃する. 私たちは故郷の友人たちに, 日本は屋 内屋外を問わず, 世界一の美術館をな していると書き送った位だ. そして私 たちは、会う人がみな私たちの興味の 対象と当地に滞在する理由を知るや否 や、いっせいに――能の船弁慶の狂言 役者よろしく――私たちの彼らに対す る興味と、彼らの私たちに対する興味 を互いに完璧なものとする方向へと漕ぎだすことを喜ぶものである.

例を二つあげさして頂こう. 家内は, ワシントン市の公立学校の顧問だが, 来日の機会を得るために,教育上の賜 暇をとる必要があった. つまり,種々 な研究の中でも,日本における教育上 の助言計画を作成しなければならない のである. 家内が神戸,大阪,京都, 東京および若干の小都市の教育家から 得た協力は全く驚くべきものといえ た. どんな忙しい人も助力に来てくれ, できる限りの時間と,指示と,信頼で きる資料を提供してくれた.

第二の例は私に関するものだ。私のフルブライト計画の一部は日本の演劇とその国民生活への関連を研究することだ。これは 1961 年 5 月ニューョーク市で出版予定のアメリカ演劇のアメリカ人の生活への関連という拙著と同列のものである。だから、私の目的の一つは、できる限りの日本の演劇を見、

project on educational counseling in Japan. The co-operation she has received from educators in Kobe, Osaka, Kyoto, Tokyo, and several smaller communities has been nothing short of phenomenal. Even the busiest people have come to her aid and given her all the time, direction, and authoritative documents they possibly could.

The second example relates to me. A part of my Fulbright project is to study the Japanese drama and its relationship to the life of the people. This is in line with a book I have done on the American drama in relationship to the life of the people, which will be published in New York in May of 1961. One of my aims, therefore, is to see the maximum of Japanese plays, to visit the maximum of dramatic and theatrical monuments, to talk with all available experts in the native drama, and generally to pursue my subject in as many as possible of its infinite ramifications. The response of qualified and important people, on my side, has been just as phenomenal as that accorded my

wife. I have seen more than 60 plays-Bunraku, Kabuki, Nōh, Kyōgen, Shingeki-many of them recommended by people who discovered my interest; I have most profitably interviewed outstanding actors, drama critics, directors, playwrights, professors of drama, and other strategic people, and I have seen dramatic monuments by the score. I have been given or been referred to texts, books, and articles written in English and have had some authoritative works that were written in Japanese translated for me. On the basis of my experience so far, I can truthfully say that going to Japan to do dramatic research is a form of going to heaven.

Of course, I have seen practices and elements that are as strange to me as some of the things Miss Kimura saw in America were to her. But they do not frighten or revolt me. The previous writer, for instance, refers to Shakespearean plays done in Negro dialect or in a pronounced Negro accent as though they were a distortion. I do not think of my

listening to parts of Julius Caesar, delivered by Japanese students in an English accent and style that I could not always comprehend, as a distortion. I think it is wonderful that Shakespeare so appeals to people in cultures thousands of miles from where he lived that they are willing to undergo the ardors of committing to memory his words in an excruciating foreign language. It is just as exciting to me as my personal curiosity about the innermost details of Bunraku, Kabuki, and Noh. I want to know what motivates such appreciation. I do know that, if one will take the word of the famous French writer, Theophile Gautier, one of the very greatest performances of Shakespeare on record was delivered by an American Negro, Ira Aldridge, before audiences in major Russian cities in 1863, when Aldridge recited Othello in English and his Iago, Cassio, and Desdemona recited in German. Everywhere they went in Russia—and indeed throughout Europe—audiences were spellbound.

As a representative of Howard

できる限りの演劇や劇場の記念物を訪 れ,郷土演劇の専門家とできるだけ語 り,一般に,私の題目の限りない細部 をできるだけ多く追求することなので ある. 私の側でも, 有能な重要な人た ちの示した反応は家内に与えられたも のと同様驚くべきものだった. 私は文 楽,歌舞伎,能,狂言,新劇---とい った 60 以上の演劇を見たが、その多 くは私の興味対象を知った人々の推薦 によるものだ. 私は著名な俳優, 演劇 批評家, 指揮者, 脚本家, 演劇研究の 教授、その他の重要な人々と会見して 得るところがあったし, 演劇の記念物 は何十となく見た. 英語で書かれた原 本,書物,論文をもらったり,参照さ せられたりした. また, 日本語で書か れた権威ある著作をほんやくしてもら ったりした、これまでの体験にもとづ き,私は日本へ演劇研究に来るのは天 に昇ると同じ思いであると, いつわり なく言うことができる.

むろん, 木村さんがアメリカで見た もののうちには奇妙なものもあったと 同様に、私にも奇妙に見える習慣や要 素に出会いはした。がそれに胆をつぶ しも、不快を感じもしなかった。上記 筆者は,例えば,ニグロの方言や明白 なニグロなまりで演じたシェイクスピ ア劇を歪(な)曲で あるかのように 言わ れる. 私は日本の学生がジュリアス・シ ーザーのせりふを, 私に常に理解でき るとは限らないような英語のアクセン トと話し方でのべるのを聞いたからっ て, 歪曲と考えたりはしない. 私はシ ェイクスピアがその住んでいた地から 何千マイルも離れた文化の中の人々を 感激させて, その人々が苦痛な外国語 で書かれた台詞を非常に苦しみながら も喜んで暗記するのをすばらしいこと だと思う. それは文楽, 歌舞伎, 能, の 最も深い細部についての私の個人的な 好奇心と 同じ位胸を 躍らせるものだ. そんな鑑賞を引き起こすものは何であ

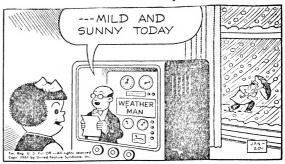
るか知りたいと思う.フランスの有名な作家,テオフィーユ・ゴーティエの言葉を信ずるならば,記録されたシェイクスピア劇上演の最もすばらしいった。カールドリッジが 1863 年にロシアの主要な都市の観衆を前に演じたものだということを私は知っている.そ語にはいオールドリッジはオセーを英語でといオールドリッジはオセーをでででいました。イヤツ語でやったのだ。ロッってる所で――また実際全コーカはアの至る所で――また実際全コーカルに、

日本におけるハワード大学の代表者として、私はできる限りの日本人がワシントン市へ行ってこの大学を見学するか、少なくとも大学に関する信頼できる文献を読んで下さるようお願いするしかない。この大学を訪れれば、新学長ネイブリット博士の歓迎を受けるだろう。博士は 24 年間ハワード大学

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University in Japan, I can only beg that as many Japanese as possible goto Washington and see the University, or at least read its authentic literature. If you visit there, you will be welcomed by the new President, Dr. Nabrit, who during 24 years as a teacher in the Howard Law School, initiated and developed the branch now known as Civil Rights Law, and now taught in other institutions. You will see a plant worth \$40 million, and still growing, including individual buildings for engineering, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, chemistry, biology, and the fine arts. You will mingle with a faculty which now and in years past includes and has included such men as Ralph Bunche, E. Franklin Frazier, past president of the American Sociological Society and recent Doctor of Laws from the University of Edinburgh, George E. C. Hayes, chairman of the Public Utilities Commission of the District of Columbia, the late Ernest Just, pioneer in microbiology, the late Charles Drew, who founded the first blood bank in America, William H. Hastie, a judge on the Court of Appeals, a court second in rank only to the United States Supreme Court, and Howard Thurman, now Dean of the Chapel of Boston University. The present Dean of the College at Howard, Dr. Frank Snowden, was formerly United States cultural attache in Rome, and presently spends a month each year in Paris, helping to develop the cultural programs of UNESCO. If you meet the alumni, you will meet, besides Dr. Frazier and Attorney Hayes already mentioned, Thurgood Marshall, the distinguished civil rights attorney, Ve Phillips, a city alderman in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and one of the few women members of the Democratic National Committee, and Kenneth Clark, a New York psychologist, whose discoveries and language were used in the memorable Supreme Court decision of 1954, outlawing educational segregation-men and women who are engaged in the crucially demanding job of making democracy fit for the tremendous threats and energies of the present day. If you had traveled with Mr. Kennedy while he was running for President of the United States, you would have met another Howard alumnus, Frank Reeves, one of Mr. Kennedy's close advisers. Mr. Reeves has recently taken office in the White House, as a special assistant to President Ken-

法学部の教師として在任中に、現在公民権法として知られ、他の教育機関さも教えられている部門を創始発展させた人である。そこでは四千万ドルものねうちがあり、なおも膨張している施設を見るだろう。それには工学、医学、歯科、薬学、化学、生物学、美術のためのそれぞれの建物がふくまれている。皆さんは教授陣と親しく交わるだろうが、その中には、ラルフ・バンチ、アメリカ社会学会の元会長であり、最近エジンバラ大学により法学博士を授与された E. フランクリン・フレイジア、ワシントン市公益事業委員会議長ジョージ・E・C・ヘイズ、微生物学の

先駆者 たる 故アーネスト・ジャスト, アメリカで最初の血液銀行を設立した 故チャールズ・ドルー, 米国大審院を 除けば どれにも 劣らぬ 地位を 占める 控訴院の判事ウィリアム・H・ヘイ 礼を ティー, 現在 ボストン 大学 付一属 マンカード・ サース はった人たちが現在おり, エフードン はもの間にいたのである. ハワードン はもとアメリカのイタリア大使館の サイはもとアメリカのイタリア大使館のカー なんとであり, 現在は毎年パリで一の 大化官であり, 現在は毎年パリであり, ユネスコの文化的諸計画の 大化官であり, ユスコの文化的諸計画の カーの発展を助けている. もしも卒業生に会われるとすれば, 既にあげたフレイジ

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By Ernie Bushmiller







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nedy. If you meet the trustees, active and honorary, you will meet such distinguished Americans as Eleanor Roosevelt, Lloyd K. Garrison, Pearl Buck, Guy B. Johnson, and Mordecai W. Johnson, who has Just retired after 34 fruitful years as President of the University, during which time he was also one of America's most respected and popular ministers and orators.

Throughout America and many other countries, in countless cities, towns, villages, and countrysides, you would meet—if you visited—thousands of physicians, teachers, lawyers, business men, scientists, community workers, heads of households, and elected and appointed leaders in government and industry—all trained by Howard University. It would be a most inspiring experience. It would be a most invigorating sight.

"How much does she make baby-sitting any-way?"

This University, unique in its educational and democratic role, is fully aware of the terrible problems it faces. It is perpetually analyzing itself and constantly raising its standards. Since it has always stood upon an interracial and an inter-

national platform, it invites the full co-operation of the peoples of the world in the hard fulfillment of the most glamorous, the most inspiringly difficult, and the most worthy of all dreams—the dream of a living and working true democracy.

学学長として 34 年間のみのり豊かな年月を過ごした後に隠退したばかりだが、その在任中はアメリカで最も尊敬され人気のあった牧師兼雄弁家の一人でもあったのである.

アメリカ、その他多くの国の至る所で、無数の都市、村、田舎において―もしもそこへ行かれるとすれば――あなたがたは――みなハワード大学で教育を受けた――何千という医師、教師、弁護士、実業家、科学者、社会事業家、戸主、政府や産業における選出されたり任命されたりした指導者に出会うだろう。それは極めて感動的な体験となるだろうし、極めて心を励ます光景で

あろう.

本大学は、教育的及び民主的役割において独特のものであり、直面するきびしい諸問題を十分わきまえている。それは絶えず自己分析を加え、不断に水準を高めている。つねに人種混合的、国際的建前を堅持してきた以上、本大学はすべての夢のうちで、最も魅力あり、精神を鼓舞する最も困難な、しかして最も価値あるもの――生きた活動する真のデモクラシーの理想を実現する困難な仕事において世界の諸国民の十分なる協力を要請するものである。

(O)