

On the Japanese Society for Patristic Studies and the *Patristica*

I JSPS AND THE *PATRISTICA*

The Japanese Society for Patristic Studies (JSPS) is an academic organisation dedicated to studying the language, literature, history, philosophy and theology of the ‘Church fathers’. When the Society was established in the autumn of 1976, Patristic studies in Japan had made only limited progress: Augustinian studies had been already starting, and studies and some translations of Origen, Eusebius and the ‘three Cappadocians’ were being published. Since then, the Society has promoted and contributed to the communication and response between scholars at all stages of their careers in the field of early Christian studies and related areas. It seems as if this is a reference to the nature of the Patristic literature that is not only chronologically coherent as Christian thought in Late Antiquity but is also inclusive and wide-ranging in both its structure and its content, despite the conflicts in their historical, ecclesiastical, political and doctrinal viewpoints. With further collaboration between the JSPS members and those sharing the objectives of the Society, the JSPS regular seminar is being held and opened to all concerned about the thought of Patristic fathers. Among the main activities of the Society are the JSPS regular seminar that has been held quarterly a year and the publication of the journal *Patristica* that has been issued annually.

Although the beginnings were small, the first meeting was held in April 1977, and through the 1980s and by January 1991, the Society had organised the regular seminar at the Yakumo campus of Tokyo Metropolitan University, Meguro, Tokyo. In April 1991, the steering committee moved to the University of Sacred Heart in Hiroo, Tokyo. During the 1990s and the following decades, the seminar had been held at both the Shirokane campus of Meiji Gakuin University, Minato and the Yotsuya campus of Sophia University, Chiyoda, Tokyo. Since July 2015, JSPS has moved its regular seminar to the Komaba campus of the University of Tokyo, Meguro, Tokyo. The Society’s publication entitled *Patristica* (in Japanese) was first published in 1994 in cooperation with Shinseisha Press. Since then, the *Patristica* has been issued annually and in 2010 Kyoyusha Press became the publisher of our journal. Meanwhile, in June of 2001, the first supplementary volume of *Patristica* was published as the proceedings of the colloquia of the JSPS by the col-

laboration between the JSPS members and the patristic scholars from Canada and United Kingdom. At the beginning of the 21st century, Patristic studies in Japan have broken away from its traditional focus on the thought of Augustine of Hippo to cover a broader range of concern, including the writings of Apostolic fathers and the literature of the Greek, Coptic and Syriac fathers.

The Society publishes this issue as the seventh of the journal *Patristica*, supplementary volume. All of the papers in this volume are peer-reviewed anonymously. The editors are grateful to those who generously reviewed papers in this volume and gave their helpful comments and suggestions, and to the authors, all of whom are willing to collaborate in the publication of this issue. You can browse all of the back issues' contents on the back cover of this volume. The journal *Patristica* (in Japanese) has been published annually as the JSPS regular seminar proceedings. The latest issue is volume 23, published in 2020. Here I would like to provide a list of the regular seminar's presentation title and also the table of contents of the journal *Patristica* (in Japanese) after 2018, when the previous supplementary volume was published. If you hope to see the list before 2018, please visit us at the JSPS website: <https://jnpatristics.wordpress.com/>.

Tokyo, 20 December 2020

Naoki KAMIMURA

2 JSPS SEMINAR 2019–20

167th seminar: 16 March 2019: Symposium 'The Notion of Tears in the History of Eastern and Western Christianity'

Nanae SAKATA, 'Tears and Prayer in the *Conferences* of John Cassian'.

Rei HAKAMADA, 'Hesychasts and Tears'.

Kohei MATSUMURA, 'Eyes and Tears: A Study on Tears in *Spiritual Diary* of Ignatius Loyola'.

168th seminar: 29 June 2019

Kyosuke SUNADA, 'Is the Denial of Physical Chastisement an Abandonment of Education?: The Interpretation and its Background of John Chrysostom's *Commentary on Proverbs* 13.24'.

169th seminar: 29 September 2019

Liana TRUFAS, 'God's Transcendence and Immanence in the *Corpus Dionysiacum*'.

170th seminar: 21 December 2019

Peter STEIGER, 'The Formation of the Friends of God: Abraham and Job as Model Teachers in the Writings of Didymus the Blind'.

JSPS special lecture

Susanna ELM, 'Books, Bodies, Histories: Augustine of Hippo on the Extraordinary (*City of God* XVI.8)'.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic in Tokyo and Japan, this lecture scheduled on 3 March 2020 was cancelled.

171st seminar

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic in Tokyo and Japan, the 171st regular seminar scheduled on 28 March 2020 was postponed.

171st seminar online: 5 December 2020: Symposium 'Reception of the Fathers of the Church'

Shin'ichi KUBO, 'The Language Tradition of the Theologian: Gregory of Nazianzus and a Byzantine Literacy'.

Yosuke MORIMOTO, '*Delectatio morosa*: What Modern Literature Could Learn from Christian Moral Theology about Dreaming and Creation'.

Dongsun LEE, 'St Jerome and the Problem of Episcopacy in the Early Modern Church of England'.

3 JOURNAL PATRISTICA

vol. 22 (2018)

Kazuhiko DEMURA, 'Foreword', 3-18.

Kouichi HAYASHI, 'Priscilian of Avila and His Creed: A Case Study on the "Creeds" in the Late 4th Century', 19-40.

Yuki MATSUZAWA, 'Ontology in Eckhart's Doctrine of the Trinity', 41-60.

Ibuki YAMANE, 'The Apokatastasis in Gregory of Nyssa's *In Illud: Tunc et Ipse Filius* ... : The Relationship between the Perfection of the Human Person and of Human Nature', 61-79.

vol. 23 (2019)

Hidemi TAKAHASHI, 'Foreword', 3–9.

Takayuki OZAWA, "Quaerere" and "invenire" in Augustine's *De trinitate*, 11–30.

Shinobu GOTO, 'Augustine's Description of Christian Love in *De catechizandis rudibus* 4.7–8', 31–49.

Ranko WATANABE, 'The Matters of Celibacy and Marriage in Augustine with a Focus on Righteousness of Will', 50–65.

«Symposium» 'The Notion of Tears in the History of Eastern and Western Christianity'

Nanae SAKATA, 'Tears in the *Conferences* of John Cassian', 68–89.

Rei HAKAMADA, 'Notion of Tears in Byzantine Hesychasm', 90–109.

Kohei MATSUMURA, 'Eyes and Tears: A Study on Perception and Tears in *Spiritual Diary* of Ignatius Loyola', 110–134.