The Development of Pathology in Taiwan during Japan's Colonial Period

台灣の病理学史の発展回顧

Shih-Ming JUNG 容 世明

Department of Pathology, Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, Taiwan 林口長庚醫院解剖病理科,台灣

Japan occupied Taiwan as its first colony in 1895. The first formal official institute of western medical education, the Formosa Government Medical School, was established in 1899. The Faculty of Medicine of Taipei Imperial University (predecessor of National Taiwan University College of Medicine) was founded in 1936.

Yukichi Tanaka (田中祐吉), a pathologist trained under Professor Yoshihiko Sata (佐多愛彥), was appointed to the faculty as professor of Pathology at the Formosa Government Medical School in September 1902. After Tanaka left the Medical School in early 1904, Yutaka Kon (今裕), the first assistant under professor Akira Fujinami (藤浪鑑) at the Kyoto Imperial University, was appointed to the faculty as associate professor in 1904. When Kon studied pathology in Germany from 1906 to 1908, Nobuyuki Kubo (久保信之) was appointed as associate professor to teach courses on anatomy and pathology. Nobuyuki Kubo was trained under Professor Fujiro Katsurada (桂田富士郎). Kon returned to Japan in 1909 and he was one of the giant figures in the early development of pathology in Japan.

Sadamu Yokogawa (横川定) was appointed to the faculty as a lecturer in April 1911. During the period of the Medical College (1919–1936), Nobuyuki Kubo was the professor and director of the Department of Pathology and Forensic Medicine. Dr Kubo was the first forensic pathologist in Taiwan. Dr. Yokogawa was professor and director of the department of Experimental Pathology and Parasitology.

In 1934, Iwao Wake (和氣巖) (1897–1945) was chosen to be the first Professor of Pathology at Taipei Imperial University. He spent two years in Munich, Germany, studying neuropathology in the renowned neuropathology laboratory of Walther Spielmeyer and Willibald Scholz. Dr. Wake was the pathologist specialized in neuropathology. Koji Muto (武藤幸治) was professor (第二講座) at the Department of Pathology of Taipei Imperial University from 1937 to 1945. Dr. Yokogawa and Dr. Wake delivered plenary lectures (宿題報告) in 1923 and 1942 at the annual meeting of the Japanese Society of Pathology. Dr. Wake died of renal failure in May, 1945. The death of Dr. Wake ended the era of pathology founded by Japanese physicians. However, the torches were passed to Dr. Shu Yeh (葉曙) (1908–2004) and the next generation in Taiwan.