

Dr. Takanori Kobayashi, the late president of Tokyo Christian University

Dr. Takanori Kobayashi, the president of Tokyo Christian University, suffered a cardiac infarction on October 23rd (Japan time) during his US business trip. Despite emergency treatment and intensive care at a hospital, he has gone to be with the Lord at 9:30 p.m. on October 24th (Japan time). The schedule of his funeral will be announced on TCU's website at the soonest possible time.



Date of Birth: March 13th, 1956

Date of Death: October 24th, 2017 (61 years old)

Biographical Sketch

Church: The Presbyterian Church in Japan East Kanto Presbytery

Expertise: Book of John, Apocalyptic Literature, Pauline Theology

Education

March 1980	B.A. in Hindu and Urdu, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies
March 1987	M.Div. equivalent, Tokyo Christian Theological Seminary
June 1989	Th.M., Calvin Theological Seminary
May 1999	Ph.D. in New Testament, University of St. Andrews

Positions at TCU

April 1995	Lecturer, Tokyo Christian Theological Seminary
April 1996	Lecturer, Tokyo Christian University (TCU)
April 2000	Associate Professor, TCU
April 2006	Professor of TCU
April 2012	Professor, TCU Graduate School of Theology

Administration at TCU

April 1996	Residential Supervisor, Male Students Dormitory (up to August 2001)
June 1998	Chair, Kyoritsu Christian Institute (up to March 2009)
April 2002	Associate Manager, Academic Affairs (up to March 2008)
April 2006	Provost (up to March 2014)
April 2006	Chair, International Communication Center (up to July 2009)
August 2009	Dean, Academic Affairs (up to March 2010)
April 2014	President of TCU

Achievements

Dr. Kobayashi became the provost of TCU from 2006, then the president from 2014, and passed away while in office. For these eleven and a half years he had taken the weighty responsibility of making drastic changes. As the provost (2006 – 2013) Dr. Kobayashi, with president Dr. Kurasawa, led TCU to establish the International Christian Studies and Social Work Department in 2008, a Major in Church Ministry in 2010, a Postgraduate Certificate Course in Church Music in 2011, and the Graduate School of Theology (Master's program) in 2012. As the president he led the school to establish the Graduate School of Theology (Doctoral program) in 2014, promoted globalization on campus and gained quality assurance of the school through certified evaluation and accreditation from Japan University Accreditation Association. In short, he led TCU to develop into a full higher education institution, passionately educated Christians serving the church and society, and furthered the goals of the school. Moreover, he was a chairperson of Asia Theological Association from 2013 and promoted education and research among churches in globalizing Asia. Dr. Kobayashi was a vital and indispensable figure at TCU aiming to send students to the church and society around the world, but he left this earth for a better place during his term of office.

We remember the grace of God and pray that His comfort be upon Dr. Kobayashi's family in this time of sorrow.

October 25, 2017

Tokyo Christian University

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