

George J. Tanabe



Biography

George (J.) Tanabe (Jr.) is an academic specialist in Japanese religions (esp. Buddhism) and taught in the Department of Religion at the University of Hawaii for over 30 years.

He has authored, co-authored and edited books include:

- MYOE THE DREAMKEEPER: FANTASY AND KNOWLEDGE IN EARLY KAMAKURA BUDDHISM (Harvard),
- RELIGIONS OF JAPAN IN PRACTICE (Princeton)
- SOURCES OF JAPANESE TRADITION (Columbia)
- PRACTICALLY RELIGIOUS: WORLDLY BENEFITS AND THE COMMON RELIGION OF JAPAN (Hawaii)
- JAPANESE BUDDHIST TEMPLES IN HAWAII: AN ILLUSTRATED GUIDE (Hawaii, 2013).
- In 2007, he was awarded the Japanese Foreign Minister's Award for promoting mutual cultural understanding between Japan and the United States.
- Since his retirement in 2006, he has written three novels, two of which remain unpublished. For more about his nonfiction and fiction, go to his website: **tanabebooks.com**.
- 2014, Order of the Rising Sun – for strengthening academic and cultural exchanges between U.S. and Japan

Education

- Willamette University, Oregon – History
- Union Theological Seminary, New York – Master of Divinity
- Columbia University, New York – Masters & Doctorate in East Asian Studies
- University of Tokyo, Japan – Foreign research student, Buddhist Philosophy and History

- Community leader
- Currently President of Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) America and BDK Hawaii. BDK publishes a wide variety of books for general readers and children, all aimed at relating Buddhist teachings to everyday life