

## AWARD OF MEDALS

The Seventy-fourth Annual Award of Medals was held on Monday, June 11, 1984, at 10:00 a.m., in the presence of His Majesty the Emperor.

The function was opened with an address by the President, in which he made a brief statement of each award. Then the Medals and Prizes were presented to the respective recipients.

After this, congratulatory addresses were given by the Prime Minister and the Minister of Education, Science, and Culture.

The function was closed at 11:25 a.m.

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 THE RECIPIENTS OF PRIZES AND THE SUBJECTS OF THEIR STUDIES

Seizen NAKASONE

A Dictionary of the Nakijin Dialect in the Okinawa Island  
— Studies on the Nakijin Dialect: the Part of Vocabulary —

The dialects of the Okinawa Island can be divided into two geographical entities: the Central-Southern dialects (represented by the Shuri dialect) and the Northern (or Kunigami) dialects. The latter are those of the territory which is assumed to have been closely connected with the Hokuzan, in the era when the Ryukyu Kingdoms stood in a triangular position: Chūzan, Nanzan, and Hokuzan.

The Kunigami dialects are well-known for preserving some archaic features, which have by now been lost in the Central-Southern dialects. For example, Kunigami *pana* «flower; nose»: Shuri *hana* «id.».

We have *A Dictionary of the Okinawa Language (Okinawago Jiten, 1963)*, which is in reality that of the Shuri dialect, so that the publication of a similar comprehensive dictionary of a Kunigami dialect has been awaited for a long time by students of Japanese linguistics.

Professor S. Nakasone's dictionary is a purely synchronical description of the dialect of the Yonamine hamlet, the Nakijin village in Kunigami District, i. e. the dialect of his own and his father. He was born in 1907 in this hamlet, which is very close to the ruins of the Hokuzan castle. After having graduated at the Tokyo Imperial