

The “Life Lesson” of Toshiharu Takeuchi

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This study focuses on the life lesson of Toshiharu Takeuchi; namely, the so-called “Takeuchi Lesson.” This study describes his life, background, lessons, and activities regarding education. Mr. Takeuchi was born during wartime and suffered from defective hearing while he was young. Normally, most people learn their mother tongue while an infant, but he was not able to initially learn his own language. Later, his hearing recovered, but he became distressed when communicating with other people. This distress pushed him to create his remarkable works—he wanted to experience deep communication and real encounters with others. After he began his activities in the field of drama, he devised the “Takeuchi Lesson.” Mr. Takeuchi and his participants tried to find answers to questions regarding “real contact between themselves,” “encounters,” and “becoming a human being.” Through his lessons, people have both “encountered” themselves and other people. Mr. Takeuchi searched for real encounters occurring spontaneously. This thesis explores what Takeuchi discovered through his lessons.