

The background of the page is a light, faded image. On the left side, there is a long, vertical, slightly curved object that resembles a traditional Japanese sword or a similar ceremonial object. On the right side, there is a pair of glasses with round lenses and thin frames, hanging vertically. The overall aesthetic is minimalist and elegant.

Doshisha Cemetery

The Doshisha

On the Crest of Nyakuouji

Joseph Hardy Neesima is believed to have secretly chosen the cemetery of Nanzenji Temple located at the foot of Higashiyama mountain district as his final resting place before his death. This is because his father, Tamiji, who passed away on January 30, 1887, was buried in Tenjuan Temple, a Tatchu (sub-temple) on the south of the Sanmon gate of Nanzenji Temple.

Tenjuan Temple had connections to Kumamoto province, with the graves of Higo Domain soldiers who died in battles during the Meiji Restoration as well as Shonan Yokoi, a native of the Higo Domain who was one of the theoretical leaders of the Restoration (assassinated near the Kyoto Imperial Palace on January 5, 1869), in the temple.

Tokio Yokoi, son of Shonan, was one of the first 15 graduates of Doshisha Academy (graduated in June 1879), and was appointed as a member of Doshisha (the same as a trustee today) in 1883. He also helped Neesima as a professor of theology from 1886. Many of his colleagues, including Michitomo Kanamori (Doshisha Academy Vice Principal), had the confidence of Neesima. While those in the Kumamoto Band may have mediated, Eisuke Nakamura seems to have been primarily in charge of negotiations with Tenjuan Temple regarding the burial of Tamiji (from Neesima's letter to Nakamura, dated February 6, 1887). It was reasonable to assume that Neesima, who passed away on January 23, 1890, should be buried in Tenjuan Temple cemetery, since his father was buried there. Neesima's funeral notice and application for burial



They will take it away from the people.

We will give it to the people.

Among the banners borne by the mourners was one inscribed with the poem, “They will take it away from the people. We will give it to the people,” (left) which had been dedicated to Neesima by Soho Tokutomi and Kaishu Katsu, and the slogan “Free education and autonomous church together, and God save our country.” These words are now part of Doshisha's enduring heritage.

permission indicate that he was to be buried in the Nanzenji Temple cemetery.

However, on the day before the funeral (January 26, 1890), Nanzenji Temple notified Doshisha of three conditions, which included that the funeral rites would not be, in any way, conducted in a Christian style, and no monument would be placed on his grave to indicate that he was a Christian.

Even today, Buddhist temples have different ways of conducting funerals and memorial services depending on the sect, and it is not common for temples to offer cemeteries to people of other sects. Not to mention when it comes to Christians. Nevertheless, Neesima's sister Miyo (passed away on October 23, 1879), who was a Christian, and Tamenori Yamazaki (passed away on November 9, 1881, as one of the first graduates of Doshisha Academy and a graduate of Kumamoto Yogakko (Kumamoto Western School)), who was a teacher at Doshisha, were buried in Kurodani cemetery in Higashiyama district. This is because the temple in Kurodani was once a garrison of the Aizu Domain, which was ordered by the Shogunate to guard Kyoto, and Aizu Domain soldiers were buried there. It appears that the temple granted the wish of Kakuma Yamamoto, a former samurai of the Aizu Domain, and his sister Yae (who married Neesima on January 3, 1876, in the first Christian ceremony in Kyoto). The case of Nanzenji Temple is as mentioned earlier. In Japanese society at that time, it was difficult to find a cemetery for Christians in any part of the country.



News of Neesima's funeral was reported in the Kokumin Shimbun on February 4, 1890.

Joseph Hardy Neesima was one of the leaders of the Christian community, and Christians that were guided by him and admired him spread throughout the country, not only in Doshisha and Kyoto city. It is likely that Nanzenji Temple was concerned about the consequences of offering its cemetery site to Neesima. However, Doshisha, and of course Yae and other bereaved families, could not accept the conditions for burial indicated by Nanzenji Temple. Hence, they had no choice but to change the burial site to Nyakuouji, a public cemetery of Kyoto city. At that time, the cemetery was a desolate hill overgrown with shrubs.

The funeral of Neesima was held from one o'clock in the afternoon on January 27, 1890, with a large tent set up in front of Doshisha Chapel. Nearly 4,000 people attended the service. In sleeting rain, students of Doshisha carried his coffin in turns south down Teramachi St. (Kawaramachi St. had not yet been built), then east along Sanjo St., and then up north from Nanzenji Temple to Nyakuouji Shrine, reaching the crest of Nyakuouji. It was six o'clock in the evening, long after the winter sun had set, when they finally buried his body. The tomb was surrounded by a wooden fence and a latticed double gate. Perhaps this was the best they could do to make the site look more or less like a graveyard. It was January of the next year when they built a tombstone of rough Kurama stone with an epigraph by Kaishu Katsu whom Neesima had highly admired during his lifetime.

After Neesima's death, Kakuma Yamamoto took his place, despite having completely lost his eyesight and being in poor health. He passed away on December 28, 1892, as if relieved to see Hiromichi Kozaki (a member of the Kumamoto Band), one of Doshisha's first graduates, assume the presidency in March 1892. He was 65 years old. Yamamoto, who had been baptized by Rev. D. C. Greene in May 1885, was laid to rest beside Neesima.

Prayer

It was probably around 1897 that Doshisha dormitory students began to take the lead in holding predawn services in front of the grave on the school's foundation date and the anniversary of Neesima's death. However, it was not until the 1930s that these became annual events. The prayer meeting, which started spontaneously among the dormitory students, was taken over as a school event after World War II and continues to this date.

After Neesima and Yamamoto were buried, the common cemetery in Nyakuouji began to see more graves of Christians. The Christian cemetery brought recognition of the small mountain, once virtually unknown, as one of the 36 peaks of Higashiyama.

Prayer Services

May Dedication of the Ashes of Deceased Doshisha Community Members

November 29 Anniversary of foundation of Doshisha, Prayer Service

January 23 Anniversary of Neesima's death, Prayer Service



A sacred and blessed place

After successful negotiations by Doshisha, Yae Neesima obtained a permit from Kyoto city authorities in February 1910 that designated part of the public cemetery, equal to 588.4 m², as a private grave site for the Neesima and Yamamoto families. Since then, members of the two families, along with those associated with Doshisha have been buried there.

J. D. Davis (passed away on November 4, 1910), who joined the project for the establishment of Doshisha Academy, and provided great support for the school during the Meiji period, is also buried there. He died in Oberlin, during his trip to the U.S. and was buried in the cemetery there, but through the pleas and mediation of alumni in the U.S., his ashes were reburied in the Doshisha Cemetery in Nyakuouji, on September 4, 1920.

With his eternal homecoming, Davis, Neesima, and Kakuma Yamamoto, the three men without whom Doshisha Academy might never have come into existence, were reunited in their eternal rest.

After Yae Neesima passed away on June 14, 1932 at the age of 88, the authority to use and manage the land in the cemetery was passed to Doshisha by Kyoto city in November 1934. This was based on the unspoken will of Mr. and Mrs. Neesima, who had no heirs, and upon three agreements, which included that Doshisha would assume responsibility as the grave keeper, preserving the land forever as a solemn



Second tomb of Neesima



Third tomb of Neesima

commemorative gravesite. In 1935, the Board of Trustees adopted a resolution on renovation necessary for preserving the cemetery of the school founders in perpetuity as a sacred ground (Doshisha Executive Board of Trustees Record), and it has been cared for ever since. The Doshisha Cemetery in Nyakuouji is indeed a sacred site for the school.

The tombstone of Joseph Hardy Neesima had become weather-worn over the more than 90 years since its erection, and was then destroyed in an accident in June 1986 and left unable to be repaired.

It was hurriedly decided to rebuild the grave, and granite from Rutland, Vermont, a place with connection to Neesima, was selected as the stone material. Rutland is the home of Grace Church, where Neesima spoke to raise funds for establishment of a school and received a donation of 5,000 dollars. It is possible that he walked the land on a geological survey, given his deep interest in geology. Grace Church offered their assistance in the transportation of the stone.

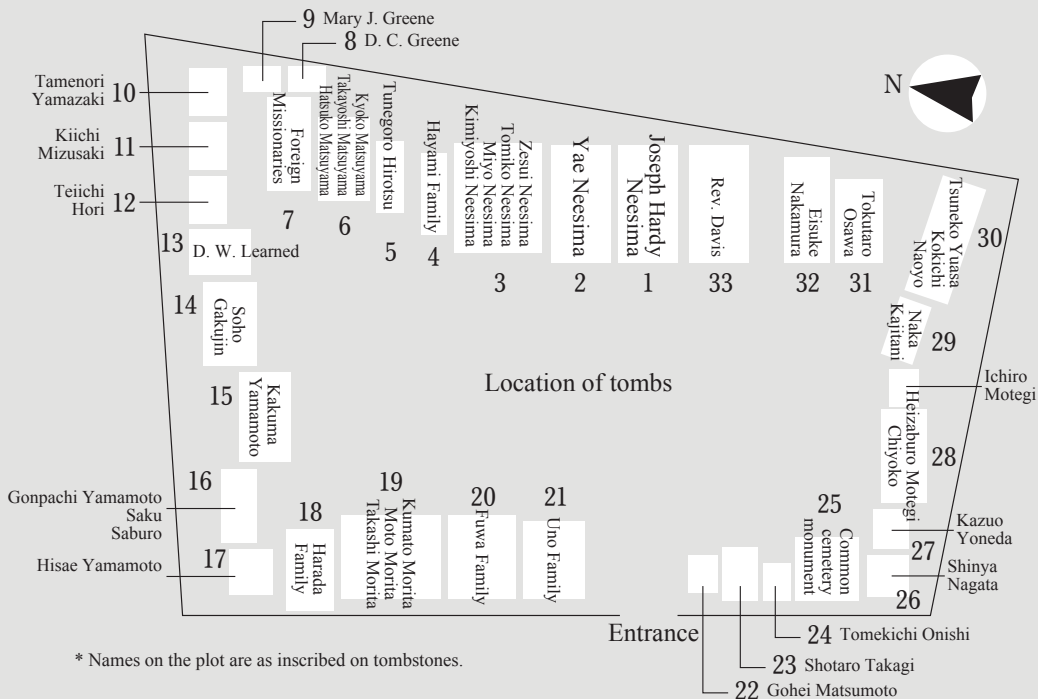
The re-built tombstone was unveiled on January 16, 1987. The same epigraph was inscribed on the new tombstone, with the date of reconstruction written by Yoshinori Matsuyama, then Chancellor, engraved on the back.

People laid to rest in the cemetery include Mr. and Mrs. Neesima and many others who contributed to Doshisha.

From wood to Kurama stone,
and then to Rutland stone

Neesima dying wish was that he wanted a simple funeral and a simple gravepost. Neesima is said to have left this message at his deathbed. Following his wish, a simple wooden gravepost was first erected. One year later, in 1891, Soho Tokutomi replaced it with a Kurama stone with an epigraph written by Kaishu Katsu whom Neesima highly admired before his death.

Unfortunately, it was destroyed in an accident in 1986. Repairing it was difficult since it had been weather-worn during the intervening 90 years, so it was decided to replace it. A stone from Rutland, Vermont, a location which has a special place in Doshisha's history, was used for the third and present gravestone with the same epigraph by Kaishu Katsu inscribed on it.



* Names on the plot are as inscribed on tombstones.

List of people buried

* Names are as shown on family register (if unknown, as inscribed on tombstones)

1. Joseph Hardy Neesima

(February 12, 1843 - January 23, 1890)

Son of Tamiji Neesima, an official of Annaka Domain (present-day Gunma Prefecture). He stowed away to the United States at the age of 21 and studied at Phillips Academy, Amherst College and Andover Theological Seminary. He returned to his homeland in 1874, and founded Doshisha Academy with Kakuma Yamamoto and J.D. Davis. He died in Oiso, Kanagawa Prefecture in January, 1890.

2. Yae Neesima

(November 3, 1845 - June 14, 1932)

Born in Aizu Domain, she was the sister of Kakuma Yamamoto and the wife of Joseph Hardy Neesima. In 1876, she supported a school for girls opened by A. J. Starkweather, a missionary from the American Board, and thereby laid the foundation of Doshisha Women's College of Liberal Arts.

3. Neesima Family: Tamiji Neesima

(1807-1887)

(Pen name: Zesui) Father of Joseph Hardy Neesima, he served as a secretary to the Domain Lord Itakura of Joshu Annaka Domain.

Tomi Neesima (1807-1896)

Wife of Tamiji Neesima. They had two sons and four daughters, and Joseph is their fifth child and eldest son.

Miyo Neesima (1838-1879)

Neesima's third sister.

Kimiyoshi Neesima (1860-1924)

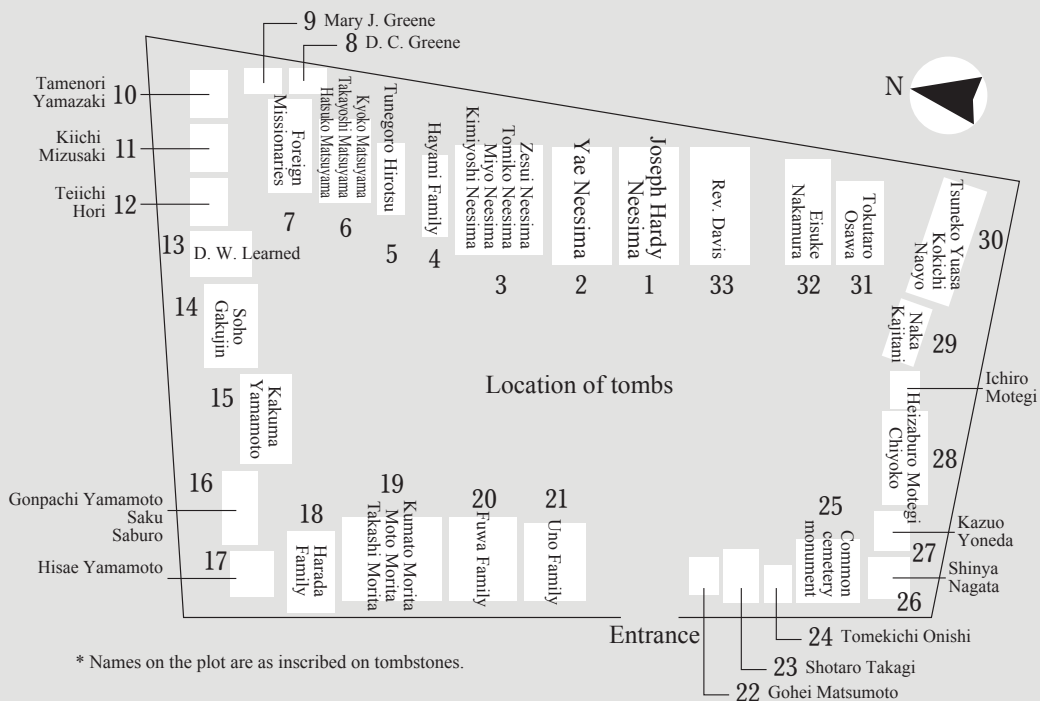
Adopted by Neesima family. He carried on the family name after the death of Soroku, younger brother of Joseph Hardy Neesima. After graduating from Doshisha, he was active as a missionary, staff at Doshisha, and in business circles.

4. Hayami Family: Tokiko Hayami

(1840-1905)

Neesima's fourth sister, married to Tadao Hayami

- of Niigata Prefecture. Their granddaughter Shizue (1886-1977) married to Tosuke (Hayami after marriage) Akiho (1881-1945). After studying at Doshisha, Tosuke served as the head of Doshisha University Preparatory School.
5. **Tunegoro Hirotsu (-1901)**
Believed to be the father of Tomonobu Hirotsu. Hirotsu appears to be a relative of Yae Neesima.
 6. **Matsuyama Family:**
Takayoshi Matsuyama(1846-1935)
A scholar of Japanese literature and Neesima's close friend. He taught at Theological Department of Doshisha School and served as a member of the Board of Trustees. He contributed to a translation of the Bible, and edited and wrote hymns.
He is laid to rest beside his wife, Kyoko Matsuyama (1859-1929), and daughter, Hatsuko Matsuyama (1893-1983).
 7. **Foreign Missionaries (Teachers)**
Names are engraved on the monument. Some of the notable figures are as follows:
Mary F. Denton (1857-1947)
Founder of Doshisha Kindergarten, she taught home economics. The pipe organ in Eiko-kan was donated in honor of her raising the funds for the construction of Eiko-kan and James-kan.
First headmaster of Demachi Kindergarten (later Doshisha Kindergarten).
Alice E. Gwinn (1896-1969)
She dedicated her life to Christian education, teaching English for 8 years at the Women's School and for 22 years at the junior high school.
Robert H. Grant (1911-1974)
He came to Japan after WWII as a missionary from the American Board. He served as a professor of literature at Doshisha and taught literature at the Women's College.
Gwilym G. Lloyd (1914-1984)
A missionary from the Presbyterian Church (USA). He taught New Testament Theology and Ancient Greek at the School of Theology.
John G. Young (1902-1990)
He came to Japan after WWII as a missionary from the American Board. He taught at the School of Theology and the Commercial High School. He also served as housemaster of Hawaii Dormitory.
Esther L. Hibbard (1903-1999)
As a preacher and missionary, she played a major role in education at the Women's College and became its first president when co-education became the law of the land after WWII.
John M. Rasche (1931-2011)
He came to Japan as a missionary. Served as housemaster of Hawaii Dormitory, a contracted lecturer at the junior high school, a contracted lecturer at the School of Theology, and a teacher at the junior high school.
 8. **Daniel C. Greene (1843-1913)**
The first missionary sent by the American Board to Japan. He founded Settsu Daiichi Kyoukai (the predecessor of Kobe church) where he served as its first minister. After engaging in the translation of the Bible in Yokohama, he taught theology and the Old Testament at Doshisha. He designed Shoei-kan, the Chapel, and Yushu-kan.
 9. **Mary J. Greene (1845-1910)**
A graduate of Mount Holyoke Female Seminary, she married Daniel C. Greene in 1869, and engaged in mission work in Kobe, Kyoto, and Tokyo.
 10. **Tamenori Yamazaki (1857-1881)**
A student at the Kumamoto Yogakko, he quit Kaisai Gakko (the predecessor of the University of Tokyo) in order to enter Doshisha, becoming a member of the first graduating class. He contributed to Doshisha in its early days as one of the first teachers and administrators. His epitaph was composed by Professor M. L. Gordon. He wrote a book titled "Tenchi Daigenin-ron" (Causal Theory of the Universe), which clearly displayed his talent. The foreword of the book was written by Professor J. D. Davis in English.
 11. **Kiichi Mizusaki (1871-1937)**
He served as a professor, a member of the Board of Trustees, and head of the Girls' School. He carried out Neesima's will to run a fundraising campaign with Soho Tokutomi in order to establish the university. Epigraph by Soho.
 12. **Teiichi Hori (1863-1943)**
He was an alumnus who advocated the self-sufficiency policy and was engaged in mission work in locations including Shiga, Niigata, Gunma, and also pastored a Japanese church in Hawaii. Later, at the request of Chancellor Danjo Ebina, he became the chief of Christian education and was an inspiring teacher.
 13. **Dwight W. Learned (1848-1943)**
Missionary from the American Board who became the first president of Doshisha University. He was devoted to education for 52 years since the opening of the Doshisha Academy. Author of many books on theology, economics, and political science, he significantly contributed to academic activities in modern Japan. The epigraph "Learn to Live and Live to Learn" was his motto.
 14. **Iichiro Tokutomi (1863-1957)**
(Pen name: Soho). He established the Min'yusha publishing company and issued the Kokumin no Tomo (The People's Friend) and the Kokumin Shinbun (The People's Newspaper) which were highly influential among young people and intel-



lectuals during the Meiji period. Carrying out Neesima's wishes, he was committed to the establishment of the university and supported Doshisha throughout his life. One of his important works is *Kinsei Nihon Kokumin shi* (A History of Early Modern Japan) published in 100 volumes. The epigraph was written with his own hand.

15. Kakuma Yamamoto (1828-1892)

One of the founders of Doshisha. The present Imadegawa Campus was reportedly his property. The name of "Doshisha" came from his idea. He was a member of Aizu Domain and served as an advisor to Kyoto Prefecture and was the first Chairperson of the Kyoto Prefectural Assembly.

16. Yamamoto Family:

Gonpachi Yamamoto (-1868), Saku (1810-1896), Saburo (-1868)
Parents of Kakuma Yamamoto and Yae. Gonpachi and his third son, Saburo, died in the Boshin War (Japan's last civil war).

17. Hisae Yamamoto (1871-1893)

A daughter of Kakuma. She studied at Doshisha Women's School and Kobe Eiwa Women's School (currently Kobe College). Heroine of the incident of "the brown eyes" in the novel *Kuroi Me to Chairō no Me* (Black Eyes and Brown Eyes) written by Roka Tokutomi.

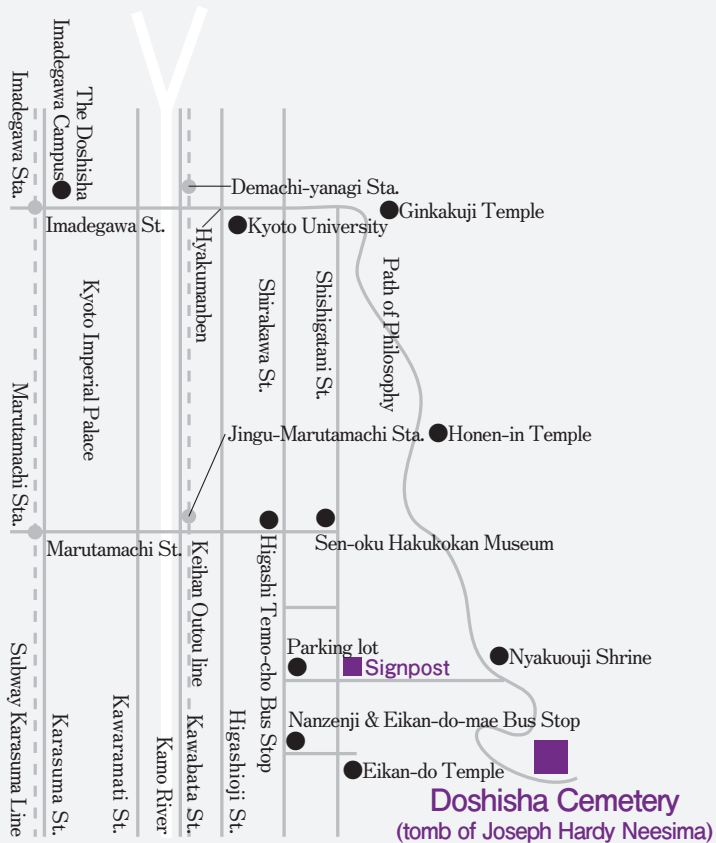
18. Harada Family: Tasuku Harada (1863-1940)

Seventh Chancellor of the Doshisha. He established a vocational college within the women's college and contributed to improving Doshisha's academic standards. He served as a minister in Kobe and President of the Japan Congregational Churches.

19. Kumato Morita (1858-1899)

Member of the first graduating class and one of the first Japanese teachers at Doshisha. He contributed to improving the finances as well as the quality of education at Doshisha. He excelled in theoretical thinking and was a voracious reader. He is laid to rest beside his wife Moto Morita (-1931) and his eldest son Takashi Morita (-1899).

20. **Fuwa Family: Tadajiro Fuwa (1857-1919)**
Tadajiro was engaged in education and mission work in Fukuoka, Maebashi, and Kyoto after he graduated from Doshisha.
21. **Uno Family: Shigeyoshi Uno (1853-1919)**
A gymnastics teacher and grand housemaster of the dormitories. He established the Kyoto YMCA and the Japan Association of Physical Education, and was the first Christian officer in the Japanese army. His gravestone is located near the entrance of the cemetery as the guardian of the gate.
22. **Gohei Matsumoto (1831-1899)**
Gohei (real name: Muneyuki) served as a custodian. He respected Neesima and was baptized, wishing to serve as a grave keeper for Neesima even after his death. He was a legendary figure with a great sense of humor. The episode that Neesima respectfully called him "Gohei-san" is well-known.
23. **Shotaro Takagi (1889-1927)**
Graduate of Doshisha University and a professor of political science. His motto was "Caliber needs the endorsement of integrity." Shotaro chose the composition by D.W. Learned for his own epitaph which was written by social activist Toyohiko Kagawa.
24. **Tomekichi Onishi (1883-1909)**
He was a self-supporting student. While in school, he was baptized by Masumi Hino but died of tuberculosis.
25. **Common cemetery monument**
This monument was created in 1973 in response to the wishes of those related to Doshisha. At present, over 250 names have been engraved. Some of the notable figures are as follows:
Koujiro Hata (1890-1972) Head of the Board of Trustees.
Setsuji Otsuka (1887-1977) 13th Chancellor of the Doshisha, University President.
Etsuji Sumiya (1895-1987) 14th Chancellor.
Naozo Ueno (1900-1984) 15th Chancellor, University President. Member of the Board of Trustees.
Isao Saito (1905-1996) Head of the Board of Trustees.
Yoshinori Matsuyama (1923-2014) 16th Chancellor of the Doshisha, Head of the Board of Trustees, and University President.
26. **Shinya Nagata (1896-1921)**
A law graduate, he held the posts of assistant teacher and lecturer before dying at the young age of 25.
27. **Kazuo Yoneda**
(dates of birth and death unknown)
Son of Shotaro Yoneda, professor at Doshisha School of Politics and Law, and Kyoto Imperial University.
28. **Heizaburo Motegi (1850-1902)**
After graduating from Doshisha Academy, he was engaged in mission work in Joshu, Echigo, Hyuga, and Kyoto. He is laid to rest beside his wife Chi-yoko.
Ichiro Motegi
(dates of birth and death unknown)
Eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Motegi.
29. **Naka Kajitani (dates of birth and death unknown)**
Living in dire poverty after her husband's desertion, she moved to Kyoto with her children and attached herself to the Neesima household after hearing of him from a distant relative, Itaro Kurosumi, a Doshisha graduate.
30. **Tsuneko Yuasa, Kokichi, Naoyo**
Tsuneko (1866-1896) was born in Annaka, Jyoshu, and studied at Doshisha Women's College. She was married to Kichiro (Hangetsu) Yuasa, who contributed to the financial management of Doshisha. She died at Doshisha Hospital. Kokichi (eldest son) and Naoyo are her children with Kichiro Yuasa.
31. **Tokutaro Osawa (1876-1942)**
He studied at Doshisha and was a member of the Board of Trustees for 24 years, playing an important role in the promotion to a university under the University Ordinance as well as in the purchase of land in Iwakura. A member of the House of Peers, his father Zensuke served on the Board of Trustees during Neesima's life as did his son, Yoshio.
32. **Eisuke Nakamura (1849-1938)**
As member of the Board of Trustees with Neesima's full confidence, he greatly contributed to Doshisha in its pioneer days. After Neesima's death, he overcame difficulties several times when the future of the university was at stake by serving as Acting President and deputy Chancellor. He held several prominent political posts such as Diet member, Prefectural Assembly member, and first chairperson of the city assembly. Epigraph by Saho.
33. **Jerome D. Davis (1838-1910)**
A missionary from the American Board, he moved from Kobe to Kyoto to join Neesima's project for the establishment of Doshisha University. He and Kakuma Yamamoto were Neesima's closest confidants. His last words were "My life is my message".



Doshisha Cemetery

Shishigatani Nyakuouji-Yamacho, Sakyo-ku

(Directions: Go to Nyakuouji Shrine by car/taxi. From there, it is about a 25-minute walk along the mountain path.)



■ Signpost

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