

平成19年5月23日(水)

リンネ祝賀全国委員会委員長主催晩餐会(ウプサラ城)における天皇陛下のご答辞

Your Majesties,

It is my pleasure to be able to pay tribute, together with Your Majesties and all of you who are here today, to the memory of Carl von Linné, the great naturalist from Sweden.

The most outstanding contribution Linné made to mankind was the establishment of binominal nomenclature for scientific names, which has made it possible for the people of the world, despite the differences in language and culture, to communicate and cooperate with each other on matters related to animals and plants. Researchers of taxonomy, including myself, have benefited from this system in our cooperation with scholars from different countries. The system is also proving most useful today when people cooperate with each other across national boundaries on such matters as the preservation of nature and the protection of all living creatures.

I believe that international cooperation is indispensable for the sound development of science and its application, with the aim of contributing to the happiness of mankind and world peace.

May I now propose a toast to the memory of Carl von Linné and his great contribution to mankind.