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Preface

The origins of this volume lie in a symposium held at the World Archaeological Congress Inter-Congress in Osaka, Japan, on 12–15 January, 2006, entitled “*Kyosei-no-koukogaku: Coexistence in the Past – Dialogues in the Present*”. It was held at the Osaka Museum of History, Osaka, Japan. Approximately 400 researchers in archaeology and related fields discussed this theme for three days in a total of 23 sessions that covered broad topics regarding current issues in archaeological research, such as ethical problems involved with conducting research on other people’s land, archaeological surveys within different cultures, and the management of cultural heritage for future generations.

Our session, which had the same title as the present volume, was organised by Kazunobu Ikeya of the National Museum of Ethnology and Hidefumi Ogawa of Tokyo University of Foreign Studies. Most of the people whose work is featured here presented papers during the session.

All of the papers have been rewritten and updated in order to ensure the timeliness of the information they present on the relationships between hunter-gatherers and farmers.

We hope that these papers will aid in the formulation of the discipline of hunter-farmer relationships studies, as well as fostering its future development and contributing to further research. We express our heartfelt thanks to our many friends for their generosity, patience, and the valuable data they have provided us.

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