Cordial Memory and Expectancy in the Future on Molten Salts from Asian Region

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First of all, on behalf of Chinese Molten Salt Committee, and participants of China-Japan Bilateral Conference on Molten Salt Chemistry & Technology which have been held 10 times since 1986, we would like to express our great congratulation to the 50th anniversary of Molten Salts Committee of Japan and following successfully organized events, 2008 Joint Symposium in Kobe and Special Issue of the Electrochemistry on Molten Salts Chemistry and Technology. These outstanding organization and communication in Japanese Molten Salt Researchers have given good influence to the global science community of the molten salts and high temperature materials in the field of not only electrochemistry but also metallurgy, atomic science, and rare earth science, etc.

In memory of the history of our bilateral conference we must remember all of Chinese and Japanese molten salt scientists, who made great contributions to develop our cooperation and deep our friendship. Now, most of the Chinese and Japanese molten salt scientists, who attended at the first set of our bilateral conferences are ended their careers and are replaced by a newer generation both in China and in Japan. It is a fact that “Molten salts are doing well in the Far East”, as mentioned by Prof. George Papateodorou (Molten Salt Bulletin, 83, 5, 2004). I sincerely hope and also firmly believe that our cooperation will be further promote progress of molten salt science and technology and friendship between Chinese and Japanese molten salt communities will be generation by generation. The talented young generation will reach beyond the limitations to fulfill their potentials to devote molten salt science and technology.

Actually, we can find that the contributions from PR of China (1,922) and Japan (1,204) are ranked at the 2nd and 3rd places in record counts of the articles in ISI web of knowledge. Surprisingly, the sum of the contribution of the articles from PR of China and Japan is much larger than the ones from the United States (2,552)!

Also in this special issue, more that 50 papers are published which includes the contribution in 2008 Joint Symposium. The 3rd Asian conference on molten salt chemistry and technology will held in China in 2010 and MS9 will be held in Norway in 2011. I can feel and expect Asian researchers’ enthusiasms in molten salts chemistry more and more.

* The number of papers was counted in ISI web of science using keywords; (molten salt*) or (ionic liquid*). Numbers of contribution from each country were counted using “Countries/Territories” section in “Refine Results.”