

Along the Coastline – from Cape Kyan to Mabuni

Cape Kyan to Mabuni, which is located at the south end of the main island of Okinawa. This area became the final fierce battlefield in the battle of Okinawa during World War II.

I kept thinking about the following as I walked along there.

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Sometimes, I thought about the soldiers of the Allied forces.

What were they thinking as they walked along here?

Was it about his family who was waiting and praying for him at home?

Was it about the citizens of the enemy in front of them, who were deprived of their peaceful daily life, scared, fleeing?

Sometimes, I thought about the Japanese soldiers.

What were they thinking as they walked along here? What was their hope? They were never allowed to surrender and had to keep attacking to death, even though he had lost his leaders, weapons and munitions or medicines, even food.

The people in Okinawa, formerly called Ryukyu, who have an independent culture, but were tossed about by the situation among the big countries.

What were they seeing as they fled along here; but they had nowhere else to go?

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Now, the coastline is extending from under my feet to far away. It is formed gradually, very gradually, in the flow of a time over tens of thousands of years with human history or more. That is why I chose it as my object. I wanted to reflect on our trail, especially what we have been doing in the modern age, by looking at the coastline as a symbol of the span of time in contrast with each of our lives.

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