

(a)

Climate

Voyages from Okinawa to Kyushu during summer south- southwesterlies

- Nubui Kuduchi verse 5

Voyages from Kyushu to Okinawa in the ninth or tenth lunar month

- Kudai Kuduchi verse 1

Winter north-northeasterlies

- Kudai Kuduchi verse 6

Prayers for safe travels (Fig. 3a–b), vows to return to specific landmarks (Fig. 3c–d)

- Nubui Kuduchi verses 1, 2, 4, 6
- Kudai Kuduchi verses 2, 8, 9

Rough seas between Iheya and the Amami Islands

- Nubui Kuduchi verse 7
- Kudai Kuduchi verse 8

Famously dangerous Tokara Strait

- Nubui Kuduchi verse 7
- Kudai Kuduchi verse 6

East Asian Monsoon

Voyages from Okinawa to Kyushu occurred around summer (Okinawa Prefectural Cultural Promotion Association, 2001; Toby, 1984) when the Boreal monsoon is characterized by south-southwesterlies (Dobby, 1945; Flohn, 1957; Fu et al., 1983; Ueda et al., 1995).

Voyages from Kyushu to Okinawa occurred between autumn to spring when the Boreal monsoon is characterized by north-northeasterlies (Dobby, 1945; Fu et al., 1983).

Ocean conditions

Western Pacific Ocean is a typhoon hotspot during summer to autumn months when envoys were active (e.g., Ito et al., 2020).

Envoy path has statistically high wave heights, partially due to typhoon activity (Wu et al., 2014; Young et al., 2011).

Kuroshio current interactions with atmosphere and bathymetry in the Tokara Strait may induce ocean turbulence (Fig. 1; Hwang, 2005; Nagai et al., 2021; Tsutsumi et al., 2017).



Shuri Kannon-do
(Fig. 3a)



Sogenji
(Fig. 3b)



Miegusuku
(Fig. 3c)



Cape Zampa
(Fig. 3d)

(b)

Volcanism

Smoke is burning/rising from Satsuma Iwojima

- Nubui Kuduchi verse 8

Kaimondake comes into view and Sakurajima's majesty could be mistaken for Mount Fuji

- Nubui Kuduchi verse 8

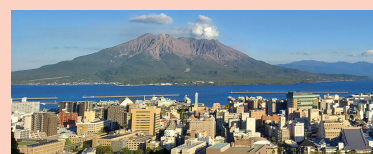
Satsuma-Iwojima

Young ages of Iwodake lava (Kawanabe and Saito, 2002) and observed 20th–21st century fumaroles and ash eruptions (Kamada, 1964; Kazahaya et al., 2002; Shinohara et al., 2002; Fig. 4b).

Sakurajima and Kaimondake

The unincised Kaimondake edifice (Fujino and Kobayashi, 1997) is more geomorphically similar to Mount Fuji than Sakurajima (Fig. 4c–e).

Lack of historical recorded eruptions during the time of the envoy precludes that this mismatch is due to a catastrophic Sakurajima eruption (Fig. 4d–e; Kobayashi and Tameike, 2002).



Sakurajima
(Fig. 4e)