

# Okinawa The History Of An Island People

Eventually, you will extremely discover a further experience and finishing by spending more cash. yet when? accomplish you take that you require to acquire those all needs once having significantly cash? Why dont you try to acquire something basic in the beginning? Thats something that will lead you to understand even more all but the globe, experience, some places, with history, amusement, and a lot more?

It is your extremely own time to discharge duty reviewing habit. along with guides you could enjoy now is **Okinawa The History Of An Island People** below.

*Okinawa and the Ryukyu Islands* - Robert Walker  
2014-05-27

\*\*Lowell Thomas Annual Travel Book Award Silver Medal Winner 2015\*\* Travel to the most inspiring tropical islands on the planet! Everything you need is in this one convenient Okinawa travel guide--including a large pull-out map. Okinawa and the Ryukyu Islands is the first comprehensive travel guide to the 150 sub-tropical island chain that stretches

across 600 miles from Japan to Taiwan. These are some of the most stunningly beautiful islands in the world! Trek up active volcanoes, soak in natural hot springs, enjoy pristine white sand beaches, and sample Okinawa's superb homegrown cuisine.

Experienced author Robert Walker tells you how to get there, where to go, where to stay and what to do, including: Ferry schedules and flights Lodgings on all inhabited

islands Best beaches and surf spots Hikes and nature walks Sights suitable for families with children Historical and cultural landmarks With over 200 color photographs and 40 maps, this book provides essential travel tips to help tourists avoid costly mistakes. It also includes a large fold-out map of Okinawa and the Ryukyu chain with insets for the major islands and cities.

*Dancing with the Dead* -

Christopher T. Nelson

2008-11-21

Challenging conventional understandings of time and memory, Christopher T. Nelson examines how contemporary Okinawans have contested, appropriated, and transformed the burdens and possibilities of the past. Nelson explores the work of a circle of Okinawan storytellers, ethnographers, musicians, and dancers deeply engaged with the legacies of a brutal Japanese colonial era, the almost unimaginable devastation of the Pacific War, and a long American military occupation that still casts its shadow over the islands. The

ethnographic research that Nelson conducted in Okinawa in the late 1990s—and his broader effort to understand Okinawans' critical and creative struggles—was inspired by his first visit to the islands in 1985 as a lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps. Nelson analyzes the practices of specific performers, showing how memories are recalled, bodies remade, and actions rethought as Okinawans work through fragments of the past in order to reconstruct the fabric of everyday life. Artists such as the popular Okinawan actor and storyteller Fujiki Hayato weave together genres including Japanese stand-up comedy, Okinawan celebratory rituals, and ethnographic studies of war memory, encouraging their audiences to imagine other ways to live in the modern world. Nelson looks at the efforts of performers and activists to wrest the Okinawan past from romantic representations of idyllic rural life in the Japanese media and reactionary appropriations of traditional values by

conservative politicians. In his consideration of *eisā*, the traditional dance for the dead, Nelson finds a practice that reaches beyond the expected boundaries of mourning and commemoration, as the living and the dead come together to create a moment in which a new world might be built from the ruins of the old.

**Ancient Ryukyu** - Richard Pearson 2013-11-30

Who are the people of the Ryukyu Islands? How could they survive and prosper on small, isolated islands? How did the independent Ryukyu Kingdom become a major player in East Asian medieval trade? *Ancient Ryukyu* explores 30,000 years of human occupation in the Ryukyu Islands, from the earliest human presence in the region up to A.D. 1609 and the emergence of the Ryukyu Kingdom. It focuses on the unique geopolitical position of the islands, their environment, and the many human communities whose historical activities can be discerned. Drawing on the impressive work of dozens of local

archaeologists who have brought the islands' early history to life, Richard Pearson describes explorers and sojourners and colonists who arrived thousands of years ago, and their ancient trade links to Japan, Korea, and China.

Through a case study focused on the medieval castles and palaces of the Ryukyu Kingdom, he demonstrates the vigorous trade taking place in East Asia before the arrival of the Europeans in the sixteenth century A.D. He also shows how archaeologists have sought to reconstruct monuments on Okinawa Island that were obliterated in the Battle of Okinawa in 1945. Through analysis of work completed at about 120 sites described in dozens of rare Japanese government reports with limited circulation, Pearson is able to show that many modern features of the culture, politics, and economy of the Ryukyu Islands have very deep roots. The book concludes with a discussion of aspects of Ryukyu archaeology that are significant for world archaeology and the

archaeology of islands. Ancient Ryukyu offers an up-to-date treatment of an unusually long span of human history in the Ryukyu Islands and will become the definitive work in English on the premodern era.

[Okinawa: A People and Their Gods](#) - Robinson, 2005-05-15

Okinawa is a fascinating account of the most unusual religious practices of the Okinawan people. Subject throughout their long history to many foreign influences, the Okinawan people still retain to a remarkable degree a strong reverence for their prehistoric animistic beliefs. nevertheless, in accommodating themselves to the infiltration of Buddhist, Confucian, Shinto, and Christian influences they have been most receptive, with the result that what might seem confusing, illogical, and inconsistent to others, is quite compatible to them. This brief but authoritative account not only correlates present-day practices with their historical development, but also takes notice of current trends and likely future developments in

Okinawa. The text is enhanced with sixteen significant photographs and with nine full-page maps to guide sightseers to Okinawa's most culturally significant places.

*Okinawa: The History of an Island People* - George Kerr  
2000-10-01

"The first full-length monograph on the history of the Ryukyu Islands in any Western language...a standard work."—Pacific Affairs This book is the definitive work on Okinawan History and an important scholarly work in the fields of Japanese studies and Japanese history. Few people can point to Okinawa on a map, yet this tiny island sitting between China and Japan was and continues to be one of the most crucial Asian nerve centers in all U.S. strategic defense. Ninety percent of all U.S. military forces in Japan are located on Okinawa, one of the Ryukyu Islands, and it was through these troops that the martial art of karate was exported to the United States. In *Okinawa: History of an Island People*, noted Eastern affairs

specialist George Kerr recounts the fascinating history of the island and its environs, from 1314 A.D. to the late twentieth century. The histories of Japan, Okinawa and the entire Pacific region are crucially intertwined, so the study of this fascinating chain of islands is crucial to understanding all of East Asia. First published in 1958, this edition features a new introduction and appendix by Okinawa history scholar Mitsugu Sakihara, making this the most comprehensive resource on the small, vital, and intriguing island of Okinawa.

**Speak, Okinawa** - Elizabeth Miki Brina 2021-02-23

A “hauntingly beautiful memoir about family and identity” (NPR) and a young woman's journey to understanding her complicated parents—her mother an Okinawan war bride, her father a Vietnam veteran—and her own, fraught cultural heritage. Elizabeth's mother was working as a nightclub hostess on U.S.-occupied Okinawa when she met the American soldier who would become her husband.

The language barrier and power imbalance that defined their early relationship followed them to the predominantly white, upstate New York suburb where they moved to raise their only daughter. There, Elizabeth grew up with the trappings of a typical American childhood and adolescence. Yet even though she felt almost no connection to her mother's distant home, she also felt out of place among her peers. Decades later, Elizabeth comes to recognize the shame and self-loathing that haunt both her and her mother, and attempts a form of reconciliation, not only to come to terms with the embattled dynamics of her family but also to reckon with the injustices that reverberate throughout the history of Okinawa and its people. Clear-eyed and profoundly humane, *Speak, Okinawa* is a startling accomplishment—a heartfelt exploration of identity, inheritance, forgiveness, and what it means to be an American.

**Uchinanchu, a History of Okinawans in Hawaii** - 1981

Uchinanchu is the term used by Okinawan immigrants and their descendants in Hawai'i to identify themselves as an ethnic group distinct from the Yamatunchu or Naichi of Japan's four main islands. Though Japanese, linguistic and cultural differences as well as their late arrival in the islands made the Uchinanchu targets of Naichi prejudice in the past. Pressure from without and determination from within the group caused Hawai'i's Uchinanchu to pull together with pride in the face of adversity. Some 25,000 men, women, and children left their impoverished Okinawan homeland between 1900 and 1924, hoping for a better life in Hawai'i. Their early experiences were marked by hard, lean years on sugar and pineapple plantations. In this book, eighty- and ninety-year-old issei, first generation immigrants, describe through interviews what it was like to pull up roots in their homeland and make new lives in the islands. The story of the gradual development and

progress of the Okinawan community is unfolded through articles on labor, religion, culture, business, agriculture, government, son (village) clubs, and community-wide organizations. Uchinanchu supports and promotes pride in the culture, history, and contributions of Okinawans in Hawai'i. It also adds another chapter to our understanding of Hawai'i's rich, diverse, multi-ethnic heritage.

*Okinawa* - 1972

[Okinawa: The History of an Island People](#) - George Kerr  
2018-03-06

"The first full-length monograph on the history of the Ryukyu Islands in any Western language... a standard work."—Pacific Affairs Okinawa: The History of an Island People is the definitive book available in English on the history of Okinawa and the Ryukyu Islands, and an influential scholarly work in the field of Japanese studies. The histories of Japan, Okinawa, and the entire Pacific region are crucially intertwined; therefore

the review of this fascinating chain of islands is crucial to understanding all of East Asia. Few people can point to Okinawa on a map, yet this tiny island sitting between China and Japan was and continues to be one of the most crucial Asian nerve centers in all U.S. strategic defense. Ninety percent of all U.S. military forces in Japan are located on Okinawa, and more than 500,000 military personnel and their families have lived there. In *Okinawa: The History of an Island People*, noted Eastern affairs specialist George Kerr recounts the fascinating history of the island and its environs, from 1314 A.D. to the late twentieth century. First published in 1958, this edition features an introduction and appendix by Okinawa history scholar Mitsugu Sakihara, making this the most comprehensive resource on the intriguing island of Okinawa. *Visions of Ryukyu* - Gregory Smits 1999-01-01

Between 1609 and 1879, the geographical, political, and ideological status of the

Kingdom of Ryukyu (modern Okinawa) was characterized by its ambiguity. It was subordinate to its larger neighbors, China and Japan, yet an integral part of neither. A Japanese invasion force from Satsuma had conquered the kingdom in 1609, resulting in its partial incorporation into Tokugawa Japan's bakufu state. Given Ryukyu's long-standing ties with China and East Asian foreign relations following the rise of the Qing dynasty, however, the bakufu maintained only an indirect link with Ryukyu from the mid-seventeenth century onward. Thus Ryukyu was able to exist as a quasi-independent kingdom for more than two centuries—albeit amidst a complex web of trade and diplomatic agreements involving the bakufu, Satsuma, Fujian, and Beijing. During this time, Ryukyu's ambiguous position relative to China and Japan prompted its elites to fashion their own visions of Ryukyuan identity. Created in a dialogic relationship to both a Chinese and Japanese Other,

these visions informed political programs intended to remake Ryukyu. In this innovative and provocative study, Gregory Smits explores early modern perceptions of Ryukyu and their effect on its political culture and institutions. He describes the major historical circumstances that informed early modern discourses of Ryukyuan identity and examines the strategies used by leading intellectual and political figures to fashion, promote, and implement their visions of Ryukyu. Early modern visions of Ryukyu were based on Confucianism, Buddhism, and other ideologies of the time. Eventually one vision prevailed, becoming the theoretical basis of the early modern state by the middle of the eighteenth century. Employing elements of Confucianism, the scholar and government official Sai On (1682-1761) argued that the kingdom's destiny lay primarily with Ryukyuan themselves and that moral parity with Japan and China was within its grasp. Despite Satsuma's

control over its diplomatic and economic affairs, Sai envisioned Ryukyu as an ideal Confucian state with government and state rituals based on the Chinese model. In examining Sai's thought and political program, this volume sheds new light on Confucian praxis and, conversely, uncovers one variety of an East Asian "prenational" imagined political/cultural community.

#### **Okinawa and the U.S.**

**Military** - Masamichi S. Inoue  
2007

Inoue traces these developments as well, revealing the ways in which Tokyo has assisted the United States in implementing a system of governance that continues to expand through the full participation and cooperation of residents."

#### **Maritime Ryukyu,**

**1050-1650** - Gregory Smits  
2018-11-30

Why do Ryukyu's official histories locate the origins of its early dynastic founders in Iheya and Izena, small islands located northwest of Okinawa? Why did the Ming court extend favorable



trade terms to Ryukyuan rulers? What was the nature of Okinawa's enigmatic principalities, Sannan, Chūzan, and Hokuzan? When and how did the Ryukyu islands become united under a single ruler? Was this Ryukyuan state an empire, why did it go to war with the powerful Japanese domain of Satsuma in 1609, and what actually happened during that war? Answers to these and other key questions concerning early Ryukyuan history can be found in this bold reappraisal by a leading authority on the subject. Conventional portrayals of early Ryukyu are based on official histories written between 1650 and 1750. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, Gregory Smits makes extensive use of scholarship in archaeology and anthropology and leverages unconventional sources such as the Omoro sōshi (a collection of ancient songs) to present a fundamental rethinking of early Ryukyu. Instead of treating Ryukyu as a natural, self-contained cultural or political

community, he examines it as part of a maritime network extending from coastal Korea to the islands of Tsushima and Iki, along the western shore of Kyushu, and through the Ryukyu Arc to coastal China. Smits asserts that Ryukyuan culture did not spring from the soil of Okinawa: He highlights Ryukyu's northern roots and the role of wakō (pirate-merchant seafarers) in the formation of power centers throughout the islands, uncovering their close historical connections with the coastal areas of western Japan and Korea. Unlike conventional Ryukyuan histories that open with Okinawa, Maritime Ryukyu starts with the northern island of Kikai, an international crossroads during the eleventh century. It also focuses on other important but often overlooked territories such as the Tokara islands and Kumejima, in addition to bringing the northern and southern Ryukyu islands into a story that all too often centers almost exclusively on Okinawa. Readers interested in the

history of the Ryukyu islands, premodern Japan, and East Asia, as well as maritime history, will welcome this original and persuasive volume.

**Ryukyu Islands** - Source Wikipedia 2013-09

Please note that the content of this book primarily consists of articles available from Wikipedia or other free sources online. Pages: 62. Chapters: Okinawa Prefecture, Ryukyuan people, Ryukyuan languages, Kadena Air Base, History of the Ryukyu Islands, Ry ky Kingdom, Mudan Incident of 1871, Amami Islands, Ryukyuan festivals and observances, List of monarchs of Ryukyu Islands, University of the Ryukyus, Ch zan, Taiwan Expedition of 1874, Sakishima Islands, Pechin, United States Civil Administration of the Ryukyu Islands, Ry ky independence movement, Okinawa Island, Nanzan, Shimazu clan, Hokuzan, Yoronjima, Cactus Ridge, Amami shima, Iriomote, Kikai Caldera, sumi Islands, Miyakojima, Nakanoshima, Ishigaki Island, Kuchinoerabujima, Yaeyama Islands, Kaid glyphs,

Akusekijima, Kuchinoshima, Shimazu Tadatsune, Hatoma, 1959 Kadena Air Base F-100 crash, Genealogy of the Sh Dynasties, Gusuku, Seifa-utaki, Suwanosejima, Hateruma, Taketomi, Miyako Islands, Okinawa Islands, Yukka Nu Hii, International Association of Ryukyuan and Okinawan Studies, Ikemajima, Ryukyu Trench, Sanzan period, Yokoatejima, Sanba, Okinoerabujima, Shimojishima, Ryukyu Islands legislative election, 1968, Ryukyu Islands legislative election, 1962, Minnajima.

**Okinawa: The History of an Island People** - George H. Kerr 2011-10-11

"The first full-length monograph on the history of the Ryukyu Islands in any Western language...a standard work."—Pacific Affairs Okinawa: The History of an Island People is the definitive book available in English on the history of Okinawa and the Ryukyu Islands, and an influential scholarly work in the field of Japanese studies. The histories of Japan, Okinawa and the

entire Pacific region are crucially intertwined; therefore the review of this fascinating chain of islands is crucial to understanding all of East Asia. Few people can point to Okinawa on a map, yet this tiny island sitting between China and Japan is a hub for international affairs. The island was, and continues to be, one of the most crucial Asian nerve centers in all U.S. strategic defense. Ninety percent of all U.S. military forces in Japan are located on Okinawa, and more than 500,000 military personnel and their families have lived there. In *Okinawa: The History of an Island People*, noted Eastern affairs specialist George Kerr recounts the fascinating history of the island and its environs, from 1314 A.D. to the late twentieth century. First published in 1958, this edition features an introduction and appendix by Okinawa history scholar Mitsugu Sakihara, making this the most comprehensive resource on the intriguing island of Okinawa.

Okinawa - Robert Leckie

1996-07-01

Penguin delivers you to the front lines of *The Pacific* Theater with the real-life stories behind the HBO miniseries. Former Marine and Pacific War veteran Robert Leckie tells the story of the invasion of Okinawa, the closing battle of World War II. Leckie is a skilled military historian, mixing battle strategy and analysis with portraits of the men who fought on both sides to give the reader a complete account of the invasion. Lasting 83 days and surpassing D-Day in both troops and material used, the Battle of Okinawa was a decisive victory for the Allies, and a huge blow to Japan. In this stirring and readable account, Leckie provides a complete picture of the battle and its context in the larger war.

*Okinawa* - George Henry Kerr  
1960

**Natsukashii: Uchinaa Nu Umui** - Stephen A. Mick  
McClary 2021-05-21

Where to begin? I began this little narrative with a few questions in mind. Why do I

even want to do this book? To whom do I want to address my commentary? What do I have to offer that you may not have already seen or read somewhere else? Why should you even want to read this? And the one question that we all ask for which we never quite get a good answer: What is Growth Hacking? Hey, Mick! Why do you want to write a book? Because I have some things to share about my experiences on Okinawa. I'm old and may not be around much longer. Some who know me may miss my subjecting them to stories and anecdotes about that little island out in the middle of Nowhere that I love so dearly, so this narrative might serve to pick up where I've left off. Maybe we can just say that this is a legacy project. But, no, it transcends the simplicity of wanting something to be around after I'm an urnful of ashes. I want to reach people who I think may be on the fence about pursuing their latent curiosity about the great Ryky Kingdom. I hope to stimulate them a bit and spur them into

action. I've known so many people during my years on Okinawa who just sat around and whined about being "stuck on this rock" with "nothing to do" but who never worked up the gumption or even the curiosity to go out and look for the countless adventures that existed all around them. Now, ten or twenty, or in some cases forty or fifty years later, I read their lamentations about having never taken advantage of opportunities while there and how now they want to go back to the islands so that they can see, do, and eat the things they so fervently wish they'd have done when they had the chance. It's a pity that most of those who wish they had, will never do so. So then, to answer the second question, who am I trying to reach, I would include those people for sure but I think there are many others who could use a bit of a nudge. For example, folks who are currently living on island but have yet to get out and about. For those who have just begun to get out and about, I hope to give them some inspiration and

maybe some guidance on where to go, what to see and, of course, what I think are great things to eat! I have my favorites but would never presume to tell anyone what's the best, or where's the best places for truly adventuresome sight-seeing or dining. Those are decisions made by each person for themselves and what they deem to be the best is a very personal thing. But for gosh-sakes, at least get out there and try a bit of everything! There are folks who once lived there and want to go back. A lot of them are discouraged by what they've read about how the island "just ain't the same" as when they were there in the 1950s, '60s, or even eight years ago! Sure, it has changed, but so has your home town, my home town, everyone's home town. Only the most remote, and probably most unexciting places have remained unchanged. I believe that in each and every one of those changed places, if you look hard enough, and if you ask enough questions of the locals, you can find pieces of

the past that are still alive and well. I will be happy to know that I've reached some people who have never been to Okinawa but are considering it for a vacation adventure. After reading more about some of the places to go and a bit of the history associated with those places, they might be more inclined to decide that it's well worth making the trip.

*The Okinawan Diaspora in Japan* - Steve Rabson  
2012-01-31

The experiences of Okinawans in mainland Japan, like those of migrant minorities elsewhere, derive from a legacy of colonialism, war, and alien rule. Okinawans have long coped with a society in which differences are often considered "strange" or "wrong," and with a central government that has imposed a mono-cultural standard in education, publicly priding itself on the nation's mythical "homogeneity." They have felt strong pressures to assimilate by adopting mainland Japanese culture and concealing or discarding their own. Recently,

however, a growing pride in roots has inspired more Okinawan migrants and their descendants to embrace their own history and culture and to speak out against inequities. Their experiences, like those of minorities in other countries, have opened them to an acute and illuminating perspective, given voice in personal testimony, literature, and song. Although much has been written on Okinawan emigration abroad, this is the first book in English to consider the Okinawan diaspora in Japan. It is based on a wide variety of secondary and primary sources, including interviews conducted by the author in the greater Osaka area over a two-year period. The work begins with the experiences of women who worked in Osaka's spinning factories in the early twentieth century, covers the years of the Pacific War and the prolonged U.S. military occupation of Okinawa, and finally treats the period following Okinawa's reversion to Japan in 1972. Throughout, it examines the impact of government and

corporate policies, along with popular attitudes, for a compelling account of the Okinawan diaspora in the context of contemporary Japan's struggle to acknowledge its multiethnic society. The Okinawan Diaspora in Japan will find a ready audience among students of contemporary Japanese history and East Asian societies, as well as general readers interested in Okinawans and other minorities living in Japan.

**Bloody Okinawa** - Joseph Wheelan 2021-04-20

A stirring narrative of World War II's final major battle--the Pacific war's largest, bloodiest, most savagely fought campaign--the last of its kind. On Easter Sunday, April 1, 1945, more than 184,000 US troops began landing on the only Japanese home soil invaded during the Pacific war. Just 350 miles from mainland Japan, Okinawa was to serve as a forward base for Japan's invasion in the fall of 1945. Nearly 140,000 Japanese and auxiliary soldiers fought with suicidal tenacity from hollowed-

out, fortified hills and ridges. Under constant fire and in the rain and mud, the Americans battered the defenders with artillery, aerial bombing, naval gunfire, and every infantry tool. Waves of Japanese kamikaze and conventional warplanes sank 36 warships, damaged 368 others, and killed nearly 5,000 US seamen. When the slugfest ended after 82 days, more than 125,000 enemy soldiers lay dead--along with 7,500 US ground troops. Tragically, more than 100,000 Okinawa civilians perished while trapped between the armies. The brutal campaign persuaded US leaders to drop the atomic bomb instead of invading Japan. Utilizing accounts by US combatants and Japanese sources, author Joseph Wheelan endows this riveting story of the war's last great battle with a compelling human dimension.

Okinawa, the History of an Island People by George H. Kerr  
- George H. Kerr

**Okinawan Diaspora** - Ronald Y. Nakasone 2002-02-28

The first Okinawan immigrants arrived in Honolulu in January 1900 to work as contract laborers on Hawai'i's sugar plantations. Over time Okinawans would continue migrating east to the continental U.S., Canada, Brazil, Peru, Argentina, Bolivia, Mexico, Cuba, Paraguay, New Caledonia, and the islands of Micronesia. The essays in this volume commemorate these diasporic experiences within the geopolitical context of East Asia. Using primary sources and oral history, individual contributors examine how Okinawan identity was constructed in the various countries to which Okinawans migrated, and how their experiences were shaped by the Japanese nation-building project and by globalization. Essays explore the return to Okinawan sovereignty, or what Nobel Laureate Oe Kenzaburo called an "impossible possibility," and the role of the Okinawan labor diaspora in Japan's imperial expansion into the Philippines and Micronesia. Contributors: Arakaki Makoto,

Robert K. Arakaki, Hokama Shuzen, Edith M. Kaneshiro, Ronald Y. Nakasone, Nomura Koya, Shiota Chika, Tomiyama Ichiro, Wesley Ueunten.

*Liminality of the Japanese Empire* - Hiroko Matsuda  
2018-10-31

Okinawa, one of the smallest prefectures of Japan, has drawn much international attention because of the long-standing presence of US bases and the people's resistance against them. In recent years, alternative discourses on Okinawa have emerged due to the territorial disputes over the Senkaku Islands, and the media often characterizes Okinawa as the borderland demarcating Japan, China (PRC), and Taiwan (ROC). While many politicians and opinion makers discuss Okinawa's national and security interests, little attention is paid to the local perspective toward the national border and local residents' historical experiences of border crossings. Through archival research and first-hand oral histories, Hiroko Matsuda uncovers the stories of common

people's move from Okinawa to colonial Taiwan and describes experiences of Okinawans who had made their careers in colonial Taiwan. Formerly the Ryukyu Kingdom and a tributary country of China, Okinawa became the southern national borderland after forceful Japanese annexation in 1879. Following Japanese victory in the First Sino-Japanese War and the cession of Taiwan in 1895, Okinawa became the borderland demarcating the Inner Territory from the Outer Territory. The borderland paradoxically created distinction between the two sides, while simultaneously generating interactions across them. Matsuda's analysis of the liminal experiences of Okinawan migrants to colonial Taiwan elucidates both Okinawans' subordinate status in the colonial empire and their use of the border between the nation and the colony. Drawing on the oral histories of former immigrants in Taiwan currently living in Okinawa and the Japanese main islands, Matsuda debunks the conventional view



that Okinawa's local history and Japanese imperial history are two separate fields by demonstrating the entanglement of Okinawa's modernity with Japanese colonialism. The first English-language book to use the oral historical materials of former migrants and settlers—most of whom did not experience the Battle of Okinawa—*Liminality of the Japanese Empire* presents not only the alternative war experiences of Okinawans but also the way in which these colonial memories are narrated in the politics of war memory within the public space of contemporary Okinawa.

*Military Government in the Ryukyu Islands, 1945-1950* -

Arnold G. Fisch 1988

Military government on Okinawa from the first stages of planning until the transition toward a civil administration.

### **Rethinking Postwar**

**Okinawa** - Pedro Iacobelli  
2017-11-22

This collection provides a multidisciplinary study of postwar and contemporary Okinawa. The contributors

analyze the unique social and cultural transformations that have occurred outside the context of American military control or US-Japan relations. [Islands of Protest](#) - Davinder L. Bhowmik 2016-01-31

Literature is an important vehicle to further knowledge of other cultures, and English translations of Okinawan literary works have had a major impact on the field of Okinawan studies. Yet the riches of Okinawa's literature have yet to be adequately mined. *Islands of Protest* attempts to address this lacuna with this new selection of critically acclaimed modern and contemporary works in English. The anthology includes poetry, fiction, and drama, drawing on Okinawa's distinct culture and subtropical natural environment to convey the emotions and tensions present in everyday life. Tōma Hiroko's poem "Backbone" juxtaposes the natural environment of aquamarine beaches and subtropical flora and fauna with the built environment of America's military bases. Stories by two of Okinawa's

most dynamic contemporary authors display wide breadth, from the preservation of island dances and burial practices in Sakiyama Tami's "Island Confinement" and "Come Swaying, Come Swinging" to the bold, disquieting themes of violence and comfort women in Medoruma Shun's "Hope," "Taiwan Woman," and "Tree of Butterflies." The crown jewel of the anthology, Chinen Seishin's play *The Human Pavilion*, is based on an infamous historical incident in which Okinawans were put on display during a 1903 industrial exhibition in Osaka. In his 1978 masterpiece, Chinen depicts the relentless pressure on Okinawans to become more Japanese. Given the controversial presence of U.S. military forces in Okinawa, this book is particularly timely. Disputes between the United States and Japanese governments over construction of a new marine airbase at Henoko have led to the resignation of Japan's prime minister, the election of an anti-base governor, and repeated protests. *Islands of Protest*

offers a compelling entrée into a complex culture, one marked by wartime decimation, relentless discrimination, and fierce resistance, yet often overshadowed by the clichéd notion of a gentle Okinawa so ceaselessly depicted in Japan's mass media.

*Above the East China Sea* - Sarah Bird 2014-05-27

In her most ambitious, moving, and provocative novel to date, Sarah Bird makes a stunning departure. *Above the East China Sea* tells the entwined stories of two teenaged girls, an American and an Okinawan, whose lives are connected across seventy years by the shared experience of profound loss, the enduring strength of an ancient culture, and the redeeming power of family love. Luz James, a contemporary U.S. Air Force brat, lives with her strictly-by-the-rules sergeant mother at Kadena Air Base in Okinawa. Luz's older sister, her best friend and emotional center, has just been killed in the Afghan war. Unmoored by her sister's death and a lifetime of

constant moving from base to base, Luz turns for the comfort her service-hardened mother cannot offer to the “Smokinawans,” the “waste cases,” who gather to get high every night in a deserted cove. When even pills, one-hitters, Cuervo Gold, and a growing crush on Jake Furusato aren’t enough to soften the unbearable edge, the desolate girl contemplates taking her own life. In 1945, Tamiko Kokuba, along with two hundred of her classmates, is plucked out of her elite girls’ high school and trained to work in the Imperial Army’s horrific cave hospitals. With defeat certain, Tamiko finds herself squeezed between the occupying Japanese and the invading Americans. She believes she has lost her entire family, as well as the island paradise she so loved, and, like Luz, she aches with a desire to be reunited with her beloved sister. On an island where the spirits of the dead are part of life and your entire clan waits for you in the afterworld, suicide offers Tamiko the

promise of peace. As Luz tracks down the story of her own Okinawan grandmother, she discovers that, if she surrenders to the most unbrat impulse and allows herself to connect completely with a place and its people, the ancestral spirits will save not only Tamiko but her as well. Propelled by a riveting narrative and set at the very epicenter of the headline-grabbing clash now emerging between the great powers, *Above the East China Sea* is at once a remarkable chronicle of how war shapes the lives of conquerors as well as the conquered and a deeply moving account of family, friendship, and love that transcends time. This eBook edition includes a Reading Group Guide.

**The Ryukyu Kingdom -**

Mamoru Akamine 2016-12-31

This English translation of a key work by one of Okinawa’s most respected historians, Mamoru Akamine, provides a compelling new picture of the role played by the Ryukyu Kingdom in the history of East Asia. Okinawa Island, from which the present-

day Japanese prefecture derives its name, is the largest of the Ryukyu Islands, an archipelago that stretches between Japan and Taiwan. In the present volume, Akamine chronicles the rise of the Ryukyu Kingdom in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, when it played a major part in East Asian trade and diplomacy. Then Ryukyu was indeed the cornerstone in a vibrant East Asian trade sphere centered on Ming China, linking what we now call Japan, Korea, and China to Southeast Asia. With historical and cultural connections to both Japan and China, Ryukyu also mediated diplomatically between the two nations, whose leaders more often than not refused to deal with each other directly. But eventually the kingdom became a victim of its own success. Political developments in China and Japan starting in the sixteenth century brought great changes to the region, and in 1609 Ryukyu was invaded by Satsuma, Japan's southernmost domain. The China-Japan geopolitical rivalry

would in time be acted out within Ryukyu itself, as one faction strove to maintain ties with China while another supported union with rapidly modernizing Japan. Throughout the work Akamine's approach to Ryukyu history is distinguished by his expert use of Chinese and Korean sources, which allows him to examine events from several different angles. This contributes to a broad, sweeping narrative, revealing an East Asia made up of many shifting and interrelated parts—not just nation states pursuing their own interests. Akamine's facility with Chinese texts in particular uncovers telling details that add considerably to the historical record. His meticulous account of one of Ryukyu's tribute missions to China, for example, or the role of feng shui in the design of Shuri Castle, the royal and administrative center of the kingdom, is detailed without being pedantic. As a result, readers will come away with a broader, more informed understanding of Ryukyu's

significance in the region and the complexity of its relations with its neighbors.

**Islands of Discontent** - Laura Elizabeth Hein 2003

Examining contemporary Okinawan culture, politics, and historical memory, this book traces the dynamic reconstruction and reframing of Okinawan identity. The contributors explore the cultural and political expression that has flowered in the past decade with the vigorous growth of local museums and memorials and of the popularity of distinctive Okinawan music and literature, as well as of political movements targeting both U.S. military bases and Japanese national policy on ecological, developmental, and equity grounds. A key strategy has been the mobilization of historical memory, particularly recalling the violent subordination of Okinawan interests to those of the Japanese and American wartime and occupation governments. With its intertwining themes of memory, nationality, ethnicity, and

cultural conflict in contemporary society, the book will be valuable reading for scholars and students across the social sciences and humanities.

**Women of Okinawa** - Ruth Ann Keyso 2000

"Three of the women were born before the Pacific War, and their first memories of Americans are of troops coming ashore with bayonets fixed. A second group, now middle-aged, grew up in the 1950s and 1960s, when massive American bases were a fixture of the landscape. The youngest women, for whom the bases are a historical accident, are in their twenties and thirties, raised in a country increasingly confident of its status as a world power."

Okinawa - Susumu Higa  
2023-07-11

Okinawa brings together two collections of intertwined stories by the island's pre-eminent mangaka, Susumu Higa, which reflect on this difficult history and pull together traditional Okinawan spirituality, the modern-day

realities of the continuing US military occupation, and the senselessness of the War. The first collection, *Sword of Sand*, is a ground level, unflinching look at the horrors of the Battle of Okinawa. Higa then turns an observant eye to the present-day in Mabui (Okinawan for "spirit"), where he explores how the American occupation has irreversibly changed the island prefecture, through the lens of the archipelago's indigenous spirituality and the central character of the yuta priestess. [Night in the American Village](#) - Akemi Johnson 2019-06-18 "A lively encounter with identity and American military history in Okinawa. *Night in the American Village* is by turns intellectual, hip, and sexy. I admire it for its ferocity, style, and vigor. A wonderful book." —Anthony Swofford, author of *Jarhead* A beautifully written examination of the complex relationship between the women living near the U.S. bases in Okinawa and the servicemen who are stationed there At the southern end of the Japanese archipelago lies Okinawa, host to a vast

complex of U.S. military bases. A legacy of World War II, these bases have been a fraught issue in Japan for decades—with tensions exacerbated by the often volatile relationship between islanders and the military, especially after the brutal rape of a twelve-year-old girl by three servicemen in the 1990s. But the situation is more complex than it seems. In *Night in the American Village*, journalist Akemi Johnson takes readers deep into the "border towns" surrounding the bases—a world where cultural and political fault lines compel individuals, both Japanese and American, to continually renegotiate their own identities. Focusing on the women there, she follows the complex fallout of the murder of an Okinawan woman by an ex-U.S. serviceman in 2016 and speaks to protesters, to women who date and marry American men and groups that help them when problems arise, and to Okinawans whose family members survived World War II. Thought-provoking and timely,

Night in the American Village is a vivid look at the enduring wounds of U.S.-Japanese history and the cultural and sexual politics of the American military empire.

*The Taiwan Confrontation Crisis*  
- George H. Kerr 1986

**Grenade** - Alan Gratz

2019-01-03

It's 1945, and the world is in the grip of war. Hideki lives with his family on the island of Okinawa, near Japan. When the Second World War crashes onto his shores, Hideki is drafted to fight for the Japanese army. He is handed a grenade and a set of instructions: Don't come back until you've killed an American soldier. Ray, a young American Marine, has just landed on Okinawa. This is Ray's first-ever battle, and he doesn't know what to expect -- or if he'll make it out alive. All he knows that the enemy is everywhere. Hideki and Ray each fight their way across the island, surviving heart-pounding ambushes and dangerous traps. But then the two of them collide in the

middle of the battle... And choices they make in that single instant will change everything. Alan Gratz, New York Times bestselling author of *Refugee*, returns with this high-octane story of how fear and war tear us apart, but how hope and redemption tie us together. Reviews for *Refugee*: "An absolute must read for people of all ages" - Hannah Greendale, Goodreads "Like RJ Palacio's *Wonder*, this book should be mandatory reading..." - Skip, Goodreads "I liked how the book linked history with adventure, and combined to make a realistic storyline for all three characters" - AJH, aged 11, Topsta

**Speak, Okinawa** - Elizabeth Miki Brina 2022-03-01

A "hauntingly beautiful memoir about family and identity" (NPR) and a young woman's journey to understanding her complicated parents—her mother an Okinawan war bride, her father a Vietnam veteran—and her own, fraught cultural heritage. Elizabeth's mother was working as a

nightclub hostess on U.S.-occupied Okinawa when she met the American soldier who would become her husband.

The language barrier and power imbalance that defined their early relationship followed them to the predominantly white, upstate New York suburb where they moved to raise their only daughter. There, Elizabeth grew up with the trappings of a typical American childhood and adolescence. Yet even though she felt almost no connection to her mother's distant home, she also felt out of place among her peers. Decades later, Elizabeth comes to recognize the shame and self-loathing that haunt both her and her mother, and attempts a form of reconciliation, not only to come to terms with the embattled dynamics of her family but also to reckon with the injustices that reverberate throughout the history of Okinawa and its people. Clear-eyed and profoundly humane, *Speak, Okinawa* is a startling accomplishment—a heartfelt exploration of identity, inheritance, forgiveness, and

what it means to be an American.

*Okinawa* - George H. Kerr 1980

Battle of Okinawa - World War II  
- Hourly History 2019-09-03

Battle of Okinawa - World War II  
The Battle of Okinawa was the deadliest campaign of the Pacific during World War II. The Americans had come back from the demoralizing defeat at Pearl Harbor to mount a ferocious attack against the Japanese. To be able to invade Japan, the Americans had to take Okinawa. But the Japanese, determined to defend their homeland and preserve their way of life, would fight to the death against the invaders. As the Army and Marines fought bloody battles to gain Okinawa inch by inch, the Navy was subjected to kamikaze attacks. Inside you will read about... ✓  
Revenge for Pearl Harbor ✓  
Kamikaze: The Divine Wind ✓  
Hell's Own Cesspool ✓  
Fight to the Last Man ✓  
Ernie Pyle And much more! For almost three months, the Americans and the Japanese contested one another in a battle of



endurance that highlighted the courage of the fighting men of both nations. Ultimately, the Japanese lacked the resources of the Americans, and the Americans claimed the island. But the Americans had learned a deadly lesson from the Battle of Okinawa; if the Japanese fought this hard to protect one island, how much harder would they fight to preserve Japan itself, the last vestige of their empire? To save American lives, military leaders decided that they would utilize another, deadlier weapon to bring the Japanese to their knees. The atom bomb and the nuclear age rose from the ashes of the Japanese defeat at Okinawa.

Tennozan - George Feifer 1992  
Tennozan offers a remarkable account of the battle of Okinawa, the largest land-sea-air engagement in history. It examines the disastrous collision of three disparate cultures--American, Japanese, and Okinawan--and provides the context for understanding the decision to drop the atomic bomb. 41 photographs.

**Okinawa, Japan** - Hudson

Benjamin 2017-10-14  
Okinawa, Japan. The People, History, World War II, Culture and Tradition. Travel and Tourism. Before Okinawa, there was Ryukyu, an independent kingdom ruled by its kings, its people seafarers prospering through trade with China and other neighboring countries. In 1609, Ryukyu was invaded by Satsuma Han forces and incorporated into mainland Japan's Tokugawa Era "bakuhan" feudal regime. Okinawa prefecture was created in 1879 when Japan's new Meiji government abolished hans (feudal domains). During the Pacific War, the people of Okinawa were engulfed in the war's only land battle on Japanese territory. After the war, America retained control of Okinawa until 1972 when sovereignty reverted to Japan. Japan's only prefecture in the subtropical latitudes, Okinawa enjoys a mild climate all year round. With schools of brightly tropical fish, the coral reef seas support a rich profusion of life. In the forests of northern Okinawa

island and Iriomote island, rare animals Yambaru Kuina (Okinawa Rail) and Iriomote Wildcat live, and they are known worldwide as rare and important creatures. Okinawa is one of most popular resorts in Japan and there are a great number of fine hotels. Okinawa is located at southernmost area in Japan and its north latitude is between 24 degrees and 28 degrees. Okinawa is the only region in Japan that belongs to the subtropical oceanic climate. Okinawa has interesting cultures, heritages, nature and delicious foods. The committee

members believe that all participants will have excellent experiences in Okinawa, Japan. Resistant Islands - Gavan McCormack 2018-03-08 Resistant Islands offers an overview of Okinawan history, focusing on the colonization by Japan, its fate during World War II, and its status as a US military base. This new edition includes an analysis of events since the book first published, including the deployment of MV-22 Ospreys, the approval of the new base, and the “all-Okinawa movement.” **OKINAWA** - 沖縄県 2015