

Abstracts

Yorozu Tetsugoro's Passion for Religion—The Eve of Studying Zen: Seen from His Diary of Adolescence

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In this paper, considering his relationship with religion, we review the environment around Yorozu Tetsugoro (1885-1927) by looking through his diary he wrote at the age of 18 when he was a student at the Waseda Junior Highschool in Tokyo. In 1904 (Meiji 37) when the diary was written, it is said that Yorozu started to connect with Zen. However, there is no such description in his diary. Instead, from his description stating he went out for Christian Sunday lectures with acquaintances and bought several books of Jodo-Shinshu Buddhism group, we can see that regardless of Buddhism or Christianity, he became interested in religion itself. During the late Meiji and Taisho Period in Tokyo, religionists and the like were extremely active, and many young people, mostly students, followed them. Back in Yorozu's hometown, Hanamaki, Iwate Prefecture, religionists in Tokyo were invited by local intellectuals and students for missionary, and thus close exchanges through religion were seen there. In this sense, around Yorozu there was an environment that accepted religion whether in Tokyo or Hanamaki, and thus people close to him were also influenced and connected by religion. Shortly after that he would go into Zen, so his diary would tell us in fragments how he behaved before studying Zen.

Eguchi Sogen's Private Records (2) 1986-1991

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Eguchi Sogen passed away on November 16, 2018, and his wife Sumie passed away at the end of June, 2021. The author received a request to organize Sogen's belongings in 2022. Among them, the author found three types of records that Sogen used as his own records.

① Notebooks: 1958-1962 ※

② Journals: 1966-2017 ※

③ Miscellaneous notes: 1983-1996

※Some years of records are missing

This article is my transcription of these private records and notes. It features calligraphy, arts, attitude to his work and view of life. This is the second part of the continuation of Eguchi Sogen's Private Records (1) from the previous issue. These records are from the period of 1986 to 1991.