



Karl Friedrich August Gützlaff
Journal of three voyages
along the coast of China in 1831, 1832, & 1833:
with notices of Siam, Corea, and the Loo-choo islands
London, 1834

The author Karl Friedrich August Gützlaff (1803-1851), anglicized as Charles Gutzlaff, is a German missionary. As a member of the London Missionary Society, he engaged in missionary work in the Orient, including in Thailand and China. This book is comprised of the records of his three voyages to areas off the coast of the East China Sea.

During his second voyage, Gützlaff's delegation departed the port of Macao, made a port call at Naha Port of Ryukyu Islands in August 1832, via a few other countries and regions including Taiwan and Korea. In the island, which was under the influence of the anti-Christian element of Japan's seclusion policy at that time, Gützlaff managed to present three Bibles to the Ryukyu king. Gützlaff interacted with the Ryukyu people and observed their politics, religion, and language.

Gützlaff later boarded the American merchant ship Morrison as an interpreter and visited the coast of Uruga and the Kagoshima Bay. Gützlaff was evicted when the ship was bombarded under the Japanese feudal government's Edict to Repel Foreign Vessels (Morrison Incident, 1837), and thus failed to make a landing in Japan. He learned Japanese in Macao from Japanese castaways, such as Otokichi, and translated *Yohane Fukuin No Den* [The Gospel of St. John] (1837). This is known to be the oldest remaining Japanese translation of the Bible.