

The Life and Philosophy of Shuzo Kuki

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This lecture considers the kinds of problems that existed in Shuzo Kuki's life and how they influenced his philosophy. Centrally, The experience of his mother's misery was crucial to his work on the problem of contingency. When humans who periodically bear such a tragic reality, how can (or should) a person live in that reality? Kuki's philosophy contains an answer to precisely this question. Kuki concludes that contingency should be understood as fate. Kuki's idea is that through subjective will meaningless contingencies should be given meanings. The lecture concludes by showing how Kuki's philosophy has contemporary significance.