Ario and His Signs

I heard someone is making road signs for us. Is that you?



甲斐有雄は1829年(文政12年)に阿蘇郡野尻村(今の高森町)に生まれました。その頃の 野尻は、旅人の行き来も多くて栄えた村でした。ところが、その頃困った問題がありました。 腕のよい石工になった有雄はある決心をしました。

Kai Ario thought "There are so many people who lose their way. What can I do for them? ... I can make road signs with stones. I will set them up for travelers. Stones are good for road signs because they don't move. They will surely help travelers."



He worked very hard. Every day after finishing his own work, he engraved the stones.

The road signs were built one after the other by Ario. The people of the village helped to set up the stones. They were

·lose one's way 道に迷う

・set ~ up ~を設置する ·traveler 旅人 road sign 標識,道しるべ ・surely きっと,必ず

•engrave ~を彫る

•one after the other 次々に

very heavy, but people were willing to help him. The signs made many travelers feel at ease.

He made a lot of road signs not only in Kumamoto but also in Miyazaki and Oita. In total, 1,824 road signs were made by him. They helped a lot of people find their way.



▲道しるべ

More than 100 years have passed since he made his road signs. Even today we can see some of the signs he made on the roads around Takamori.

甲斐有雄は約50年もの間、旅人が山中で







- be willing to ~ 喜んで~する make ~ feel at ease ~を安心させる
- •not only A but also B AばかりでなくBも
- ·in total 全部で
- help ~ find their way ~が道を見つけるのに役立つ