Crustal movement on the south coast of Kii peninsula, southwest Japan

*Mitsuhisa Watanabe¹

1. Faculty of Sociology, Toyo University

The raised marine terrace surfaces and the emerged sessile assemblages along the southern coast of the Kii Peninsula have the highest altitudes close to the Enshu-nada flexure and its westward extension. The mode of their height distribution is different from that of crustal movement accompanied with the Nankaido earthquake in 1946. In addition, terrace surfaces are bent to the sea back-facing fault scarplets on them in some places. These tectono-geomorphic features indicate that the unusual and eventual emergence of the coastal area has been caused not by plate boundary active faults but by the active flexure fringing the area.

Keywords: marine terrace, flexure, back-facing fault scarplet, uplifted sessile assemblage, marine active fault