

## Biographical Information

### Royalty and Government Officials of Japan

#### The Emperor and Empress

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, Hirohito, was born in Tokyo on April 29, 1901, and studied at the Peers' School and at a special institute established for his education.

Following a journey to European countries for six months, he became Prince Regent in 1921 and married in 1924. Upon the demise of Emperor Taisho in 1926, His Majesty succeeded to the Throne. The formal accession took place in 1928.

His Majesty is well known as a devoted student of marine biology and has published books on his discovery of new species.

Her Majesty the Empress, Nagako, was born in Tokyo on March 6, 1903, as the first daughter of the late Prince Kuni. She studied at the Peers' School for Girls before her marriage. Her Majesty is very fond of music and painting in the Japanese style and is considered an accomplished artist in both fields. She also enjoys composing poems and writing calligraphy.

Following the war, Their Majesties traveled often and extensively throughout the country to meet the people and encourage them in their efforts to rehabilitate the nation. Today, their concern is directed to the nation's social and economic development and they frequently attend numerous events such as Tree-Planting Ceremonies held every spring and the National Sports Festival held every autumn. They also take a deep interest in cultural, social and educational affairs, often inspecting facilities as well as attending exhibitions and concerts to express their support of these activities.

#### The Crown Prince

His Imperial Highness, Crown Prince Akihito, was born in Tokyo on December 23, 1933. Following his graduation from Gakushuin High School in 1952, he studied at Gakushuin University until 1956.

The Crown Prince is an active sportsman, particularly in tennis and horsemanship. He also shares his father's interest in marine biology.

In 1953, His Imperial Highness made a six months' tour of 14 countries in North America and Western Europe. The tour was occasioned by his visit to London as the Emperor's representative to attend the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

In April 1959, he married Miss Michiko Shoda, the daughter of a businessman. Since then, the Imperial couple has made seven goodwill tours abroad covering 16 countries.

### Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka

Born in Niigata Prefecture on May 4, 1918, he graduated from a technical high school in 1936. He immediately went into the construction business by establishing a small firm, which he expanded seven years later into the Tanaka Construction Company. In December 1950 he became president of the Nagaoka Railroad Company. At 29 he was one of the youngest to be elected to the House of Representatives in 1947. Since then he has been returned ten times. He has held such Cabinet posts as Postal and Communications Minister, Finance Minister and International Trade and Industry Minister. He became Prime Minister in July 1972 by defeating his arch rival, Takeo Fukuda, in a party election by a vote of 282-190.

### Foreign Minister Toshio Kimura

Born on January 15, 1909, he graduated from the faculty of political science of Tokyo University in 1935 and from the faculty of jurisprudence of the same university in 1938. In April that year he joined the Department of Communications. He was elected to the House of Representatives in January 1949 and has been returned to the Lower House eight times. He has held such posts as Chief Cabinet Secretary, Director-General of the Economic Planning Agency and State Minister. He was appointed Foreign Minister in the Tanaka Cabinet on July 16, 1974. He was retained in the Cabinet reshuffle of November 11, 1974.

### Finance Minister Masayoshi Ohira

Born in Kagawa Prefecture on March 12, 1910, he was graduated from the Tokyo University of Commerce in 1936 and immediately joined the Ministry of Finance. He was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1952 and has been returned eight times thereafter. He has held such posts as Chief Cabinet Secretary, Foreign Minister, International Trade and Industry Minister and Finance Minister. He shifted from the Foreign Ministry to head the Finance Ministry when Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka reshuffled his Cabinet on November 11, 1974. He has his own faction within the LDP.

### International Trade and Industry Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone

Born in Gumma Prefecture on May 27, 1918, he was graduated from the faculty of political science of the Law Department of Tokyo University in 1941. After passing the higher civil service examination for administration, he entered the Home Ministry but was immediately called to the colors as a naval lieutenant. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 1948, and since then has been returned ten times. He has held such Cabinet posts as Director-General of the Science and Technology Agency, Chairman

of the Atomic Energy Commission, Transportation Minister, Director-General of the Defense Agency and International Trade and Industry Minister. He has been in his present post since July 1972. Like Masayoshi Ohira, he has his own faction within the LDP.

Governor Ryokichi Minobe of Metropolitan Tokyo

Born in Tokyo on February 5, 1904. Graduated from Tokyo University in 1927 and thereafter studied in Germany. Professor at Tokyo Educational University, 1949-1967. With support of leftist political parties, won the Metropolitan Tokyo gubernatorial election in April 1967. Reelected for a second term 1971. His current term expires in 1975 and he has expressed intentions of running for a third term.

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