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day 93 reform and revolution

Japanese N1 in 133 days
unit 15 · government & the world

Read and talk about reform, revolution and government (bureaucrats, administration, bills and votes), and set a statement in its situation with ～にあって.

Politics and history pages are full of formal words like 改革, 行政 and 議決, and ～にあって (in the midst of, in the position of) is how editorials and speeches frame a hard situation.

words

word	kana	meaning	example
伊	い · i	Italy (short form, in the news)	伊外相が、来週来日する。 The Italian foreign minister is coming to Japan next week.
戦	いくさ · ikusa	war, battle (old, literary)	この城は、昔の戦で焼けた。 This castle burned down in a war long ago.
公	おおやけ · ōyake	public, official	その事実は、十年後に公になった。 The fact became public ten years later.
侵す	おかす · okasu	to violate, invade (rights, borders)	他人の権利を侵してはいけない。 You must not violate other people's rights.
改革	かいかく · kaikaku	reform	政府は、税の制度の改革を進めている。 The government is pushing ahead with tax reform.
会談	かいだん · kaidan	talks (between leaders)	二人の外相の会談は、2時間続いた。 The two foreign ministers' talks lasted two hours.
介入	かいにゅう · kainyū	intervention	国が経済に介入するべきか、意見が分かれている。 Opinions are divided on whether the state should intervene in the economy.
革命	かくめい · kakumei	revolution	鉄道は、人の移動に革命を起こした。 Railways revolutionised the way people travel.
干渉	かんしょう · kanshō	interference, meddling	親の干渉を嫌がる子供は多い。 Lots of children hate their parents meddling.
官僚	かんりょう · kanryō	bureaucrat, government official	官僚の書いた文章は、読みにくいことが多い。 Texts written by bureaucrats are often hard to read.
外相	がいしょう · gaishō	foreign minister	外相は、記者の質問に短く答えた。 The foreign minister gave short answers to the reporters' questions.
棄権	きけん · kiken	abstention; withdrawal (from a race)	彼は、マラソンを途中で棄権した。 He dropped out of the marathon halfway.
休戦	きゅうせん · kyūsen	ceasefire, truce	休戦は、わずか三日で終わった。 The ceasefire lasted only three days.

共産	きょうさん · kyōsan	communism (in compounds)	共産主義の国は、今では少ない。 There are few communist countries today.
協調	きょうちょう · kyōchō	cooperation, working together	この問題の解決には、国際的な協調が必要だ。 Solving this problem needs international cooperation.
協定	きょうてい · kyōtei	agreement, pact	二つの町は、観光の協定を結んだ。 The two towns signed an agreement on tourism.
共和	きょうわ · kyōwa	republic (in compounds)	その国は、革命の後、共和制に変わった。 After the revolution, the country became a republic.
議案	ぎあん · gian	bill; item on the agenda	次の会議では、三つの議案を話し合う。 At the next meeting we'll discuss three items.
議決	ぎけつ · giketsu	resolution, vote (of an assembly)	予算には、議会の議決が必要だ。 The budget needs a vote of the assembly.
議事堂	ぎじどう · gijidō	parliament building, assembly hall	国会議事堂は、平日に見学できる。 You can visit the National Diet Building on weekdays.
行政	ぎょうせい · gyōsei	administration (of government)	行政の手続きは、もっと簡単にできるはずだ。 Government procedures could surely be made simpler.
区	く · ku	ward (of a city)	東京には、23の区がある。 Tokyo has 23 wards.
君主	くんしゅ · kunshu	monarch, sovereign	その国では、君主が今も大きな力を持っている。 In that country, the monarch still holds great power.
軍艦	ぐんかん · gunkan	warship	港には、古い軍艦が今も残っている。 An old warship is still kept in the harbour.
軍事	ぐんじ · gunji	military (affairs)	その島は、軍事的に重要な場所だった。 The island was a militarily important place.

pattern ～にあって (in, in the midst of)

situation / position / time + **にあって** + **how someone acts or feels in it**

Noun + にあって means “being in (this situation)”. It is formal, written Japanese, and it suggests the situation is special or difficult: 厳しい状況にあって (in a tough situation), 責任ある立場にあって (in a position of responsibility). The second half says what people did, or should do, there. With も (にあっても) it means “even in”.

改革の時代にあって、官僚の役割は大きかった。 **kaikaku no jidai ni atte kanryō no yakuwari wa ōkikatta** In an age of reform, bureaucrats played a big part.

責任ある立場にあって、そんな発言は許されない。 **sekinin aru tachiba ni atte sonna hatsugen wa yurusarenai** In a position of responsibility, a remark like that is unacceptable.

不況の中にあっても、その店は客を集め続けた。 **fukyō no naka ni atte mo sono mise wa kyaku o atsume tsuzuketa** Even in the middle of a recession, that shop kept drawing customers.

dialogue an invitation to kyoto

professor ishida トム君、来月京都で開かれる国際学会で、発表してみない？

tomukun raigetsu kyōto de hirakareru kokusai gakkai de happyō shite minai · Tom, how would you like to give a paper at the international conference in Kyoto next month?

tom 僕がですか。うれしいですけど、論文はまだ途中で…。

boku ga desu ka ureshii desu kedo ronbun wa mada tochū de · Me? I'd love to, but my thesis is only half done...

professor ishida 私は「歴史と外交」の討論会で、司会をするの。世界中から学者が来るから、いい経験になるよ。

watashi wa rekishi to gaikō no tōron kai de shikai o suru no sekai jū kara gakusha ga kuru kara ii keiken ni naru yo · I'm chairing a panel on history and diplomacy. Scholars are coming from all over the world, so it'll be good experience.

tom 何について話せばいいでしょうか。

nan ni tsuite hanaseba ii deshō ka · What should I talk about?

professor ishida 150年前の鉄道と国家よ。改革の時代にあって、官僚は何を考えて鉄道を敷いたのか。

150nen mae no tetsudō to kokka yo kaikaku no jidai ni atte kanryō wa nani o kangaete tetsudō o shiita no ka · Railways and the state 150 years ago. In an age of reform, what were the bureaucrats thinking when they built the railways?

tom 外国の干渉を受けないように、鉄道は国が自分で敷くと決めたんですよね。当時としては、前例のない決定でした。

gaikoku no kanshō o ukenai yōni tetsudō wa kuni ga jibun de shiku to kimeta ndesu yo ne tōji to shite wa zenrei no nai kettei deshita · They decided the state would build the railways itself, so as not to be under foreign influence, didn't they? At the time, it was a decision without precedent.

professor ishida そう。外国の介入を許せば、国の独立が侵される。官僚にとっては、考えるだに恐ろしいことだったのね。

sō gaikoku no kainyū o yuruseba kuni no dokuritsu ga okasareru kanryō ni totte wa kangaeru dani osoroshii koto datta no ne · Right. If they let foreigners intervene, the country's independence would be threatened. For the bureaucrats, that was frightening even to think about.

tom 軍事の目的もありました。軍艦だけでなく、鉄道で軍隊を運ぶことも考えていたようです。軍隊専用の列車もあったそうです。

gunji no mokuteki mo arimashita gunkan dake de naku tetsudō de guntai o hakobu koto mo kangaete ita yōdesu guntai sen'yōno ressha mo atta sō desu · There were military aims too. It seems they were thinking of moving troops by rail, not just by warship. Apparently there were even trains just for the army.

professor ishida 行政の資料を読めば、その答えが見えてくるはずよ。公の記録は、建設の総費用まで、図書館に一通り揃っているから。

gyōsei no shiryō o yomeba sono kotae ga miete kuru hazu yo ōyake no kiroku wa kensetsu no sō hiyō made toshokan ni hitotōri sorotte iru kara · If you read the government records, the answer should become clear. The library has more or less all the official records, down to the total cost of construction.

tom 初めての国際学会ですけど、一日たりとも無駄にしないで準備します。

hajimeteno kokusai gakkai desu kedo ichinichi taritomo muda ni shinaide junbi shimasu · It's my first international conference, but I won't waste a single day getting ready.

professor ishida 完璧とは言わないまでも、自分の言葉で話しなさい。国際学会とあって、京都までの費用は大学が出してくれるから。

kanpeki to wa iwanai made mo jibun no kotoba de hanashinasai kokusai gakkai to atte kyōto made no hiyō wa daigaku ga dashite kureru kara · It doesn't have to be perfect, but speak in your own words. And since it's an international conference, the university will pay for your trip to Kyoto.

professor ishida それから、来週までに、学会のホームページで発表の登録をしておいてね。

sorekara raishū made ni gakkai no hōmu pēji de happyō no tōroku o shite oite ne · And register your paper on the conference website by next week.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

抽	lottery, drawing lots
剣	as in 真剣 (しんけん): serious, earnest
墜	fall, crash (from a height)
津	tsunami
墓	はか grave, tomb
避	evacuation, taking shelter

good to know · Noun + にあって: in (a situation, a position, a time). 厳しい状況にあって, 責任ある立場にあって, 改革の時代にあって. にあって is more formal than において or の中で, and it suggests the situation is special or hard: it frames what someone did in it. With も, it means “even in”: 不況の中にあっても、店は客を集めた。

Reform, revolution, bills, votes and treaties: the front page is opening up. And ～にあって lets you say, as an editorial would, what a situation demanded of the people in it.
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day 94 defence and authority

Japanese N1 in 133 days
unit 15 · government & the world

Read about defence, the state and its powers (votes in parliament, the UN, nationalised railways, family registers), and say someone acted undaunted by danger or opposition with ～をものともせず.

History and the news praise people who carried on regardless, and ～をものともせず (undaunted by, in defiance of) is the written way to say it.

words

word	kana	meaning	example
ものともせず	mono tomo sezu	undaunted by, in defiance of	彼は、足の怪我をものともせず、最後まで試合に出た。 Undaunted by his injured leg, he played to the end of the match.
軍備	ぐんび · gunbi	armaments, military preparedness	戦争の後、その国は軍備を大きく減らした。 After the war, that country cut its armed forces sharply.
軍服	ぐんぷく · gunpuku	military uniform	祖父の古い写真には、軍服の若い男が写っている。 In my grandfather's old photo there is a young man in uniform.
決議	けつぎ · ketsugi	resolution (of an assembly)	国連は、すぐに攻撃をやめるよう求める決議を出した。 The UN passed a resolution calling for an immediate end to the attacks.
権力	けんりょく · kenryoku	power, authority	権力を持つ人ほど、謙虚であるべきだ。 The more power people have, the more humble they should be.
元首	げんしゅ · genshu	head of state, sovereign	その国の元首が、来月、日本を訪れる。 That country's head of state will visit Japan next month.
原爆	げんばく · genbaku	atomic bomb	原爆の被害を伝える資料が、今も大切に保存されている。 Records of the damage done by the atomic bomb are still carefully kept.
抗争	こうそう · kōsō	conflict, feud, rivalry	会社の中の抗争で、計画は止まってしまった。 Infighting in the company brought the plan to a halt.
公団	こうだん · kōdan	public corporation	この団地は、昔、住宅公団が作った。 This housing estate was built long ago by the public housing corporation.
公認	こうにん · kōnin	official approval, authorisation	これは、大会公認のボールだ。 This is the official ball of the tournament.
交付	こうふ · kōfu	issue, grant (of documents, money)	新しいパスポートが、今日交付された。 My new passport was issued today.

降伏	こうふく · kōfuku	surrender	敵は、三日後{go-n3-2}に降伏した。 The enemy surrendered three days later.
公用	こうよう · kōyō	official business	大臣は、公用で海外に出かけている。 The minister is abroad on official business.
国土	こくど · kokudo	national land, territory	日本の国土の大部分は、山だ。 Most of Japan's land is mountains.
国防	こくぼう · kokubō	national defence	国防の予算が、毎年増えている。 The defence budget grows every year.
国有	こくゆう · kokuyū	state-owned, nationalised	その森は、国有の土地だ。 That forest is state-owned land.
国連	こくれん · kokuren	the United Nations, UN	国連の本部は、アメリカにある。 The UN headquarters is in the United States.
戸籍	こせき · koseki	family register	結婚すると、二人の新しい戸籍が作られる。 When a couple marries, a new family register is made for them.
国交	こっこう · kokkō	diplomatic relations	二つの国は、長い交渉の後、国交を結んだ。 After long negotiations, the two countries established diplomatic relations.
壕	ごう · gō	trench, dugout, air-raid shelter	祖母は、子供のころ、庭の壕に入ったことを覚えている。 My grandmother remembers going down into the shelter in the garden as a child.
採決	さいけつ · saiketsu	vote (on a motion)	議論が終わり、議長は採決に移った。 The debate ended and the chair moved to a vote.
作戦	さくせん · sakusen	(military) operation; strategy, plan	試合の前に、みんなで作戦を立てた。 Before the match, we all worked out our strategy.
参議院	さんぎいん · sangiin	House of Councillors (upper house)	参議院は、三年ごとに議員の半分を選ぶ。 The House of Councillors elects half its members every three years.
視察	しさつ · shisatsu	inspection, observation visit	大臣は、新しい駅の工事を視察した。 The minister inspected the work on the new station.
支持	しじ · shiji	support, backing	その案は、若い社員の支持を集めた。 The idea won the support of the younger staff.

pattern ～をものともせず **(undaunted by)**

danger / opposition / hardship | **をものともせず** | **someone carries on**

Noun + をものともせず means “treating it as nothing”: someone faced a real obstacle (danger, criticism, a storm) and carried on regardless. It is written and admiring, so it describes other people, never yourself. ものともせず is an old negative of する: “not making it into anything”.

駅の職員は、危険をものともせず、電車を走らせた。 **eki no shokuin wa kiken o mono tomo sezu densha o hashiraseta** Undaunted by the danger, the station staff kept the trams running.

首相は、党の中の抗争をものともせず、改革を進めた。 **shushō wa tō no naka no kōsō o mono tomo sezu kaikaku o susumeta** Undaunted by the infighting in his party, the prime minister pushed on with reform.

国交のない時代に、彼は危険をものともせず海を渡った。 **kokkō no nai jidai ni kare wa kiken o mono tomo sezu umi o watatta** In an age without diplomatic relations, he crossed the sea, undaunted by the danger.

dialogue the photograph

tom アンナ、付き合ってくれてありがとう。この博物館に来ると、戦争の時代の暮らしがよくわかるんだ。

anna tsukiatte kurete arigatō kono hakubutsukan ni kuru to sensō no jidai no kurashi ga yoku wakaru nda · Thanks for coming with me, Anna. This museum really shows you how people lived in wartime.

anna 入口の軍服、本物？思ったより小さいね。

iriguchi no gunpuku honmono omotta yori chiisai ne · Is the uniform at the entrance real? It's smaller than I expected.

tom 当時の人は、今より背が低かったからね。こっちは、家の庭に掘った壕。本物と同じ大きさだよ。空からの攻撃を避けるために、家族で入ったんだ。

tōji no hito wa ima yori se ga hikukatta kara ne kotchi wa ie no niwa ni hotta gō honmono to onaji ōkisa da yo sora kara no kōgeki o sakeru tame ni kazoku de haitta nda · People were shorter then. And this is a shelter like the ones dug in gardens, the same size as the real thing. Families went down into it to escape attacks from the air.

anna こんな狭い所に、家族みんなで…。考えるだに恐ろしいよ。

konna semai tokoro ni kazoku minna de kangaeru dani osoroshii yo · A whole family, in a space this small... It's frightening even to think about.

tom 僕が見たかったのは、この写真。原爆が落ちた三日後の、町の電車だよ。公の記録にも残っているんだ。

boku ga mitakatta no wa kono shashin genbaku ga ochita mikka go no machi no densha da yo ōyake no kiroku ni mo nokotte iru nda · This is the photo I wanted to see. The town's trams, three days after the atomic bomb fell. It's in the official records too.

anna 三日後に、もう走っていたの？

mikka go ni mō hashitte ita no · They were already running three days later?

tom うん。線路も駅も壊れていたのに、職員は危険をものともせず、一部の区間で電車を走らせたんだ。日本が降伏する前のことだよ。

un senro mo eki mo kowarete ita noni shokuin wa kiken o mono tomo sezu ichibu no kukan de densha o hashiraseta nda nihon ga kōfuku suru mae no koto da yo · Yes. The tracks and stations were wrecked, but the staff, undaunted by the danger, got the trams running on part of the line. That was before Japan even surrendered.

anna その話は、聞く人を感動させずにはおかないね。

sono hanashi wa kiku hito o kandōsasezu ni wa okanai ne · That story can't fail to move anyone who hears it.

tom 学会でも、この話をしようと思う。鉄道は軍備や作戦のためだけじゃなく、人の暮らしも支えていた、って。

gakkai demo kono hanashi o shiyōto omou tetsudō wa gunbi ya sakusen no tame dake ja naku hito no kurashi mo sasaete ita tte · I'm going to tell it at the conference too: railways weren't only there for armies and military operations, they kept people's lives going too.

anna いい終わり方だね。…あ、トム、そこに「手を触れるべからず」って書いてあるよ。監視カメラもあるし。

ii owari kata da ne a tomu soko ni te o furerubekarazu tte kaite aru yo kanshi kamera mo aru shi · That's a good way to end. ...Oh, Tom, the sign there says “Do not touch”. And there's a security camera.

tom あっ、ごめんなさい。つい夢中になって…。写真の規制は、去年解除されたんだけどね。

a gomennasai tsui muchū ni natte shashin no kisei wa kyonen kaijosareta nda kedo ne · Oops, sorry. I got carried away... They lifted the ban on photos last year, though.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

鎖
くさり
chain

祉
welfare

誉
honour

棋
as in 将棋 (しょうぎ): shogi (Japanese chess)

伊
い
Italy (short form, in the news)

侵
to violate, invade (rights, borders)

good to know · Noun + をものともせず: undaunted by, ignoring (danger, opposition, bad weather). 危険をものともせず, 反対をものともせず, 雨をものともせず. It praises someone else's courage. Don't use it about yourself, and don't use it for things you simply didn't notice. Close in meaning: ～にもかかわらず (in spite of). をものともせず adds admiration: the obstacle was real, and they beat it.

Parliament, the UN, the family register, a nation's defence: you can read these pages now. And with ～をものともせず you can honour people who did not give way.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

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day 95 elections and policy

Japanese N1 in 133 days
unit 15 · government & the world

Read and talk about elections, policy and modern history (governments, treaties, occupation, neutrality), and say what something seriously affects with ～に関わる.

Election coverage and history books keep weighing what is at stake, and ～に関わる (that affects, that concerns) is how they say a matter touches lives, trust or honour.

words

word	kana	meaning	example
衆議院	しゅうぎいん · shūgiin	House of Representatives (lower house)	衆議院の議員の数は、参議院より多い。 The House of Representatives has more members than the House of Councillors.
主権	しゅけん · shuken	sovereignty	どの国にも、主権がある。 Every country has sovereignty.
首脳	しゅのう · shunō	leader, head (of state, of a company)	七つの国の首脳が、東京に集まった。 The leaders of seven countries gathered in Tokyo.
植民地	しょくみんち · shokuminchi	colony	その国は、百年近く、外国の植民地だった。 That country was a foreign colony for nearly a hundred years.
審議	しんぎ · shingi	deliberation, debate (of a bill)	予算の審議に、長い時間がかかった。 Debate on the budget took a long time.
振興	しんこう · shinkō	promotion, encouragement (of industry)	町は、観光の振興に力を入れている。 The town is working hard to promote tourism.
親善	しんぜん · shinzen	goodwill, friendship (between nations)	二つの国の親善のために、学生の交流が始まった。 A student exchange began to promote friendship between the two countries.
信任	しんにん · shinnin	confidence, trust (from voters, members)	大臣は、国民の信任を失った。 The minister lost the confidence of the people.
侵略	しんりゃく · shinryaku	invasion, aggression	侵略の歴史を、正しく知る必要がある。 We need to know the history of invasion correctly.
条約	じょうやく · jōyaku	treaty	二つの国は、平和の条約に署名した。 The two countries signed a peace treaty.
人民	じんみん · jinmin	the people (formal, political)	政治は、人民のためにあるべきだ。 Government should exist for the people.
政権	せいけん · seiken	government, administration (in power)	新しい政権が、先月生まれた。 The new government came to power last month.
政策	せいさく · seisaku	policy	政府は、新しい教育の政策を発表した。 The government announced a new education policy.

征服	せいふく · seifuku	conquest	この山の征服は、多くの山好きの夢だった。 Conquering this mountain was the dream of many climbers.
勢力	せいりょく · seiryoku	influence, power; force (group)	台風の勢力は、思ったより強かった。 The typhoon was stronger than expected.
選挙	せんきょ · senkyo	election	日曜日の選挙には、五人の候補がいる。 There are five candidates in Sunday's election.
戦災	せんさい · sensai	war damage	この寺は、戦災で焼けてしまった。 This temple burned down in the war.
戦術	せんじゅつ · senjutsu	tactics	監督は、試合の途中で戦術を変えた。 The manager changed tactics halfway through the match.
戦闘	せんとう · sentō	battle, combat, fighting	戦闘は、三日間続いた。 The fighting went on for three days.
占領	せんりょう · senryō	occupation (military); taking up space	その島は、戦争の後、外国の軍に占領された。 After the war, the island was occupied by a foreign army.
戦力	せんりょく · senryoku	fighting strength; key players	彼が抜けると、チームの戦力は大きく下がる。 If he leaves, the team will be much weaker.
蔵相	ぞうしょう · zōshō	finance minister (old title)	昔、財政を担当する大臣は、蔵相と呼ばれていた。 The minister in charge of public finance used to be called the zōshō.
多数決	たすうけつ · tasūketsu	majority vote	クラスの旅行先は、多数決で決めた。 We chose where the class trip would go by majority vote.
脱退	だったい · dattai	withdrawal, leaving (a group)	彼は、去年、サークルから脱退した。 He left the club last year.
中立	ちゅうりつ · chūritsu	neutrality	記者は、中立の立場で書くべきだ。 Reporters should write from a neutral position.

pattern ～に関わる (that affects, serious enough to touch)

life / trust / honour / the future | に関わる | problem / illness / matter

Noun + に関わる says a matter is serious enough to affect something important: 命に関わる病気 (a life-threatening illness), 会社の信用に関わる問題 (a problem that could hurt the company's reputation). It can come before a noun or end the sentence. The verb is 関わる (to be involved), often written in kana: かかわる.

命に関わる病気なので、すぐに手術が必要だ。 **inochi ni kakawaru byōki nanode suguni shujutsu ga hitsuyō da** It's a life-threatening illness, so she needs an operation right away.

こんな間違いは、店の信用に関わる。 **konna machigai wa mise no shin'yō ni kakawaru** A mistake like this could damage the shop's reputation.

二つの国の親善に関わる、大切な行事だ。 **futatsu no kuni no shinzen ni kakawaru taisetsuna gyōji da** It's an important event for friendship between the two countries.

dialogue the election poster

ms nakamura 鈴木さん、店の前にポスターを貼ってもいい？来月の選挙で、投票を呼びかけるポスターなの。

suzukisan mise no mae ni posutā o hatte mo ii raigetsu no senkyo de tōhyō o yobikakeru posutā nano · Mr Suzuki, may I put a poster up in front of the shop? It's for next month's election, urging people to vote.

mr suzuki どうぞ、どうぞ。衆議院の選挙か。最近は雨をものともせず、車から名前を叫んでいて、うるさくてね。

dōzo dōzo shūgiin no senkyo ka saikin wa ame o mono tomo sezu kuruma kara namae o sakende ite urusakute ne · Go ahead. The general election, eh? Lately they drive round shouting names, even in the rain. It's so noisy.

ms nakamura 選挙は、私たちの暮らしに関わるのよ。全員とは言わないまでも、若い人にもっと投票に行ってほしいの。

senkyo wa watashitachi no kurashi ni kakawaru no yo zen'in to wa iwanai made mo wakai hito ni motto tōhyō ni itte hoshii no · Elections affect our daily lives. Not necessarily everyone, but I want more young people to go and vote.

anna 私は日本の国籍がないので、投票できないんです。でも、候補の政策は気になります。

watashi wa nihon no kokuseki ga nai node tōhyō dekinai ndesu demo kōho no seisaku wa ki ni narimasu · I don't have Japanese nationality, so I can't vote. But I'm still interested in the candidates' policies.

ms nakamura あら、アンナさんは、どの政策が気になるの？

ara annasan wa dono seisaku ga ki ni naru no · Oh? Which policies interest you, Anna?

anna 商店街の振興です。人口が減る時代にあって、こういう通りをどう残すか、です。

shōtengai no shinkō desu jinkō ga heru jidai ni atte kō iu tōri o dō nokosu ka desu · Reviving shopping streets. In an age of shrinking population, how do we keep streets like this one alive?

ms nakamura そうよね。ところが、選挙の前だけ商店街に来て、終わったら一度も来ない候補もいるの。権力を持ったとたん、住民を忘れるのよ。選挙に出る人にあるまじき態度ね。

sō yo ne tokoroga senkyo no mae dake shōtengai ni kite owattara ichido mo konai kōho mo iru no kenryoku o motta totan jūmin o wasureru no yo senkyo ni deru hito ni arumajiki taido ne · Exactly. But some candidates only come to the shopping street before the election, and never once after it's over. The moment they have power, they forget the residents. That's no way for anyone standing for election to behave.

mr suzuki 中村さんは、自治会でも、何でも多数決で決議するからね。

nakamurasan wa jichi kai demo nan demo tasūketsu de ketsugi suru kara ne · And in the neighbourhood association you pass everything by majority vote, don't you, Ms Nakamura?

ms nakamura 当然でしょう。私は、みなさんの信任を得て、この会をまとめているんだから。「人民の、人民による、人民のための政治」よ。

tōzen deshō watashi wa minasan no shinnin o ete kono kai o matomete iru nda kara jinmin no jinmin ni yoru jinmin no tame no seiji yo · Of course. I run the association because everyone put their trust in me. “Government of the people, by the people, for the people.”

tom こんにちは。学会の準備で、戦争の歴史ばかり読んでいます。この前は、博物館で本物の軍服も見ました。戦闘の勝ち負けには、軍備だけでなく、鉄道で戦力をどう運ぶかという戦術が、深く関わっていたんです。資料を見ると、その証拠がいくらでも出てきます。

konnichiwa gakkai no junbi de sensō no rekishi bakari yonde imasu kono mae wa hakubutsukan de honmono no gunpuku mo mimashita sentō no kachi make ni wa gunbi dake de naku tetsudō de senryoku o dō hakobu ka to iu senjutsu ga fukaku kakawatte ita ndesu shiryō o miru to sono shōko ga ikura demo dete kimasu · Hello. I'm reading nothing but war history to prepare for the conference. The other day I even saw real military uniforms at a museum. Winning or losing a battle didn't just depend on weapons: tactics, how you moved your forces by rail, mattered a lot. The sources are full of evidence for it.

mr suzuki トム君、たまには休みなさい。今日のコーヒーは、私のおごりだ。

tomukun tamani wa yasuminasai kyō no kōhī wa watashi no ogori da · Tom, take a break now and then. Today's coffee is on me.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

僚
bureaucrat, government official

棄
abstention; withdrawal (from a race)

艦
warship

揚
as in 揚げる (あげる): to deep-fry

闘
battle, combat, fighting



脱
withdrawal, leaving (a group)

good to know · Noun + に関わる: that affects (seriously). 命に関わる (life-threatening), 信用に関わる (damaging to trust), 名誉に関わる (a matter of honour). Before a noun it works like an adjective: 命に関わる病気 (a life-threatening illness). At the end: それは信用に関わる (that will hurt our reputation). Many writers use the kana かかわる; the meaning is the same.

Parliament, treaties, sovereignty and the ballot box: the political pages are within reach. And ~に関わる lets you say plainly what is at stake.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

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day 96 cabinets and alliances

Japanese N1 in 133 days
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Follow election-night news and history (cabinets, votes, alliances, coups and conflicts), and say “whether A or B” or “even if” with ～にせよ・～にしろ.

News and opinion pieces keep weighing two outcomes at once, and ～にせよ・～にしろ (whether … or, even if) is how they say the point holds either way.

words

word	kana	meaning	example
庁	ちょう · chō	government agency (suffix)	警察庁は、国の警察の中心となる役所だ。 The National Police Agency is the central office of the country's police.
調印	ちょういん · chōin	signing (of a treaty)	二つの国の外相が、協定に調印した。 The foreign ministers of the two countries signed the agreement.
長官	ちょうかん · chōkan	director, head (of an agency)	長官は、記者の質問に何も答えなかった。 The director didn't answer any of the reporters' questions.
追放	ついほう · tsuihō	expulsion, banishment, purge	その選手は、規則を破って、大会から追放された。 The athlete broke the rules and was thrown out of the tournament.
統治	とうち · tōchi	rule, governing	その島は、長い間、外国に統治されていた。 The island was ruled by a foreign country for a long time.
統制	とうせい · tōsei	control, regulation (by authority)	戦争中は、新聞もラジオも、国に統制された。 In wartime, newspapers and radio were all controlled by the state.
当選	とうせん · tōsen	being elected; winning (a prize draw)	彼女は、初めての選挙で当選した。 She was elected in her first election.
動員	どういん · dōin	mobilisation	祭りの準備に、町中の人が動員された。 The whole town was mobilised to get the festival ready.
同盟	どうめい · dōmei	alliance	三つの国が、同盟を結んだ。 Three countries formed an alliance.
独裁	どくさい · dokusai	dictatorship, autocracy	社長の独裁に、社員は不満を持っている。 The staff are unhappy with the president running the company like a dictator.
内閣	ないかく · naikaku	cabinet (government)	内閣は、来年の予算を決めた。 The cabinet decided next year's budget.
内乱	ないらん · nairan	civil war, rebellion	その国では、内乱が十年も続いた。 In that country, the civil war lasted ten years.
派	は · ha	faction, group, school (of thought)	会議では、賛成の派と反対の派に分かれた。 At the meeting, people split into a camp for and a camp against.

敗戦	はいせん · haisen	defeat (in war)	敗戦の後、町の大部分は焼けてしまっていた。 After the defeat, most of the town had burned down.
迫害	はくがい · hakugai	persecution	彼は、迫害を避けて、外国へ渡った。 He went abroad to escape persecution.
反乱	はんらん · hanran	rebellion, revolt	軍の一部が、反乱を起こした。 Part of the army rose in revolt.
爆弾	ばくだん · bakudan	bomb	戦争中に落ちた爆弾が、今も工事の現場で見つかる。 Bombs dropped in the war are still found on building sites today.
爆破	ばくは · bakuha	blowing up, demolition with explosives	古いビルが、爆破されて、一瞬で消えた。 The old building was blown up and vanished in an instant.
否決	ひけつ · hiketsu	rejection (of a bill), voting down	その案は、会議で否決された。 The proposal was voted down at the meeting.
日の丸	ひのまる · hi no maru	the Japanese flag (red sun)	祝日には、家の前に日の丸を出す人もいる。 On national holidays, some people put the Japanese flag out in front of their homes.
票	ひょう · hyō	vote, ballot	彼女は、相手の候補より千票多かった。 She got a thousand more votes than the other candidate.
布告	ふこく · fukoku	proclamation, decree	政府は、全国に非常事態を布告した。 The government proclaimed a state of emergency across the country.
仏	ふつ · futsu	France (short form, in the news)	仏{futsu}大統領が、来月来日する。 The French president will visit Japan next month.
紛争	ふんそう · funsō	dispute, conflict	国連は、紛争を止めるために努力している。 The UN is working to stop the conflict.

pattern ～にせよ・～にしろ (whether … or, even if)

A **にせよ** **B** **にせよ** **the point holds either way**

AにせよBにせよ means “whether A or B”: the second half is true either way. With a question word it means “whatever, whoever”: いずれにせよ (either way), 誰が勝つにせよ. With one item it concedes: 冗談にせよ (even if it was a joke). にしろ means the same and sounds a little more spoken; にせよ is the written form.

いずれにせよ、明日までに返事をください。 **izure ni seyo ashita made ni henji o kudasai** Either way, please give me an answer by tomorrow.

冗談にせよ、そんなことを言ってはいけない。 **jōdan ni seyo sonna koto o itte wa ikenai** Even as a joke, you mustn't say a thing like that.

勝つにしろ負けるにしろ、最後まで全力で戦おう。 **katsu ni shiro makeru ni shiro saigo made zenryoku de tatakaō** Win or lose, let's give it everything to the end.

dialogue election night

yui アンナ、始まったよ！選挙の特別番組。
anna hajimatta yo senkyo no tokubetsu bangumi · Anna, it's started! The election special.

anna 小林さんは、今夜は新聞社で朝まで仕事だろうね。
kobayashisan wa kon'ya wa shinbunsha de asa made shigoto darō ne · Ms Kobayashi must be at the paper until morning tonight.

yui うん。さっきメッセージが来た。「どっちが勝つにせよ、今夜は寝られない」って。先週も、賠償を求める裁判の判決の記事で徹夜だったのに。
un sakki messēji ga kita dotchi ga katsu ni seyo kon'ya wa nerarenai tte senshū mo baishō o motomeru saiban no hanketsu no kiji de tetsuya datta noni · Yeah. She just messaged me: “Whoever wins, I won't get any sleep tonight.” And she was up all night last week too, with an article on a ruling in a compensation case.

anna あ、もう当選が決まった人がいるよ。まだ票を数えている途中なのに。
a mō tōsen ga kimatta hito ga iru yo mada hyō o kazoete iru tochū nanoni · Oh, someone's already been declared a winner. And they're still counting the votes.

yui 出口調査で、だいたいわかるんだって。結果によっては、内閣も変わるかもね。
deguchi chōsa de daitai wakaru nda tte kekka ni yotte wa naikaku mo kawaru ka mo ne · Apparently the exit polls tell them roughly. Depending on the result, the cabinet might change too.

anna 党の中の派の争いもあるし、予算の審議も遅れそうだね。
tō no naka no ha no arasoi mo aru shi yosan no shingi mo okure sō da ne · And with the fighting between factions inside the party, debate on the budget will probably be delayed too.

yui 小林は、「誰が首相になるにしろ、経済の記事は忙しくなる」って。
kobayashi wa dare ga shushō ni naru ni shiro keizai no kiji wa isogashiku naru tte · Kobayashi says, “Whoever becomes prime minister, the economy pages will be busy.”

anna 実は今、石田先生の本で、戦争中の新聞の章を読んでいるの。政府が記事を統制して、国民を戦争に動員したって。
jitsuha ima ishida sensei no hon de sensō chū no shinbun no shō o yonde iru no seifu ga kiji o tōsei shite kokumin o sensō ni dōin shita tte · Actually, I'm reading the chapter in Professor Ishida's book on newspapers in wartime. The government controlled what they printed and used them to mobilise the nation for war.

yui 怖いね。考えるだに恐ろしい。
kowai ne kangaeru dani osoroshii · That's scary. It's frightening even to think about.

anna 敗戦の後、戦争を進めた人の一部は、罰を受けて、追放されたの。でも、迫害をものともせず、本当のことを書こうとした記者もいたそうだよ。
haisen no ato sensō o susumeta hito no ichibu wa batsu o ukete tsuihō sareta no demo hakugai o mono tomo sezu hontō no koto o kakō to shita kisha mo ita sō da yo · After the defeat, some of those who had pushed for the war were punished and purged. But apparently there were also reporters who, undaunted by persecution, tried to write the truth.

yui 小林なら、きっとそっちだね。一行たりとも、嘘は書かないもん。
kobayashi nara kitto sotchi da ne ichi gyō taritomo uso wa kakanai mon · Kobayashi would definitely have been one of them. She won't write a single line that isn't true.

anna …あ、テレビに日の丸が映っているよ。首相が話すみたい。
a terebi ni hi no maru ga utsutte iru yo shushō ga hanasumitai · …Oh, there's the national flag on TV. Looks like the prime minister is going to speak.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

憶

as in 記憶 (きおく): memory

盟
alliance

閣
cabinet (government)

票
ひょう
vote, ballot

克
as in 克服 (こくふく): overcoming

good to know · AにせよBにせよ: whether A or B. 賛成にせよ反対にせよ, 行くにせよ行かないにせよ. しろ is the same, a little more spoken. Question word + にせよ: whatever, whoever. いずれにせよ (either way), 誰が勝つにせよ, 何をするにしろ. One noun or verb + にせよ: even if (I admit that). 冗談にせよ、言っていいことと悪いことがある.

Cabinets, votes, alliances and coups: the evening news holds fewer secrets now. And whatever the result, ~にせよ lets you say what still matters.
Do this day interactively, with audio and games, free at **wishyou.today/learning**

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day 97 parties and peoples

Japanese N1 in 133 days
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Read about parties, peoples and borders (the ruling party and the opposition, territory, troops, alliances), and say you can't back out because of what you said or who is watching with ～手前.

Politics and history are full of parties, borders and peoples, and ～手前 (having said so, in front of others) is how Japanese explains why someone can't back down.

words

word	kana	meaning	example
武装	ぶそう · busō	arming, armed (forces)	空港は、武装した警察が守っている。 The airport is guarded by armed police.
武力	ぶりょく · buryoku	military force, armed strength	問題を武力で解決してはいけない。 Problems must not be settled by force.
兵器	へいき · heiki	weapon, arms	世界には、まだ多くの兵器がある。 There are still a great many weapons in the world.
兵士	へいし · heishi	soldier	若い兵士は、毎週、故郷に手紙を書いた。 The young soldier wrote home every week.
返還	へんかん · henkan	return, giving back (of land, money)	沖縄は、1972年に日本に返還された。 Okinawa was returned to Japan in 1972.
保守	ほしゅ · hoshu	conservatism; maintenance	祖父は、考え方が保守的だ。 My grandfather's views are conservative.
捕虜	ほりょ · horyo	prisoner of war	戦争が終わっても、捕虜は何年も帰れなかった。 Even after the war ended, the prisoners couldn't go home for years.
防衛	ぼうえい · bōei	defence	チームは、去年の大会の優勝を防衛した。 The team defended last year's title.
民主	みんしゅ · minshu	democracy (in compounds)	民主主義では、一人一人の声が大切だ。 In a democracy, every single voice matters.
民族	みんぞく · minzoku	people, ethnic group, nation	その国には、百以上の民族が暮らしている。 More than a hundred ethnic groups live in that country.

役場	やくば · yakuba	town hall, village office	引っ越したら、役場に届けを出してください。 When you move, please register at the town hall.
野党	やとう · yatō	opposition party	野党は、政府の説明が足りないと批判した。 The opposition criticised the government for not explaining enough.
抑圧	よくあつ · yokuatsu	oppression, suppression	国民の自由は、長い間、抑圧されていた。 People's freedom was suppressed for a long time.
与党	よとう · yotō	ruling party	与党は、選挙で大きく勝った。 The ruling party won the election by a wide margin.
立法	りっぽう · rippō	legislation, law-making	立法は国会、行政は内閣が担当する。 The Diet makes the laws; the cabinet runs the government.
領海	りょうかい · ryōkai	territorial waters	外国の船が、間違えて日本の領海に入った。 A foreign ship strayed into Japanese waters by mistake.
領地	りょうち · ryōchi	domain, fief (of a lord)	この城の周りは、昔、武士の領地だった。 The land around this castle was once a samurai domain.
領土	りょうど · ryōdo	territory	二つの国は、小さな島の領土をめぐって争っている。 The two countries are in a dispute over a small island.
連邦	れんぽう · renpō	federation, union	アメリカは、五十の州からなる連邦だ。 The United States is a federation of fifty states.
連盟	れんめい · renmei	league, federation (of groups)	大学のスポーツの連盟が、新しい規則を決めた。 The university sports federation decided on new rules.
アラブ	arabu	Arab, the Arab world	アラブの料理には、豆がよく使われる。 Beans are often used in Arab cooking.
インターナショナル	intānashonaru	international	息子は、インターナショナルスクールに通って{kayou}いる。 My son goes to an international school.
国定	こくてい · kokutei	state-designated, set by the state	戦争の前、学校は国定の教科書を使っていた。 Before the war, schools used state textbooks.
特派	とくは · tokuha	dispatch (of a special envoy)	彼女は、新聞社の特派員として、アメリカにいる。 She is in the United States as the newspaper's correspondent.

pattern ~手前 (having said so, in front of others)

what I said or did | 手前 | I can't back out / I must

Verb + 手前 means “because I said or did this (in front of people)”: having taken that stand, you can't go back on it without losing face. 約束した手前、断れない (I promised, so I can't refuse). With a noun, Noun + の手前 means “in front of, out of regard for”: 部下の手前 (in front of my staff). The second half usually says what you can't do or must do.

町の役場に頼んだ手前、自分も手伝わないわけにはいかない。 **machi no yakuba ni tanonda temae jibun mo tetsudawanai wake ni wa ikanai** I asked the town office for help, so I can't very well not help myself.

アラブの特派員に応募した手前、もう行きたくないとは言えない。 **arabu no tokuha in ni ōbo shita temae mō ikitakunai to wa ienai** I applied to be a correspondent in the Arab world, so I can't say now that I don't want to go.

部下の手前、弱い顔は見せられない。 **buka no temae yowai kao wa miserarenai** I can't look weak in front of my staff.

dialogue the rehearsal

mr suzuki さあ、店を閉めたよ。トム君、練習するなら今だ。お客さんは三人だけどね。
sā mise o shimeta yo tomukun renshū suru nara ima da okyakusan wasannin dakedo ne · Right, I've closed up. Tom, if you want to rehearse, now's the time. Only three in the audience, mind.

tom ありがとうございます。山田先生まで来てくださって、すみません。
arigatōgozaimasu yamada sensei made kite kudasatte sumimasen · Thank you. And Ms Yamada, it's so kind of you to come too.

ms yamada 発表は日本語でするって、石田先生に言ったんでしょう？
happyō wa nihongo de suru tte ishida sensei ni itta ndeshō · You told Professor Ishida you'd give the paper in Japanese, didn't you?

tom はい。日本語でやると言った手前、もう英語に逃げるわけにはいきません。
hai nihongo de yaru to itta temae mō eigo ni nigeru wake ni wa ikimasen · Yes. Having said I'd do it in Japanese, I can't run back to English now.

ms yamada 国際学会という場にあって、日本語で話すのは勇気がいることよ。インターナショナルな舞台だもの。
kokusai gakkai to iu ba ni atte nihongo de hanasu no wa yūki ga iru koto yo intānashonaruna butai da mono · At an international conference, speaking in Japanese takes courage. It's an international stage, after all.

tom では、始めます。「沖縄には、戦争の前、県の鉄道がありました。しかし、1945年に沖縄を襲った激しい戦闘で、すべて壊されてしまいました。」
dewa hajimemasu okinawa ni wa sensō no mae ken no tetsudō ga arimashita shikashi 1945nen ni okinawa o osotta hageshii sentō de subete kowasarete shimaimashita · Here goes. “Before the war, Okinawa had a prefectural railway. But in the fierce fighting that struck Okinawa in 1945, it was completely destroyed.”

tom 「その後、沖縄はアメリカに統治され、1971年に協定が調印されて、1972年に日本に返還されました。鉄道が戻ったのは、2003年のことです。」
sono ato okinawa wa amerika ni tōchi sare 1971nen ni kyōtei ga chōin sarete 1972nen ni nihon ni henkan saremashita tetsudō ga modotta no wa 2003nen no koto desu · “Okinawa then came under American rule. An agreement was signed in 1971, and Okinawa was returned to Japan in 1972. The railway only came back in 2003.”

mr suzuki 五十年以上も、鉄道がなかったのか。知らなかったよ。沖縄からは、昔、移民として外国へ移住した人も多いそうだね。
gojūnen ijō mo tetsudō ga nakatta no ka shiranakatta yo okinawa kara wa mukashi imin to shite gaikoku e ijūshita hito mo ōi sō da ne · No railway for more than fifty years? I never knew that. I hear a lot of people from Okinawa emigrated abroad in the old days, too.

ms yamada 内容はいいですね。ただ、もう少しゆっくり話して。それから、最初にあいさつを入れること。私は保守的だから、そこが気になるの。
naiyō wa ii desu ne tada mō sukoshi yukkuri hanashite sorekara saisho ni aisatsu o ireru koto watashi wa hoshuteki dakara soko ga ki ni naru no · The content is good. But speak a little more slowly. And put a greeting at the start. I'm old-fashioned, so that matters to me.

anna 聞く人の心を動かさずにはおかない話ですね。でも、トム、時間は？
kiku hito no kokoro o ugokasazu ni wa okanai hanashi desu ne demo tomu jikan wa · It's a story that can't fail to move people. But Tom, how long was that?

tom …15分です。持ち時間は10分なのに！
15fun desu mochi jikan wa 10pun nanoni · …Fifteen minutes. And I'm only allowed ten!

mr suzuki じゃあ、応急の手当てだ。削る所を一緒に探そう。コーヒーのおかわりを持ってくるよ。
jā ōkyū no te ate da kezuru tokoro o issho ni sagasō kōhī no okawari o motte kuru yo · Right, time for first aid. Let's find what to cut together. I'll bring more coffee.

write it trace the grey, then write your own

抑

oppression, suppression

邦

federation, union

雰

as in 雰囲気 (ふんいき): atmosphere, mood

good to know · Verb (た form or ている) + 手前: because I said or did this (in front of others), I can't now act otherwise. 約束した手前、断れない. Noun + の手前: in front of, out of regard for. 部下の手前、弱い顔は見せられない (in front of my staff, I can't look weak). The second half usually says what you can't do or must do: ～わけにはいかない, ～ないといけない, ～られない.

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chapter 1 the bullet train

anna トム、顔色が悪いよ。昨夜は、ちゃんと寝た？
tomu kao iro ga warui yo yūbe wa chanto neta · Tom, you look pale. Did you get any proper sleep last night?

tom 三時間くらい…。発表は10分なのに、二週間、毎日練習したんだ。
sanjikan kurai happyō wa 10pun nanoni nishūkan mainichi renshū shita nda · About three hours… The paper's only ten minutes, but I've practised every day for two weeks.

anna 私は、佐藤さんに言われて来たの。「石田先生の討論会を聞いて、シリーズの新しい著者を探してくるように」って。
watashi wa satōsan ni iwarete kita no ishida sensei no tōron kai o kiite shirīzu no atarashii chosha o sagashite kuru yōni tte · Mr Sato sent me: “Go and hear Professor Ishida's panel, and find some new authors for the series.”

tom 討論会には、元外相も出るんだ。国連で働いたこともあるし、首脳会談の通訳もしたそうだよ。
tōron kai ni wa moto gaishō mo deru nda kokuren de hataraita koto mo aru shi shunō kaidan no tsūyaku mo shita sō da yo · A former foreign minister is on the panel. He's worked at the UN, and he once interpreted at a summit, apparently.

anna すごいね。ほかには、どんな人が？
sugoi ne hoka ni wa donna hito ga · Impressive. Who else is on it?

tom アラブの国の大使館にいた学者や、ヨーロッパの大学の先生、それに新聞社の特派員も来る。インターナショナルなメンバーだよ。
arabu no kuni no taishikan ni ita gakusha ya yōroppa no daigaku no sensei soreni shinbunsha no tokuha in mo kuru intānashonaruna menbā da yo · A scholar who used to work at an embassy in the Arab world, a professor from a European university, and a newspaper correspondent too. It's an international line-up.

tom 日本語で発表すると先生に言った手前、もう逃げられない。ああ、緊張する。
nihongo de happyō suruto sensei ni itta temae mō nigerarenai ā kinchō suru · I told the professor I'd do it in Japanese, so there's no escape now. Oh, I'm so nervous.

anna 大丈夫。どんな質問が来るにせよ、トムは誰よりも資料を読んでいるから。
daijōbu donna shitsumon ga kuru ni seyo tomu wa dare yori mo shiryō o yonde iru kara · You'll be fine. Whatever questions they ask, you've read more of the sources than anyone.

tom ありがとう。…あ、見て、富士山だ。
arigatō a mite fujisan da · Thanks. …Oh, look, Mount Fuji.

chapter 2 the programme

anna 国際学会「歴史の中の国家」、二日目のプログラム。

kokusai gakkai rekishi no naka no kokka futsuka me no puroguramu · International conference “The State in History”: day two programme.

anna 「開催の趣旨」本学会は、国家の歴史を、政治、外交、軍事、民族の面から考えることを目的とする。近代の国家は、条約や同盟によって国際社会に加わり、時には侵略や紛争によって、多くの人の命を奪ってきた。一方で、選挙や議会を通じて、国民が政治に関わる仕組みも作られてきた。日本の近代の歴史も、その例外ではない。不利な条約から始まった外交は、戦争と占領を経て、国連に加わるまでに至った。歴史を学ぶことは、過去を裁くことではない。今の世界にあって、私たちが何を選ぶべきかを考えるための手がかりを得ることである。今年は、五つの部会のほかに、討論会「歴史と外交」と特別講演を行う。世界の各地から百人以上の学者が集まる予定である。賛成にせよ反対にせよ、自由な議論を期待したい。

kaisai no shushi hon gakkai wa kokka no rekishi o seiji gaikō gunji minzoku no men kara kangaeru koto o mokuteki to suru kindai no kokka wa jōyaku ya dōmei ni yotte kokusai shakai ni kuwawari toki ni wa shinryaku ya funsō ni yotte ōku no hito no inochi o ubatte kita ippō de senkyo ya gikai o tsūjite kokumin ga seiji ni kakawaru shikumi mo tsukurarete kita nihon no kindai no rekishi mo sono reigai de wa nai furina jōyaku kara hajimatta gaikō wa sensō to senryō o hete kokuren ni kuwawaru made ni itatta rekishi o manabu koto wa kako o sabaku koto de wa nai ima no sekai ni atte watashitachi ga nani o erabubeki ka o kangaeru tame no tegakari o eru koto de aru kotoshi wa itsutsu no bu kai no hoka ni tōron kai rekishi to gaikō to tokubetsu kōen o okonau sekai no kakuchi kara hyakunin ijō no gakusha ga atsumaru yotei de aru sansei ni seyo hantai ni seyo jiyūna giron o kitai shitai · “Aims of the conference.” This conference sets out to consider the history of the state from the angles of politics, diplomacy, the military and peoples. Modern states joined international society through treaties and alliances, and at times, through invasion and conflict, took many lives. At the same time, they built systems through which citizens take part in politics, through elections and parliaments. Japan’s modern history is no exception. Its diplomacy, which began with unfavourable treaties, went through war and occupation and came as far as joining the UN. To study history is not to judge the past. It is to find clues for thinking about what we should choose in today’s world. This year, besides five sessions, there will be a panel, “History and Diplomacy”, and special lectures. More than a hundred scholars are expected from all over the world. Whether they agree or disagree, we look forward to free debate.

anna 午前。第一部会「君主制から共和制へ――革命、反乱、独裁、民主」。第二部会「議事堂の百年――衆議院と参議院、議案の審議、採決、議決、否決」。第三部会「選挙と政党――与党と野党、派の争い、票と当選、多数決と信任」。

gozen daiichi bu kai kunshu sei kara kyōwa sei e kakumei hanran dokusai minshu dai ni bu kai gijidō no hyakunen shūgiin to sangiin gian no shingi saiketsu giketsu hiketsu dai san bu kai senkyo to seitō yotō to yatō ha no arasoi hyō to tōsen tasūketsu to shinnin · Morning. Session 1: “From monarchy to republic: revolution, revolt, dictatorship and democracy”. Session 2: “A hundred years of parliament: the two Houses, and how bills are debated, voted on, passed and rejected”. Session 3: “Elections and parties: ruling parties and opposition, factions, votes and victories, majority rule and confidence”.

anna 午後。討論会「歴史と外交」（司会：石田教授）。同じ時間に、第四部会「植民地の統治と民族――抑圧の記憶」、第五部会「国防と軍備――武装、兵器、防衛の作戦」。

gogo tōron kai rekishi to gaikō shikai ishida kyōju onaji jikan ni dai yon bu kai shokuminchi no tōchi to minzoku yokuatsu no kioku dai go bu kai kokubō to gunbi busō heiki bōei no sakusen · Afternoon. Panel: “History and Diplomacy” (chair: Professor Ishida). At the same time, Session 4: “Colonial rule and peoples: memories of oppression”, and Session 5: “National defence and armaments: arms, weapons and defence strategy”.

anna 夕方。特別講演「戦争の記憶――戦災、爆弾、壕、捕虜、兵士の手紙」、続いて「国連と紛争――休戦の協定と決議」。

yūgata tokubetsu kōen sensō no kioku sensai bakudan gō horyo heishi no tegami tsuzuite kokuren to funsō

kyūsen no kyōtei to ketsugi · Evening. Special lectures: “Memories of war: war damage, bombs, shelters, prisoners and soldiers' letters”, followed by “The UN and conflict: ceasefire agreements and resolutions”.

anna

会場の入口では、学会公認の資料をお渡しします。参加の登録をした方は、受付で名前をお伝えください。

kaijō no iriguchi de wa gakkai kōnin no shiryō o o watashi shimasu sanka no tōroku o shita kata wa uketsuke de namae o otsutae kudasai · The conference's official papers will be handed out at the entrance to the hall. If you have registered, please give your name at the reception desk.

chapter 3 the opening address

professor ishida ただいまから、討論会「歴史と外交」を始めます。司会の石田です。今日は、世界の各地から来た学者のみなさんと一緒に、歴史から外交を考えます。

tadaima kara tōron kai rekishi to gaikō o hajimemasu shikai no ishida desu kyō wa sekai no kakuchi kara kita gakusha no minasan to issho ni rekishi kara gaikō o kangaemasu · We now begin the panel “History and Diplomacy”. I'm Ishida, and I'll be chairing. Today, with scholars who have come from all over the world, we will think about diplomacy through history.

professor ishida 日本の近代の外交は、条約とともに始まりました。外国との交流が始まった時、日本は不利な条約に調印して、主権の一部を失いました。その条約を改めることが、当時の外交の一番の目標でした。厳しい時代にあって、外相や官僚は、力では勝てない強い国と、言葉で戦ったのです。

nihon no kindai no gaikō wa jōyaku to tomoni hajimarimashita gaikoku to no kōryū ga hajimatta toki nihon wa furina jōyaku ni chōin shite shuken no ichibu o ushinaimashita sono jōyaku o aratameru koto ga tōji no gaikō no ichiban no mokuhyō deshita kibishii jidai ni atte gaishō ya kanryō wa chikara de wa kate nai tsuyoi kuni to kotoba de tatakatta no desu · Japan's modern diplomacy began with treaties. When contact with foreign countries began, Japan signed unfavourable treaties and lost part of its sovereignty. Revising those treaties was the main goal of its diplomacy at the time. In those hard times, foreign ministers and officials fought powerful countries they could not beat by force, with words.

professor ishida その後、日本は軍事の力を伸ばし、同盟を結んで、植民地を持つ国になりました。しかし、ほかの国への侵略や征服で、多くの国の人が苦しむことになりました。戦争の時代には、言論が統制され、国民は戦争に動員されました。権力を批判した記者は、迫害されました。1933年には国際連盟から脱退し、国際社会から孤立していきます。

sono ato nihon wa gunji no chikara o nobashi dōmei o musunde shokuminchi o motsu kuni ni narimashita shikashi hoka no kuni e no shinryaku ya seifuku de ōku no kuni no hito ga kurushimu koto ni narimashita sensō no jidai ni wa genron ga tōsei sare kokumin wa sensō ni dōin saremashita kenryoku o hihan shita kisha wa hakugai saremashita 1933nen ni wa kokusai renmei kara dattai shi kokusai shakai kara koritsushite ikimasu · Japan then built up its military strength, formed alliances and became a country with colonies. But its invasions and conquests of other countries brought suffering to the people of many nations. In wartime, free speech was controlled and the nation was mobilised for war. Reporters who criticised those in power were persecuted. In 1933 Japan left the League of Nations, and became more and more isolated from the international community.

professor ishida 敗戦の後、日本は占領され、戦争を進めた人の多くは追放されました。そして、1951年に結ばれた平和の条約によって、主権を回復しました。1956年には国連に入り、その後、多くの国と国交を結んでいきます。沖縄が返還されたのは、1972年のことです。

haisen no ato nihon wa senryō sare sensō o susumeta hito no ōku wa tsuihō saremashita soshite 1951nen ni musubareta heiwa no jōyaku ni yotte shuken o kaifuku shimashita 1956nen ni wa kokuren ni hairi sono ato ōku no kuni to kokkō o musunde ikimasu okinawa ga henkan sareta no wa 1972nen no koto desu · After its defeat, Japan was occupied, and many of those who had pushed for the war were purged. Then, through the peace treaty signed in 1951, it regained its sovereignty. In 1956 it joined the UN, and it went on to establish diplomatic relations with many countries. Okinawa was returned in 1972.

professor ishida 武力に頼るのか、協調を選ぶのか。中立を守るのか、どこかの勢力と組むのか。その選択は、いつも国民の命に関わっていました。領土や領海をめぐる問題は、今も続いています。今日は、紛争の多い今の世界にも通じる問題として、この歴史を議論したいと思います。賛成にせよ反対にせよ、どうぞ自由にご意見をお願いします。

buryoku ni tayoru no ka kyōchō o erabu no ka chūritsu o mamoru no ka dokoka no seiryoku to kumu no ka sono sentaku wa itsumo kokumin no inochi ni kakawatte imashita ryōdo ya ryōkai o meguru mondai wa ima mo tsuzuite imasu kyō wa funsō no ōi ima no sekai ni mo tsūjiru mondai to shite kono rekishi o giron shitai

to omoimasu sansei ni seyo hantai ni seyo dōzo jiyūni go iken o onegaishimasu · Should a country rely on force, or choose cooperation? Stay neutral, or side with one power? Those choices always affected people's lives. Disputes over territory and territorial waters continue to this day. Today, we want to discuss this history as a question that still speaks to a world full of conflict. Whether you agree or disagree, please feel free to give your views.

chapter 4 tom's paper

professor ishida 次は、博士課程のトムさんの発表です。
tsugi wa hakase katei no tomusan no happyō desu · Next, a paper from Tom, a doctoral student.

tom みなさん、こんにちは。今日は、150年前の日本の鉄道と国家について、お話しします。
minasan konnichiwa kyō wa 150nen mae no nihon no tetsudō to kokka ni tsuite o hanashi shimasu · Hello, everyone. Today I'd like to talk about Japan's railways and the state, 150 years ago.

tom 当時の政府は、外国の干渉を避けるため、鉄道を国の手で敷くことを決めました。官僚にとって、外国の介入は、国の独立に関わる問題だったからです。
tōji no seifu wa gaikoku no kanshō o sakeru tame tetsudō o kuni no te de shiku koto o kimemashita kanryō ni totte gaikoku no kainyū wa kuni no dokuritsu ni kakawaru mondai datta kara desu · The government of the time decided to build the railways in the state's own hands, to avoid foreign interference. For the bureaucrats, foreign intervention was a matter that touched the country's independence.

tom 1906年には、内閣の政策で、大きな私鉄の多くが国有になりました。軍隊を運ぶ軍事の目的も、大きかったのです。戦闘に勝つには、戦力を速く運ぶ戦術が必要でした。
1906nen ni wa naikaku no seisaku de ōkina shitetsu no ōku ga kokuyū ni narimashita guntai o hakobu gunji no mokuteki mo ōkikatta no desu sentō ni katsu ni wa senryoku o hayaku hakobu senjutsu ga hitsuyō deshita · In 1906, under the cabinet's policy, most of the big private railways were nationalised. The military aim, moving troops, was an important one: to win battles, you needed tactics that moved your forces fast.

tom しかし、鉄道は戦力を運ぶためだけにあったのではありません。原爆が落ちた町では、その三日後、日本が降伏する前に、職員が危険をものともせず、電車を走らせました。鉄道は、人の暮らしを支えていたのです。
shikashi tetsudō wa senryoku o hakobu tame dake ni atta no dewa arimasen genbaku ga ochita machi de wa sono mikka go nihon ga kōfuku suru mae ni shokuin ga kiken o mono tomo sezu densha o hashirasemashita tetsudō wa hito no kurashi o sasaete ita no desu · But railways were not there only to move fighting forces. In the city where the atomic bomb fell, three days later, before Japan had even surrendered, the staff got the trams running, undaunted by the danger. The railways kept people's lives going.

professor ishida ありがとうございました。会場から質問です。「鉄道を国有にしたのは、行政の改革だったのか、それとも軍事の作戦だったのか」という質問です。
arigatōgozaimashita kaijō kara shitsumon desu tetsudō o kokuyū ni shita no wa gyōsei no kaikaku datta no ka soretomo gunji no sakusen datta no ka to iu shitsumon desu · Thank you. There's a question from the floor: “Was nationalising the railways an administrative reform, or a military strategy?”

tom どちらか一つ、とは言えないと思います。行政の資料にせよ、軍の記録にせよ、両方の目的が書かれているからです。
dochira ka hitotsu to wa ienai to omoimasu gyōsei no shiryō ni seyo gun no kiroku ni seyo ryōhō no mokuteki ga kakarete iru kara desu · I don't think we can say it was just one or the other. Whether you look at the government's papers or the army's records, both aims are written there.

professor ishida 資料に基づいた、いい答えですね。トムさん、ありがとうございました。
shiryō ni motozuita ii kotae desu ne tomusan arigatōgozaimashita · A good answer, based on the sources. Thank you, Tom.

chapter 5 the coffee break

professor ishida アンナさん、来てくれたのね。トム君の発表、どうだった？
annasan kite kureta no ne tomukun no happyō dō datta · Anna, you came. What did you think of Tom's paper?

anna 感動しました。電車の話のところで、会場が静かになりました。
kandō shimashita densha no hanashi no tokorode kaijō ga shizukani narimashita · I was moved. The hall went quiet when he got to the trams.

professor ishida 質問への答えも、合格ね。トム君、元外相の話はどうだった？
shitsumon e no kotae mo gōkaku ne tomukun moto gaishō no hanashi wa dō datta · His answer to the question passed muster too. Tom, what did you think of the former foreign minister's talk?

tom おもしろかったです。国交のない国との交渉で、首脳の手紙を運んだことがあるそうです。親善のために、ある国の元首にも会ったとか。
omoshirokatta desu kokkō no nai kuni to no kōshō de shunō no tegami o hakonda koto ga aru sō desu shinzen no tame ni aru kuni no genshu ni mo atta toka · Fascinating. He once carried a letter from the leaders during negotiations with a country Japan had no relations with. And he met a head of state on a goodwill visit, he said.

professor ishida 外交の現場を知る人の話には、教科書にはない説得力があるのよ。
gaikō no genba o shiru hito no hanashi ni wa kyōkasho ni wa nai settokuryoku ga aru no yo · When people who've been at the heart of diplomacy speak, they have a power to convince that no textbook has.

anna 実は、佐藤さんに、シリーズの新しい著者を探すように言われているんです。
jitsuha satōsan ni shirīzu no atarashii chosha o sagasu yōni iwarete iru ndesu · Actually, Mr Sato has asked me to look for new authors for the series.

professor ishida それなら、今日の討論会の記録を、参考に使ってもいいですよ。
sore nara kyō no tōron kai no kiroku o sankō ni tsukatte mo ii desu yo · In that case, you're welcome to use the record of today's panel for reference.

anna ありがとうございます。…それから、先生、第一巻の最後の章のことですが…。
arigatōgozaimasu sorekara sensei daiikkan no saigo no shō no koto desu ga · Thank you very much. ...And Professor, about the last chapter of volume one...

professor ishida …ごめんなさい。学会の準備で、まだ半分なの。来月の初めまでには、必ず送ります。
gomennasai gakkai no junbi de mada hanbun nano raigetsu no hajime made ni wa kanarazu okurimasu · ... I'm sorry. With the conference to prepare, it's only half done. I'll definitely send it by the beginning of next month.

anna わかりました。印刷の予定に関わるので、どうぞよろしくお願いします。
wakarimashita insatsu no yotei ni kakawaru node dōzo yoroshiku onegaishimasu · I understand. It affects the printing schedule, so I'm counting on you.

chapter 6 by the river

tom 終わった…。公の場で、日本語で発表したのは初めてだよ。そうすると言った手前、逃げなくてよかった。
owatta ōyake no ba de nihongo de happyō shita no wa hajimete da yo sō suruto itta temae nigenakute yokatta · It's over... That was the first time I've given a paper in Japanese in public. I'd said I would, and I'm glad I didn't run away from it.

anna 本当に、よかったね。あ、佐藤さんからメッセージだ。「石田先生の章、遅れるにせよ、来月の初めには必ず。印刷会社には、私から話す」。
hontō ni yokatta ne a satōsan kara messēji da ishida sensei no shō okureru ni seyo raigetsu no hajime ni wa kanarazu insatsugaisha ni wa watashi kara hanasu · It really was good. Oh, a message from Mr Sato: “Professor Ishida's chapter: late or not, it must be in by early next month. I'll talk to the printers myself.”

tom 印刷会社との交渉か。編集の仕事にも、作戦が大事なんだね。
insatsugaisha to no kōshō ka henshū no shigoto ni mo sakusen ga daijina nda ne · Negotiating with the printers, eh? Editing needs strategy too.

anna 毎日が、締め切りとの戦いだよ。でも今日は、トムの勝ちだね。
mainichi ga shimekiri to no tatakai da yo demo kyō wa tomu no kachi da ne · Every day is a battle with deadlines. But today, Tom, the victory is yours.

tom 鉄道も外交も、結局、人と人をつなぐものなんだと思う。今日、それがよくわかったよ。
tetsudō mo gaikō mo kekkyoku hito to hito o tsunagu mono nanda to omou kyō sore ga yoku wakatta yo · Railways and diplomacy are both, in the end, about connecting people. Today I really understood that.

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