

Coordinates: 36.5°N 139°E



Portal:Japan

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Main



Japan, officially Nippon-koku (日本国) is an island country in East Asia. Located in the Pacific Ocean, it lies to the east of China, Korea and Russia. The characters that make up Japan's name mean "sun-origin", which is why Japan is sometimes identified as the "Land of the Rising Sun".



Japan comprises over 3,000 islands, the largest of which are Honshū, Hokkaidō, Kyūshū and Shikoku. Most of the islands are mountainous, many volcanic; for example, Japan's highest peak, Mount Fuji, is a volcano. Japan has the world's tenth largest population, with about 128 million people. The Greater Tokyo Area, which includes the capital city of Tokyo and several surrounding prefectures, is the largest metropolitan area in the world, with over 30 million residents.

Influence from the outside world followed by long periods of isolation has characterized Japan's history. Since adopting its constitution in 1947, Japan has maintained a unitary constitutional monarchy with an emperor and an elected parliament, the Diet.

A major economic power, Japan has the world's third largest economy by nominal GDP. It is a member of the United Nations, G8, G4, OECD and APEC, with the world's fifth largest defense budget. It is also the world's fourth largest exporter and sixth largest importer and a world leader in technology and machinery.

edit (https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Portal:Japan/Selected_article/9&action=edit)

Selected article



The **invasion of Tulagi**, on May 3 and May 4, 1942, was part of Operation *Mo*, the

edit (https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Portal:Japan/Selected_biography/6&action=edit)

Selected biography

Tōru Takemitsu was a Japanese composer and writer on aesthetics and music theory. Though largely self-taught, Takemitsu is recognised for his skill in the subtle manipulation of instrumental

Empire of Japan's strategy in the South Pacific and South West Pacific Area in 1942. The plan called for Imperial Japanese Navy troops to capture Tulagi and nearby islands in the Solomon Islands Protectorate. The occupation of Tulagi by the Japanese was intended to cover the flank of Japanese forces that were advancing on Port Moresby in New Guinea as well as to provide a base for Japanese forces to threaten and interdict the supply and communication routes between the United States and Australia and New Zealand. Without the means to capably resist the Japanese offensive in the Solomons, the British Resident Commissioner of the Solomon Islands protectorate and the few Australian troops assigned to defend Tulagi evacuated the island just before the Japanese forces arrived on May 3. The next day, however, a U.S. aircraft carrier task force en route to resist the Japanese forces advancing on Port Moresby (that resulted in the Battle of the Coral Sea) struck the Japanese Tulagi landing force in an air attack, destroying or damaging several of the Japanese ships and aircraft involved in the landing operation. Nevertheless, the Japanese troops successfully occupied Tulagi and began the construction of a small naval base. Over the next several months, the Japanese established a naval refueling, communications, and seaplane base on Tulagi and the nearby islets of Gavutu and Tanambogo and, in July 1942, began to build a large airfield on nearby Guadalcanal. The Japanese activities on Tulagi and Guadalcanal were observed by Allied reconnaissance aircraft, as well as by Australian coastwatcher personnel stationed in the area.

edit (https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Portal:Japan/Selected_picture/23&action=edit)

Selected picture

and orchestral timbre, drawing from a wide range of influences, including jazz, popular music, avant-garde procedures and traditional Japanese music, in a harmonic idiom largely derived from the music of Claude Debussy and Olivier Messiaen. In 1958, the international attention he drew with his *Requiem* for strings (1957) resulted in several commissions from across the world, and settled his reputation as the leading Japanese composer of the 20th century. He was the recipient of numerous awards, commissions and honours; he composed over one hundred film scores for ensembles of various sizes and combinations. He also found time to write a detective novel, and appeared frequently on Japanese television as a celebrity chef. In the foreword to a selection of Takemitsu's writings in English, conductor Seiji Ozawa commented: "I am very proud of my friend Tōru Takemitsu. He is the first Japanese composer to write for a world audience and achieve international recognition."

edit (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Portal:Japan/News&action=edit>)

In the news

- April 24: Power outage at Fukushima poses radioactive risk
- March 4: Explorers find shipwreck thought to be massive WWII battleship Musashi
- January 22: Japanese Olympic judoka Hitoshi Saito dies aged 54
- September 18: Chinese President signs multiple trade deals with India
- June 29: Canada wins 2014 Women's World Wheelchair Basketball Championship
- June 28: Germany and Canada into 2014 Women's World Wheelchair Basketball Championships final



edit (https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Portal:Japan/Did_you_know&action=edit)

Did you know...

- ...that **Shuri Castle** (*pictured*), designated a national treasures of Japan and used as a military headquarters during World War II, was shelled by U.S. Navy ships (including



The four main islands of Japan are shown clearly off the coast of North Korea and South Korea, China and Russia in this true-color image. Running down through the islands are a string of mountains that make up part of the Pacific Ring of Fire.

[edit \(https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Portal:Japan/Anniversaries/May/May_15&action=edit\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Portal:Japan/Anniversaries/May/May_15&action=edit)

On this day...

May 15:

Deaths

- 1036 - Emperor Go-Ichijō (b. 1008), 68th emperor of Japan

[edit \(https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Portal:Japan/Selected_quote/4&action=edit\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Portal:Japan/Selected_quote/4&action=edit)

Selected quote

“ *Japan always had this huge, unnatural imbalance of sending out far more tourists than it took in. The situation is finally becoming more normal.* ”

—Daisuke Tonai, a manager at the JNTO

Archive

the USS *Missouri*) for three days, and is today a UNESCO World Heritage Site?



- ... that Japanese admiral **Misu Sotarō** lost his left eye while commanding the *Nisshin* at Battle of Tsushima in the Russo-Japanese War?
- ... that the Japanese band Daisy × Daisy provided the song "Brave your truth" as the opening theme song of the **episodes** of the *Chrome Shelled Regios* anime?
- ... that Harvard Japanologist **Susan Pharr** was recently awarded the Order of the Rising Sun by the Japanese government?
- ...that **Pakistan Television Corporation** (PTV) signed an agreement in 1963 with Japanese company NEC which gave the latter partial ownership of PTV's network?

[edit \(https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Portal:Japan/Categories&action=edit\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Portal:Japan/Categories&action=edit)

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Japan topics

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Eras	Paleolithic Jōmon Yayoi Kofun Asuka Nara Heian Kamakura Muromachi Azuchi-Momoyama Edo Meiji Taishō Shōwa Heisei
History	Economic history Educational history Military history Naval history Meiji Restoration Occupied Japan Post-occupation Japan
Politics	Constitution Government Emperors Imperial Household Agency Prime Ministers Cabinet Ministries National Diet (House of Councillors · House of Representatives) Judicial system Elections Political parties Foreign relations
Culture	Clothing Customs and etiquette Education Festivals Food Holidays Language Religion
Art	Architecture Cinema Literature Music Theatre (Noh · Kabuki · Bunraku)
Economy	Primary sector Industry Currency Tokyo Stock Exchange Communications Transportation (Shinkansen · Tokyo Metro · Railway companies)
Other	Demographics List of Japanese people

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