

# Environmental Politics In Japan Networks Of Power And Protest

Politics in Japan Japanese Politics Media and Politics in Japan Introduction to Japanese Politics Party Politics in Japan The State and Politics in Japan Party Politics in Japan Politics in Modern Japan 中国 Changing Politics in Japan The Government and Politics of Japan Buddhist Politics: Japan's Clean Government Party Contemporary Japanese Politics Japan The Politics of Japan's Decision to Normalize Relations with China, 1969-1972 Politics, the Japanese Way Dynamic and Immobilist Politics in Japan Democracy in Japan Party Politics in Japan Japanese Politics Bradley M. Richardson Takashi Inoguchi Susan Pharr Louis D. Hayes Ronald J. Hrebenar Ian Neary Ronald J. Hrebenar Kōichi Kishimoto Junnosuke Masumi Ikuo Kabashima 中国 A. Palmer Tomohito Shinoda Robert Karl Reischauer Hidenori Ijiri Jon Woronoff Martin Collick Takeshi Ishida Hans Baerwald Timothy Hoyer

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as a former assistant secretary general of the united nations and academic inoguchi chuo u is considered one of the foremost political scientists in japan in this treatment of the political issues facing modern japan he makes sure readers receive the correct background needed to understand the complexities of political behavior

japan is one of the most media saturated societies in the world the circulations of its big five national newspapers dwarf those of any major american newspaper its public service broadcasting agency nhk is second only to the bbc in size and it has a full range of commercial

television stations high brow and low brow magazines and a large anti mainstream media and mini media japanese elites rate the mass media as the most influential group in japanese society but what role do they play in political life whose interests do the media serve are the media mainly servants of the state or are they watchdogs on behalf of the public and what effects do the media have on the political beliefs and behavior of ordinary japanese people these questions are the focus of this collection of essays by leading political scientists sociologists social psychologists and journalists japan s unique kisha press club system its powerful media business organizations the uses of the media by japan s wily bureaucrats and the role of the media in everything from political scandals to shaping public opinion are among the many subjects of this insightful and provocative book

this classic introduction to the japanese political system has been revised and updated to take the account of a time of turmoil in the country s political life it incorporates new coverage of the end of the koizumi era the brief and troubled premiership of abe and the selection of fukuda as prime minister this edition also includes expanded material on bubble and post bubble economic developments as well as all new coverage of health care policy the text opens with an overview of japan s geographical setting and history the next group of chapters covers political institutions processes and actors two sections then address the country s distinctive social order and economy educational healthcare and public safety systems part five looks at the increasingly contentious realm of foreign relations and security issues including china s expanding role and the issue of north korea a concluding section considers dynamics of change in japanese politics

the japanese political system is a parliamentary democracy and was the first western style government in asia when the parliamentary system was adopted in the 1880s it has a multiparty system free elections and a parliament that functions much the same way that any other democratic parliament functions however for much of its existence the japanese party system has been dominated by one party this fact is crucial to understanding contemporary politics in japan especially since the long term ruling party the liberal democratic party is once again back in power this book presents an up to date analysis of the political parties that make up the japanese party system and their impact on japanese politics and government given that the executive branch is selected as a result of the pattern of party numbers in the parliament to understand japanese politics and policy one must first know the nature of the ruling and opposition parties and their leaders indeed in the past decade the quality of japan s government has been closely associated with the strengths and weaknesses of japan s prime ministers and the dominant party in the system this book focuses on a central question why japanese politics and government has been so dysfunctional in the past two decades with this question in mind the chapters provide key background information on japanese politics and political parties discuss each of the major political parties that have governed japan since 1955 and finally examine the december 2012 house of

representatives elections that returned the ldp to power and the differences between the first 1955 1993 and the second post war party systems 1993 party politics in japan provides a comprehensive analysis of the past sixty years of japanese party politics as such it will be of great interest to students and scholars of japanese politics and asian politics as well as to those interested in political parties and political systems more broadly

this book provides a comprehensive guide to the state and politics in japan at the start of the twenty first century in it ian neary asks if the state in japan is in any important sense different from states in western societies he seeks to answer this question through an examination of the historical process that created the modern state a description of the main institutions and actors in contemporary political life and an analysis of four important areas of policy making in japan as elsewhere in east asia where the developmental state has played a key political and economic role civil society has been the product of not the precondition to the development of capitalist society and the modern state neary explores the formation of the modern japanese state and shows that though it established the foundations of industrial growth it left little or no room for the formation of groups that make up civil society elsewhere the book then focuses on the political parties of both left and right characteristics of the electoral systems and the political and bureaucratic structures at national and local levels individual chapters on foreign and defence policy industrial policy welfare provision and human rights consider the interaction between state and non state actors in specific policy contexts assuming no prior knowledge of japan or politics this textbook will be essential reading for students of political science and international relations as well as anyone seeking an introduction to government in japan today

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this study by one of japan s foremost political scientists examines the unfolding relationship between the liberal democratic party ldp the state and the forces of industrialization in japan from the 1950s through the 1980s it is the only book in english to describe and analyze in detail japan s political development during this critical period masumi argues that japan s rapid economic growth was promoted by an iron triangle among three actors the ldp the bureaucracy and big business this growth fueled the enormous social changes of the 1960s and 1970s which in turn forced the transformation of the iron triangle and the basis of party power in a final chapter masumi reflects on the end of ldp rule in 1993

changing politics in japan is a fresh and insightful account of the profound changes that have shaken up the japanese political system and transformed it almost beyond recognition in the last couple of decades ikuo kabashima a former professor who is now governor of kumamoto prefecture and gill steel outline the basic features of politics in postwar japan in an accessible and engaging manner they focus on the dynamic relationship between voters and elected or nonelected officials and describe the shifts that have occurred in how voters respond to or control political elites and how officials both respond to and attempt to influence voters the authors return time and again to the theme of changes in representation and accountability kabashima and steel set out to demolish the still prevalent myth that japanese politics are a stagnant set of entrenched systems and interests that are fundamentally undemocratic in its place they reveal a lively and dynamic democracy in which politicians and parties are increasingly listening to and responding to citizens needs and interests and the media and other actors play a substantial role in keeping democratic accountability alive and healthy kabashima and steel describe how all the political parties in japan have adapted the ways in which they attempt to organize and channel votes and argue that contrary to many journalistic stereotypes the government is increasingly acting in the the interests of citizens the median voter s preferences

provides an overview of the central government of japan the bicameral parliament and civil service bureaucracy and how these institutions create the laws and policies of the country discusses the electoral system political parties the role of local governments democracy and

political participati

on november 17 1964 a new and rather unique political organization was inaugurated in japan this organization was called komeito or the clean government party the mother organization was the lay buddhist group soka gakkai 2 or value creation society it had previously been engaged in some political activities but the establish ment of the party was an indication of serious intent to become even more involved in japanese political affairs the rather militant posture of soka gakkai and its phenomenal success in converting literally millions of japanese to the nichiren buddhist religion was somewhat disconcerting for observers both japanese and foreign because of its political activism many persons viewed the organization as similar to the pre world war ii ultra nationalist movement while others ap plauded soka gakkai for giving new life and hope to a large segment of japanese society that was only receiving a marginal share of japan s increasing prosperity any mass movement may appear rather ominous to some people and a rapidly expanding and aggressive movement is bound to be perceived as a threat to society soka gakkai is no exception and therefore has been the subject of much debate and controversy in both japan and abroad as is often the case with controversial matters a new perspective will help to clarify some of the more contentious issues of this movement

decentralized policymaking power in japan had developed under the reign of the liberal democratic party ldp yet in the1990s institutional changes fundamentally altered japan s political landscape tomohito shinoda tracks these developments in the operation of and tensions between japan s political parties and the public s behavior in elections as well as in the government s ability to coordinate diverse policy preferences and respond to political crises the selection of junichiro koizumi an anti mainstream politician as prime minister in 2001 initiated a power shift to the democratic party of japan dpj and ended ldp rule shinoda details these events and prime minister koizumi s use of them to practice strong policymaking leadership he also outlines the institutional initiatives introduced by the dpj government and their impact on policymaking illustrating the importance of balanced centralized institutions and bureaucratic support

over the past thirty years japan has shown that it is a highly dynamic society and its economic policy making has often astonished the world japanese politics however though sometimes showing dynamism are very stable and frequently strangely immobilist in this book six specialists on japanese politics seek to find out why

following world war ii the american occupation created western style democratic institutions in japan and sought to develop a society and culture that would support a democratic political system now after four decades the successes and failures of japanese democracy can be assessed how equal are japan s citizens to what extent are their views represented in the legislature how does japan handle dissent and protest

how stable is its democracy in closely related and readable essays thirteen leading experts consider three main components of democracy in japan political social and economic the editors introduction provides historical background making this book accessible and valuable for students the general reader interested in japan as well as the specialist

to the outside observer the character and dynamics of japan s political parties and diet national assembly are often obscure this volume is an invaluable description of party politics in japan and a unique analysis of the influence that a changing balance of power has had upon the functioning of the diet the book covers the party system and how it has changed since 1955 the electoral systems for the representatives and councillors in the diet an extensive analysis of the diet s internal governance a discussion of the influence on the diet s functioning and role of the arrival of near parity between the governing and opposition parties the book is based on numerous interviews with japanese politicians journalists and bureaucrats as well as extensive discussions with japanese political scientists

suitable for upper level undergraduate and graduate level courses on japanese politics comparative asian political systems or pacific rim systems offered through political science and history this book provides a comprehensive introduction to the political structure of modern japan

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