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6. SPORTS

In Japan, sports in the pure meaning were not developed or practiced until modern times. Some of the traditional “sports” introduced below were originally developed or practiced as religious rites or as martial art training. In particular, those sports whose names end in “do” (meaning “moral principles” or “the right way”) are practiced for self-discipline, and often the manner in which a participant competes is considered to be more important than victory or defeat.

A. Sumo

Sumo, a type of wrestling, is native to Japan and its origins date back to ancient times. One myth tells of gods wrestling with each other. Sumo was not just a sport; it was an important event to attract the attention of Shinto deities. Later it developed into a spectator sport. Even now, traces of Shinto rituals are seen in the actions of the sumo wrestlers (called *rikishi*) and the referees (called *gyoji*).

Although sumo is practiced among young and old, men or women, as an amateur sport across the country, at present the Nihon Sumo Kyokai is the only professional sumo organization in Japan. It has about 700 members and 43 stables, or *heya*.

Nihon Sumo Kyokai holds a grand tournament six times a year, in Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya, and Fukuoka. The tournaments of January, May, and September are held in Tokyo, while the other three in March, July, and November are held in Osaka, Nagoya, and Fukuoka, respectively. Grand tournaments each last fifteen days.

The professional wrestlers are called *rikishi*. On the basis of their skill, they are divided into two grades: *maku-uchi*, which is the senior grade, and *maku-shita*, which is the junior grade. The highest position

9. RELIGION

A. Overview

Source: Shukyo Nenkan 2014

A. Adherents of Religions in Japan, as of December 2013 (,000)

Shinto	91,260
Buddhism	86,902
Christianity	2,948
Others	9,066
<hr/>	
Total	190,176

B. Adherents of Religions in Japan, Based on the Reports by Comprehensive Religious Organizations under the Jurisdiction of MEXT, as of December 2013

	(,000)
Shinto	85,665
Shrine-Shinto	82,173
Sectarian Shinto	3,530
Shin Kyoha	282
Buddhism	49,090
Tendai	3,024
Shingon	9,118
Jodo	18,068
Zen	5,216
Nichiren	12,946
Nara	711
Others	7
Christianity	966
Catholic	455
Protestant	511
Others	5,207
<hr/>	
Total	140,928

Introduction Religion in Japan today means primarily the three recognized religions: Shinto, Buddhism, and Christianity. Confucianism, although not strictly a religion but rather a way of living, has also had a great influence on the spiritual life of the Japanese. Besides these, there are some syncretic religions and new religions. Except for Christianity and certain Buddhist groups, most of the faiths are generally not exclusive. In fact, a majority of Japanese claim to be adherents of two or more religions simultaneously. As a result, the total number of the adherents of all religious bodies shown in the statistics always far exceeds the total population of Japan.

Thus, practically all Japanese are considered to be Shintoists, yet the vast majority accept in a general way the teaching of the Confucian classics. Moreover, more than half of the Japanese population claim to be members of one or other of the Buddhist sects. A Shinto altar and a Buddhist altar are found sometimes side-by-side in a Japanese home. And pious parents teach their children to worship both Shinto and Buddhist deities impartially. Of the various explanations for the religious plurality of the Japanese people, one is given here. The Japanese family professes faith as a unit. For instance, if the family head is a Buddhist and belongs to a parish of a certain sect, the entire family is registered as family-parishioners, or *danka*, and the temple of the parish claims all the members of the family as its adherents even though some members may be baptized as Christians. Shinto operates the same way, with its traditional, extensive parish system known as the *ujiko-ujigami* system.

People in Japan were once encouraged to worship the Shinto divinities as the ancestors of the Imperial Family, even if their personal faith might be Buddhism. This may be another reason for the tolerance of Shinto and Buddhist parishioners.

It is also said that the Japanese take their religious beliefs lightly

10. THE ECONOMY AND INDUSTRY

Gross Domestic Product and National Income per Capita

Source: *Sekai no Tokei 2014*

GDP, nominal

(1,000,000 U.S.\$)

Year	Japan	U.S.A.	China	Germany	France
1990	3,082,736	5,979,600	404,494	1,714,447	1,244,124
2000	4,730,102	10,289,700	1,192,836	1,886,400	1,326,334
2010	5,510,722	14,958,300	5,949,786	3,304,439	2,565,039
2012	5,935,866	16,244,600	8,358,400	3,425,956	2,611,221

National Income per Capita

(U.S.\$)

Year	Japan	U.S.A.	China	Germany	France
1990	24,971	23,495	347	21,301	21,334
2000	37,295	36,156	932	22,588	21,770
2010	43,038	47,905	4,375	39,804	39,362
2012	46,537	51,163	6,070	41,376	39,617

Annual Growth Rate, Real GDP

(%)

Year	Japan	U.S.A.	China	Germany	France
1990	5.6	1.9	3.8	5.7	2.6
2000	2.9	3.7	8.4	3.2	3.9
2010	4.7	2.5	10.4	4.0	1.7
2012	1.4	2.8	7.7	0.7	0.0

A. Overview

Business Trends Japan's rapid economic growth after World War II surprised the Japanese themselves, as well as the rest of the world. Within 25 years Japan rose from the devastation of war to become the second largest industrial nation in the Free World. In 1968 Japan's gross national product finally reached 140 billion U.S. dollars, the third largest in the world after those of the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R.

However, Japan's economy entered a new phase in 1970. Business

<KANTO>

TOKYO

Tokyo Metropolis:

Source: Internet home page of Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Population (as of Jan. 1, 2016)

Metropolis (Tokyo-to)	13,507,347
23 wards	9,256,625
peripheral cities	4,166,760
towns & villages	83,962

Area

Metropolis	2,188km ² (845mi ²)
City proper	622km ² (240mi ²)

Schools:

Source: Tokyo-to Tokei Nenkan 2014

138 Universities, 44 Junior Colleges,
432 Senior High schools, 819 Junior High schools,
1,363 Elementary schools, 1,042 Kindergartens

History:

- 1456 Ota Dokan begins constructing a castle: the origin of Edo.
- 1590 Tokugawa Ieyasu moves into Edo.
- 1869 City renamed Tokyo as the capital of Japan.
- 1923 September 1, the Great Kanto Earthquake and fire leave Tokyo in ashes. Approximately 440,000 houses damaged.
- 1943 Tokyo reorganized into Tokyo Metropolis.
- 1991 The new Tokyo Metropolitan Government office complex completed at Shinjuku.
- 2011 Ogasawara Islands designated World Natural Heritage by UNESCO.
- 2012 TOKYO SKYTREE opened.
- 2013 Tokyo chosen to host 2020 Olympic/Paralympic Games.

OVERVIEW OF TOKYO

Introduction Tokyo is the capital of Japan. Population-wise, it is one of the largest cities in the world. Tokyo forms a special administrative district called the Tokyo Metropolis, which comprises the 23 wards, the Tama Area that includes 26 suburban cities, and 9 islands. The center of administration, economic activity, industry, culture, and so on, Tokyo is the hub of Japan.

The 23 wards can be roughly divided into an upper (Yamanote) and a lower (Shitamachi) area. Tokyo developed around the Imperial Palace, which used to be the largest castle in Japan. An extensive network of urban trains, subways, and buses serves all parts of the city. The Chuo-sen, or Central Line, the Yamanote-sen, or Loop Line, of Japan Railways, as well as a number of subway lines are the basic transportation arteries in the Tokyo Metropolitan area.

History Its origin goes back to 1456, when a feudal lord named Ota Dokan (1432-1486) built a castle on the site where the Imperial Palace stands now. Toward the end of the 16th century, Tokugawa Ieyasu, founder of the Tokugawa Shogunate, moved in and reconstructed the castle as the headquarters of his government. Tokyo, called Edo in those days, continued to flourish as the shogun's capital. In 1868 the reign of government was returned to the emperor and it was named Tokyo. The Emperor Meiji moved from Kyoto, which is located some 500km(320mi) west of Tokyo, to the new capital.

LANDMARKS OF TOKYO

The Imperial Palace The city of Tokyo grew around the present Imperial Palace, which was once called Edo Castle, the largest feudal castle in Japan. From the beginning of the 17th century to 1867, the

1. THE ATOMIC BOMB

STATISTICS OF DAMAGE DUE TO THE ATOMIC BOMB

I. Human Damage

The moment the atomic bomb exploded, a fireball was generated that emitted fierce heat rays and radiation in every direction, expanding the air around the fireball and creating a super-high-pressure blast. These three factors interacted in such a way as to inflict tremendous damage on the human body. It is estimated that approx. 50% of those exposed at 1.2km away from the hypocenter were killed on the 6th, and on the same day, 80% to 100% of those who were much closer to the hypocenter perished. The likelihood of death for those who escaped initially varied according to their proximity to the hypocenter and the severity of their injuries.

The precise number of people that perished in the bombing is unknown. Several estimates have been made public. Hiroshima City estimates that by the end of December 1945, when the acute symptoms had subsided, some 140,000 ($\pm 10,000$) had died.

II. Damage to Buildings

Total number of buildings	76,327	(100%)
Totally demolished and burned	47,969	(62.9%)
Totally demolished	3,818	(5.0%)
Half burned	253	(0.3%)
Half demolished	18,107	(23.7%)
Partially demolished	6,180	(8.1%)

The atomic bomb exploded over the city center, and 85% of the buildings in the city stood within 3 kilometers of the hypocenter. More than

90% of its buildings either burned or were demolished. Hiroshima was instantly leveled.

2. THE DAY

Three U.S. B-29 bombers approached the city on the morning of August 6, 1945. At 8:15 a.m. one of them dropped a single bomb and flew away at full speed. The bomb exploded 43 seconds later, about 600m(2,000ft) above Shima Hospital with a blinding flash, creating a fireball that blazed like a small sun. More than a million degrees Celsius(1.8mil°F) at its center, in one second the fireball reached a maximum diameter of 280m(900ft), and the surface temperatures in the vicinity of the hypocenter rose to between 3,000 and 4,000°C (5,432-7,232°F). Simultaneously a column of white smoke rose and formed into the so-called “atomic mushroom cloud.” The Atomic Energy Commission of the U.S. disclosed that it rose to a height of 9,000m(29,500ft), just below the stratosphere, in 8 minutes 30 seconds. And 15 minutes after the atomic cloud started surging upward with radioactive particles, rain began to fall bringing the radioactive particles back down to the ground. Simultaneously with the explosion, the heat rays kindled fires at various places all over the city. Kitchen fires and other sources of heat in flattened houses also caused fires. The fires developed into a conflagration and the entire city was enveloped in a sea of flames by 2 p.m. The whole organization of the city was paralyzed and rescue parties from neighboring communities were delayed. (Source: Peace Memorial Museum. A booklet by Mr. S. Nagaoka)

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