

Princess Aiko's coming-of-age ceremonies

- 1 Princess Aiko, the only child of Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako, turned 20 on December 1st. (20 is the age of becoming an adult in Japan.)
- 2 "I thank all the people who supported me until today. I'd like to do my duty sincerely as a member of the adult imperial family, and support ①the imperial couple as much as possible," she said.
- 3 On December 5th, she took part in the official coming-of-age ceremonies. She was awarded *the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Precious Crown** at the Imperial Palace. *勲一等宝冠章
- 4 Later in the day, Princess Aiko greeted her parents wearing a tiara which she borrowed from her aunt Sayako Kuroda, the Emperor's sister. Princess Aiko decided not to make a new tiara in light of the coronavirus pandemic.
- 5 Princess Aiko is a student at Gakushuin University. She majors in Japanese language and literature. Her coming-of-age press conference has been postponed to March when the university is on spring break.
- 6 By the way, under the Japan's law, only a man can be an emperor, but the present Emperor has only a daughter. More than 80% of the public have no objections to a female monarch. "The LDP is a very conservative party. The politicians have no interest in changing the law to let a woman become empress," said Hiromi Murakami, a political-science professor at Temple University.

coming-of-age 成人 age 年齢 adult 大人 duty 義務 sincerely 真摯に imperial family 皇室
imperial 皇室の(emperor 形容詞) as~as ()可能な限り Cordon 綬章・飾りリボン the Order 聖職
precious 貴重な crown 王冠 imperial palace 皇居 () to ~:~すると決める in light of~:~
を考慮して major in~:~を専攻する literature 文学 press conference 記者会見 postpone 延期する
()法律 present 現在の the public 一般市民 objection 反対意見 female 女性 monarch 君主
LDP(Liberal Democratic Party)自民党 conservative 保守的な politician 政治家 political-science 政治学

- Q1 When is Princess Aiko's birthday?
- Q2 Does she have any brothers or sisters?
- Q3 下線①は、具体的には誰を指していますか。
- Q4 愛子さまは成人した日、どのような決意表明をされましたか。2段落の内容を参考にまとめましょう。
- Q5 What was she awarded on December 5th?
- Q6 Why didn't she wear a new tiara?
- Q7 What does she major in at Gakushuin University?
- Q8 When will her coming-of-age press conference be held?
- Q9 Is it possible for a woman to be a monarch under the Japan's law?
- Q10 What do Japanese people think about a female monarch?
- Q11 According to the professor Hiromi Murakami, is the LDP interested in changing the law?
- Q12 What do you think about changing a law and having a female monarch in Japan?

◆次の文を暗唱しましょう。

- 1) "I'd like to do my duty sincerely."
- 2) Princess Aiko decided not to make a new tiara.
- 3) Under the Japan's law, only a man can be an emperor.

1) 「私は、お務めに真摯に向き合いたいと思います。」

★I'd like to ~: "I want to ~"の丁寧な言い方

★do one's duty: 義務を果たす

★sincerely: 誠意を込めて・真摯に

2) 愛子さまは、新しいティアラを作らないことを決意しました。

★decide to ~: ~することを決意する・決める

★decide not to ~: ~しないと決意する・決める

3) 日本の法律では、男性だけが天皇になることができます。

【今日の文法：関係代名詞】 次の語句を並び替えて、日本語を表す英文にしましょう。

1) 「私は、今日まで私を支えてくれた全ての人達に感謝しています。」(愛子さまの言葉)

all / I / me / supported / thank / the people / today / who / until / .

2) 愛子さまは、叔母の黒田清子さんから借りたティアラをつけました。

her aunt / a tiara / Princess Aiko / from / wore / she / Sayako Kuroda / borrowed / which / .

3) 学習院大学は、1949年に創設された私立大学です。

founded / which / private / Gakushuin University / in / was / university / is / 1949 / a / .

4) 「自民党は、法律を変更することに興味を持たない、保守的な(conservative)党です」

conservative / interested / the LDP / is / the law / is / in / party / changing / not / which / a / .

5) 推古天皇は、女性天皇として即位した初の女性でした。 ※即位する=be 動詞+enthroned

as / the first / Emperor Suiko / an empress / was enthroned / was / woman / that / .

6) 皇居は、私が訪れてみたい場所です。

the place / I / visit / the imperial palace / to / that / want / is / .

Which countries have royal families? 皇室・王室のある国は?(5つ以上書きましょう)