

The Edict of the present Emperor on the occasion of his accession to the throne on November 10, 1929.

Our Imperial Ancestors, ever faithful to the Great Way of God, discharged their august mission in such a manner as to lay an immutable foundation for the Empire, and handed down to their posterity a heritage of rule changeless for all ages, which has now devolved upon ourself. By the grace of the spirits of Our Imperial Ancestors, We have in all reverent succeeded this great throne, the sacred symbols having been respectfully accepted by us and the ceremony of enthronement duly carried out. We hereby clearly proclaim the above fact to our beloved subjects.

Our Imperial Ancestors, in establishing the State and in ruling over the people, looked upon the State as his own family and upon the people as his own children. The succeeding sovereigns have always followed that tradition, so that the benign influence of their love and charity has become thoroughly pervasive among the people who in turn, have unanimously manifested their respect and loyalty to the throne, the sovereign and people being thus united by mutual devotion into one perfect whole. That is the very essence of our national polity, a feature which is found to last so long as heaven and earth shall subsist.

Our Imperial Grand Sire, after a mature study of the old and the new embarked upon the great task of the Restoration, adopting a Constitutional system based on national history as well as foreign examples, and with Civil arts as work and martial virtues as woof attained an accomplishment the like of which has not been known before. Our Imperial Sire, succeeding to this illustrious reign, added further achievements to those of his predecessor so as to render more manifest the true character of our Imperial rule. Endowed as we are with but mediocre gifts, we have now ascended this historic throne, and We therefore fervently wish that with the protection of the spirits of our Imperial Ancestors and the support of our beloved subjects, we may be enabled to discharge our sacred trust without fault or negligence.

It is our cardinal aspiration, within, to promote education and culture, secure harmony and concord among the people and so enhance the general prosperity of the nation; and without to strengthen the bond of friendship with various countries in order thereby to contribute to the lasting peace of the world and the common welfare of mankind.

We call upon you, our beloved subjects, to be of one mind and, sinking private interest in public service, unite your efforts in assisting us to attain this our purpose so that we may be able to answer to the heavenly spirits of Our Imperial Ancestors by rendering more illustrious the great mission so auspiciously initiated by them.

CERTIFICATE OF SOURCE AND AUTHENTICITY

I, SATO, Asao, who occupy the post of Official of the Cabinet, hereby certify that the document hereto attached, written in Japanese, consisting of 2 pages and entitled "The Imperial Inauguration Rescript" is an exact and authorized excerpt from an official document in the custody of Japanese Government (The Cabinet).

Certified at Tokyo,  
on this 16 day of August, 1947.

/S/ SATO, Asao (seal)

I hereby certify that the above signature and seal were affixed hereto in the presence of the witness.

at the same place,  
on this same date

Witness: /S/ IWANAGA, Kenichi (seal)

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