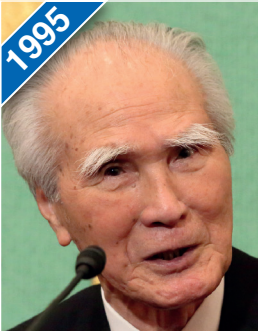


Landmark Japanese apologies over the war

More than seven in 10 Japanese support statements of “deep remorse” and “heartfelt apology” issued by prime ministers on the 50th and 60th anniversaries of the end of World War II



1995: In marking 50th anniversary, Prime Minister **Tomiichi Murayama** expresses “deep remorse” and “heartfelt apology” over Japan’s “colonial rule and aggression”



2005: Prime Minister **Junichiro Koizumi** issues similar statement of deep remorse for all victims and reaffirms pledge that Japan will never again take path to war



2015: Prime Minister **Shinzo Abe's** statement will be scrutinised as his Liberal Democratic Party pushes legislation that many Japanese believe violates pacifist constitution

50th and 60th anniversary statements were appropriate...

Appropriate

Inappropriate

Other

74%

13%

13%

Survey by Asahi Shimbun of 3,000 people between March 11 and April 10, 2015

Legislation allowing Japanese troops to fight overseas if Japan or a close ally is attacked, violates constitution...

Violates constitution

Does not violate constitution

Other

56.6%

24.4%

19%

Survey by Kyodo news agency, conducted July 17-18, 2015, sample size unavailable