

# Japan's Emperor Akihito abdicates

Akihito becomes the first emperor to abdicate in 200 years, passing the Chrysanthemum Throne to his son Crown Prince Naruhito



**Emperor Hirohito**  
1901-1989

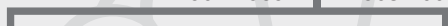


**Empress Nagako**  
1903-2000



Imperial Standard

**1** Place in line of succession



**Emperor Akihito**  
b1933



**Empress Michiko**  
b1934



**Prince Masahito**  
b1935-



**Princess Hanako**  
b1940



**Crown Prince Naruhito**  
b1960



**Princess Masako**  
b1963



**Prince Akishino**  
b1965



**Princess Kiko**  
b1966



**Princess Sayako\***  
b1969



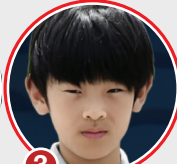
**Princess Aiko**  
b2001



**Princess Mako\*\***  
b1991



**Princess Kako**  
b1994



**Prince Hisahito**  
b2006

Pictures: Newscom, AP Getty Images, U.S. National Archives

\*Left Imperial Family in 2005 on marriage to commoner

\*\*Expected to leave Family in 2020 on marriage to commoner