

A photograph of Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko of Japan. Emperor Akihito is on the left, wearing a dark blue suit and tie, waving with his right hand. Empress Michiko is on the right, wearing a dark blue jacket and a pink floral hat. They are both smiling.

## Today in History

*April 30, 2019*

▲ **Emperor Akihito of Japan abdicated the Chrysanthemum Throne, becoming the first Japanese Emperor to abdicate in over 200 years**

**1945:** Adolf Hitler and Eva Braun, his wife of one day, committed suicide in his underground bunker in Berlin

**1975:** South Vietnam surrendered unconditionally as Saigon fell to communist North Vietnamese forces

**1980:** Terrorists seized the Iranian embassy in London, demanding the release of political prisoners in Iran

**2015:** NASA's Messenger space probe crashed into Mercury at the end of its 11-year study of the planet