Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The Yomiuri Shimbun published its first edition in a small two-story building in 1874 in the Toranomon district of Tokyo. During the approximately 140 years that have passed since then, The Yomiuri Shimbun twice lost its headquarters building — in the 1923 Great Kanto Earthquake and in an air raid just before the end of World War II — but flourished again by building a strong national sales network. Our commitment to providing accurate news more quickly than our competitors, and taking a moderate and sensible editorial line, has given The Yomiuri Shimbun the largest circulation in the world. In 1994, the daily circulation of our morning edition topped 10 million, cementing our position as Japan’s foremost newspaper.

The Yomiuri Shimbun’s growth was not limited to the newspaper business. The group established a professional baseball team, the Yomiuri Giants, and led the way to the founding of Japan’s first private television network, Nippon TV. It also has expanded numerous businesses that contribute to the public good, constructing the Yomiuri Land amusement park and founding the Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra and the Yomiuri Riko Gakuen (Yomiuri Institute of Technology), a body managing two schools.

The group also brought the old-line Chuo Koron-sha publishing company under its umbrella. In cooperation with about 150 affiliated companies and organizations, the group has been contributing to Japan’s development by operating businesses in a broad range of fields: culture, sports, health care and public welfare.

In recent times, some observers have suggested that young people in particular are becoming less inclined to read newspapers and the printed word. As more and more people obtain information via websites and social media, those in education circles are voicing concern, saying there is a noticeable decline in academic ability, especially reading.

While the internet is awash in fragmentary and emotional information, newspaper companies provide accurate, high-quality information obtained by elaborate news-gathering activities. We deliver them through our nationwide sales network. Newspapers offer comprehensive political, economic, international, local and other news. As a way for people to systematically learn of movements in the world and obtain knowledge, newspapers offer many advantages that other media simply cannot provide. These qualities are once again being appreciated year by year.

Recently, a political phenomenon of populism has been spreading among advanced democratic countries. It is essential for a newspaper — which is not overwhelmed by this trend and has a sound editorial stance — to continue to be read widely to ensure the peace and prosperity of the nation, the protection and development of democracy, and the improvement of the people’s daily lives.

The Yomiuri Shimbun Group is determined to remain Japan’s most trusted media group as we move ahead toward the future.

Representative Director, Editor-in-Chief
The Yomiuri Shimbun Holdings
Tsuneo Watanabe
Working to better society

Emphasis on medical issues

In 1997, The Yomiuri Shimbun established the medical information office (now the Medical News Department), which specializes in medical coverage. We were the first Japanese general newspaper to set up such a section. Its establishment sprang from the paper's Medical Renaissance columns, which began in 1992.

Any article you need is available online at any time via the yomiDr. service, which boasts numerous users thanks to its wealth of Yomiuri Shimbun medical articles and such original content as columns written by doctors.

To reinforce our reputation as “Yomiuri, the source for medical news,” we established our medical network office in June 2016. In addition to operating yomiDr., the office provides medical information in print and on its own website, and conducts campaigns against diabetes, high blood pressure and dementia. The office also holds informational symposiums to contribute to the creation of a healthy, long-lived society.

News articles on medical issues back then focused mainly on cutting-edge medical research or malpractice cases. However, the information our readers really wanted were explanations about common diseases and new treatment methods. Medical Renaissance covers such issues in a straightforward way from the readers’ point of view.

This series was awarded the 1994 Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association award and the 1996 Kikuchi Kan Prize, reflecting recognition of the newspaper as a trusted source for medical news.

We also feature a variety of medical information in the form of “Byoin no Jitsuryoku,” a publication that lists past treatment records of hospitals across the country, and columns titled “Karada (body)” and “Kokoro (mind)” in the evening edition. Careful news gathering by specialized reporters has resulted in Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association awards for the stories “External fertilization with donor egg” in fiscal 1998 and “Patient’s death after laparoscopic surgeries at Gunma University Hospital” in fiscal 2015.

Emphasis on education

The Yomiuri Shimbun has focused on improving education coverage. In April 2013, we established the Education News Department at the Editorial Bureau of our Tokyo headquarters to create a system for reporting by specialists through daily news and feature articles.

One feature that symbolizes The Yomiuri Shimbun’s strength in covering educational issues is the morning edition’s Education Renaissance, which started in 2005 and reports on Japan’s ever-changing educational landscape. Since 2008, we have aggregated data on about 90 percent of Japan’s universities, such as withdrawal rates, and published data available in print and online under the name “Daigaku no Jitsuryoku,” helping students choose their universities on a more meaningful basis than scores or name recognition.

In 2014, we established the Yomiuri Education Network based on an accumulation of our longtime news coverage and networking, sending Yomiuri Shimbun reporters and people from participating companies and universities to give lectures at elementary, junior high and high schools. The network also holds educational events as needed. About 400 groups have participated in the network, which also engages in NIE (newspaper in education) activities and support students’ job-hunting.

Young people’s reading and writing abilities are said to have weakened. The Yomiuri Shimbun started a program called “Shimbun no Chikara” (power of newspapers) in 2016 to help foster such abilities, offering university students and adults effective classes using newspapers.

We cooperated with publishing groups to establish a printed culture promotion committee to launch the “21st century printed culture project,” which preserves and nurtures a print culture, including books and newspapers. The committee organizes forums, talk shows and open lectures at universities all around Japan. “Bibilabla,” in which participants compete to whip up enthusiasm for their favorite books, now take place at junior high schools, high schools and universities.

The Yomiuri Shimbun will continue to provide learning opportunities and information useful to society.
Our duty as Japan’s largest daily newspaper

The Yomiuri Shimbun is a daily newspaper with the largest circulation in the world. The newspaper is characterized by its extensive news coverage as well as its clear, logical editorial lines. We have also served the public’s “right to know” through numerous scoops. In order to continue to be a trusted media organization, we impose on ourselves rigorous quality control through such internal mechanisms as: the Journalism Training Committee, which is in charge of coaching our journalists; the Oversight Committee for Proper Reporting, which evaluates the accuracy of articles before publishing them; and the Ombudsman Committee, which gives advice to journalists on how to cover daily news events as well as on the way articles should be written.

Scoops

Scoops that appear on the front page are the quintessence of newspaper reporting. The Yomiuri Shimbun has published numerous scoops, raising society’s awareness of issues it faces. In November 2014, we were the first to report that eight people had died after highly difficult laparoscopic surgeries performed at Gunma University Hospital in Gunma Prefecture. For this reporting, we were selected as the winner of the 2015 Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association award, a symbol of excellence in journalism.

In 2015 – the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II – The Yomiuri Shimbun succeeded in hunting down a list of 1,057 Japanese who died in detention centers set up by the former Soviet Union on the northern Korean Peninsula, southern Sakhalin Island and in Dalian, China, after the war ended. Our revelation that the Japanese government did not publicize this list despite having acquired a portion of it led to changes in how the government conducts research into detainees’ deaths.

Neither the Gunma hospital case nor the existence of a list of Japanese people dying under Soviet detention would have come to light without The Yomiuri Shimbun reporting on them. Truths need to be known. This is how our service contributes to building a better society. Such is the belief held by our journalists who work hard covering news day and night.

Our proposals for Japan’s future

Since proposing a draft revision to the Japanese Constitution in November 1994, The Yomiuri Shimbun has released policy proposals on a wide range of issues critical to Japan’s future, on such topics as national security, economic policy, education, the tax system and health care. By doing so, The Yomiuri Shimbun has not only pioneered its own style of journalism but has also been an opinion leader of the times.

Yomiuri Shimbun editorials

The Yomiuri Shimbun has clear editorial positions on important news stories in politics, economy and business, and social issues – both national and international. Editorials are written by the Editorial Board, consisting of veteran journalists who have worked in their fields of expertise, such as politics, economy and business, metro news, international news, science and culture. The Editorial Board is supervised by the newspaper’s executive editor as well as its chairman.

Our editorial positions are established based on our belief that what we have to say is valid and true – and will remain so even if our readers are reading our editorials 30 years from now – and not by catering to current fashions.

More details about The Yomiuri Shimbun can be found through the code on the right.
Presenting modern Japan in English

The Japan News, published by The Yomiuri Shimbun, boasts the largest circulation of any English-language daily in Japan. Its mission is to promote accurate, well-balanced, quality information in English, based on The Yomiuri Shimbun’s editorial policy. The English-language daily made a new start in 2013, changing its name from the well-known The Daily Yomiuri. The Japan News is widely subscribed to by many Japanese and non-Japanese residents, including readers from the business community and diplomatic corps in this country.

Well-balanced reporting

The Japan News offers a wide array of articles covering politics, the economy, international affairs, society, sports, culture and other areas, taking advantage of such strengths as The Yomiuri Shimbun’s extensive network in and outside Japan. In addition, we extensively cover issues that are of interest to younger generations and news related to Japan’s cutting-edge technology, to respond to growing demands from our readers for such information.

The Japan News carries The Yomiuri Shimbun’s editorials in the original Japanese, side-by-side with their English translations, conveying our company’s moderate, balanced opinions to the world.

The Japan News is enjoying a growing readership not only in Japan, but also overseas, notably in the United States and English speaking countries in Asia, mainly via our website. We now serve as a major English-language media organization in Japan.

Responding to growing interest in Japan

Japan is seeing an increasing number of foreign visitors every year, with 24 million visiting the country in 2018. Tokyo will host the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, which will give Japan a chance to interact even more closely with the rest of the world.

Spurred by these factors, Japanese students of English language turn to The Japan News to help improve their communications with people from abroad. In addition, The Japan News and its website have become tools helping foreign visitors find local information, especially in areas such as tourism, entertainment and culture.

Follow the world

The Japan News has business tie-ups with the world’s leading media companies, which provide us with the latest reports and stories by top columnists. You can follow today’s world without ever leaving Japan.
Various types of media

We publish The Yomiuri KODOMO Shim bun, a weekly newspaper for primary school students, and The Yomiuri Chukosei Shim bun, a weekly newspaper for teens, in addition to The Yomiuri Shim bun and The Japan News. Also, we operate the news site YOMIURI ONLINE(YOL) and offer various other digital services.

Newspapers

The Yomiuri KODOMO Shim bun

The Yomiuri KODOMO Shim bun is a weekly newspaper for primary school students that comes out every Thursday. The full-color paper printed in tabloid size features numerous illustrations and photographs. We meet the expectations of young readers who are full of curiosity with a wide range of topics from science to cartoons. In 2011, The KODOMO Shim bun received a jury commendation award in the editorial category of the World Young Reader Prize offered by the World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers (WAN-IFRA).

The Yomiuri Chukosei Shim bun

The Yomiuri Chukosei Shim bun, published every Friday, has been designed to be like “a textbook that teens can use to learn about the world.” Readers can enjoy more than 30 diverse sections including not only news but also English tutorials. In 2015, we were awarded a top editorial prize in the World Young Reader Prize competition by the World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers (WAN-IFRA).

Database services

Yomidas Rekishikan

Yomidas Rekishikan is a newspaper database that includes articles from The Japan News, the English-language newspaper published by The Yomiuri Shim bun, as well as Japanese-language articles from The Yomiuri Shim bun. The Japan News articles that are searchable in the database are limited to those for which the copyright is owned by The Yomiuri Shim bun. Some articles published in the current Heisei era (1989-) are provided with a link that allows users to jump to the original Japanese article to facilitate reading them in both English and Japanese. More than 13 million Yomiuri Shim bun articles, since its inception in 1874, are covered by the database. Those published in the Meiji era (1868-1912) and the Taisho era (1912-1926) are even searchable by modern Japanese words and are provided in an image format. Yomiuri Shim bun articles from 1886 to the present are provided in a text format. The database also features scanned local news pages published since 1833 in 46 prefectures, excluding Okinawa Prefecture. It also encompasses a who’s who of about 38,000 notable people of the present day.

Digital services

YOMIURI ONLINE

Yomiuri Online was launched in 1995 and is the general news site of The Yomiuri Shim bun. Otokomachi, a special website for women, and a Japanese-language forum geared towards women called Hatagenkomachi are popular among various groups of readers.

Yomiuri Premium

Yomiuri Premium is a paid service for readers of The Yomiuri Shim bun, which delivers articles, columns and cartoons that are not published on Yomiuri Online.
Honoring outstanding achievements, contributions

The Yomiuri Shimbun has various programs to reward the achievements and contributions of individuals and organizations. The programs aim to support the promotion of culture and sports, the development of young people and the improvement of the medical and health environments.

Culture, sports and international cooperation

The Yomiuri Bungaku-sho prize for literature was established in 1949. Awards are given each year to excellent works in six categories: novel, drama/script, essay/travel writing, critique/biography, poetry/haiiku and study/translation. The Yomiuri Engeki-tazabo was established in 1992 to promote theater culture. The best productions, actors and artists of the year are selected. In sports, the Sawamura Award is given to the season’s top starting pitcher in the Nippon Professional Baseball league. The Japan Sports Awards commending major accomplishments by athletes and teams, and the Japan Para-Sports Awards for disabled athletes and teams were also established by The Yomiuri Shimbun.

The Yomiuri International Cooperation Award, established in 1994, honors individuals and organizations devoted to the field of international cooperation activities.

Education and youth

We have hosted a national contest in essay composition for elementary and junior high school students since 1961. We consider it a project with social significance as it nurtures children’s writing skills, and also combats the growing trend of people reading less.

The H.I.H. Prince Takamado Trophy All Japan Int’l-Middle School English Oratorial Contest is the largest English speech competition in Japan for junior high school students. It was established in 1948. A prestigious science contest for junior high school and high school students, the Japan Students Science Award, marked its 60th anniversary in 2016. High-ranking winners are selected to participate in the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF).

Lifestyle and medical care

The Yomiuri Awards for Medical Dedication commend people dedicated to medical care in remote regions, developing countries and other challenging environments. A nationwide photo contest, the Yomiuri Photo Grand Prix, rewards photos in three categories: news, human and family, and those taken by high school students.
The Yomiuri Shimbun contributes to holding a wide array of events that inspire and excite visitors.

Exhibitions

The Yomiuri Shimbun has held a number of high-quality exhibitions, introducing a variety of art genres from Japan and abroad.

Among them was “Great French Paintings from the Barnes Foundation” held in 1994 at the National Museum of Western Art in Ueno, Tokyo. It showcased Impressionist masterpieces from the American collection, which had rarely been shown to the public before. It drew 1.07 million visitors—a record number for the museum. In 2014, “The Birth of Impressionism,” an event exhibiting works from the Orsay Museum in Paris, attracted 710,000 people. Such large-scale shows were realized because of the credibility that The Yomiuri Shimbun has established with major museums in Japan and overseas.

In addition to these events, The Yomiuri Shimbun also held “The Deep” in 2013, a special exhibition that drew attention to a giant squid specimen. Each year, we organize the Yomiuri Shoboten, one of the largest calligraphy shows, soliciting works from across the country.

Music, stage performances

The Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra was established in 1962 as the only orchestra in the world owned by a newspaper company. It successfully toured Europe in 2015 and has received acclaim from inside and outside Japan.

The Yomiuri Shimbun also sponsored The Beatles’ Japan concert in 1966, in addition to other events in various genres.

Sports, hobbies

In 2016, The Yomiuri Shimbun became a Tokyo 2020 Official Partner in the newspapers category under a contract with the Tokyo Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The Yomiuri Shimbun contributes to conveying the excitement of various sporting events. They include professional baseball games of the Yomiuri Giants, the Tokyo Marathon and the Tokyo-Hakone Intercollegiate Ekiden. The Yomiuri Shimbun puts strenuous effort into the promotion of sports events for students by supporting the national high school soccer championship. In 2013, The Yomiuri Shimbun became one of the hosts for the Interscholastic Athletic Meet.
Printing factories & sales networks nationwide

The Yomiuri Shimbun boasts an extensive delivery and sales network with printing bases located across the nation. Newspapers printed at the factories are sent to Yomiuri Center (YC) agencies via the delivery network, which has been developed over the company's long history, and then delivered to subscribers along with ad inserts and other printed materials.

Production power with 30 bases

Page data is prepared at three head offices in Tokyo, Osaka and Fukuoka and three branch offices in Sapporo, Nagoya and Takasaki, Toyama Prefecture, and is sent online to 30 printing factories across the nation and printed on high-speed rotary presses to produce newspapers. The freshly printed newspapers are then transported to Yomiuri Center agencies quickly through our own delivery network.

We consistently use new technologies to produce our newspapers. We are reducing our environmental impact through such measures as gradually replacing rotary printing presses with the latest energy-efficient models. Regarding the process of fixing the text and images to the new print, we took the lead in the newspaper industry by introducing printing technology that does not use developer fluid and thus does not produce liquid waste. In 2015, The Yomiuri Shimbun was awarded the technology prize by the Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association for its environmentally friendly printing efforts.

Delivery power with 7,000 agencies

The number of Yomiuri Center agencies, including outlets that handle other newspapers, totals about 7,000. They employ about 70,000 people.

Agency employees visit subscribers' homes to collect subscription fees and deliver a publication specially created for subscribers. Although subscribers are increasingly paying their fees by automatic bank withdrawals or credit cards, employees have direct contact with subscribers through the visits, which allow them to ask the subscribers in person for their opinions of the newspaper content and delivery services, for example.

Watching over communities

The national Yomiuri crime prevention association, a body comprising Yomiuri Center agencies nationwide, is intended to promote volunteer activities to protect the safety of local people by taking advantage of the nature of agency employees' community-based work.

These activities range from watching over elderly people and children to offering information and conducting events to help prevent crimes. The association also cooperates with police headquarters in all 47 prefectures.

Print publications as gifts

For children and grandchildren who live away from home, Yomiuri Subscription Support allows you to arrange for delivery of The Yomiuri Shimbun, The Yomiuri KODOMO Shimbun, The Yomiuri Chukouei Shimbun or The Japan News to a designated address as a gift, if you pay a subscription fee to the service desk.

Giving print publications helps your children and grandchildren improve their learning ability on a daily basis and supports their job-hunting activities. Our sales network, which is spread throughout the nation, makes this system work.

Ad inserts that enrich daily life

Taking advantage of the newspaper’s extensive household reach enabled by its wide circulation, ads for various items and services, ranging from food and clothing to distance learning and cram schools, are inserted into our newspapers. These days, the potential impact of ad inserts has increased, as they employ new designs such as offering samples of products and inviting readers to visit relevant websites.
Education, welfare, culture —— our social responsibility

The Yomiuri Shim bun is engaged in a range of social contribution activities in the fields of education, medical care, public welfare, culture, sports and the environment.

Medical care and public welfare

A series of events called the “Medical Renaissance forum,” featuring experts and celebrities offering medical information, are held at locations nationwide, including at The Yomiuri Shim bun’s branch offices and regional bureaus.

The Yomiuri Shim bun Group’s public interest incorporated foundation, the Shoriki Welfare Foundation, has been conducting a project to support cancer patients and their family members, providing grants to organizations for cancer patients nationwide and more.

The Yomiuri Shim bun Group’s social welfare corporation, the Yomiuri Light and Humanity Association, supports people with disabilities and natural disaster victims.

Local community support

The Yomiuri Shim bun’s delivery agencies, known as Yomiuri Center, have strong ties with local communities and offer a variety of community support projects. The national Yomiuri crime prevention association encourages YC staff members to dial 110, the emergency telephone number, if they come across suspicious individuals. The association also promotes a child protection program called “House of 110 for Children,” in which Yomiuri Centers provide a place of refuge for children if they encounter suspicious individuals or dangerous situations. The association also encourages staff members to support elderly people.

There have been several cases in which YC staff members have noticed irregularities in houses on their delivery routes, resulting in the rescue of individuals suffering from acute illness.

Children participate in a crime prevention seminar.

Education and culture

The Yomiuri Shim bun’s support for education involves a variety of projects, from elementary school to university. The Yomiuri Education Network is an organization established in October 2014 in cooperation with companies, universities, boards of education, elementary schools, junior high schools, high schools and other education-related organizations. The network organizes lectures at schools by Yomiuri Shim bun journalists and officials of participating companies and universities, and also holds education-related events for the general public introducing pioneering teaching methods and unique education projects. At a “career design seminar” event, job-hunting consultants share their knowledge on various industries with undergraduate and graduate students.

Seminars are held for students to discuss the full of reading.

Promoting culture and sports

The Yomiuri Shim bun organizes large art exhibitions, actively supports local museums nationwide and Yomiuri Shim bun representatives serve as trustees of the Japan Association of Art Museums. The association, which includes public museums throughout the country, helps organize art events in various areas, promotes the touring of art exhibitions, holds training programs for curators and provides grants for related research.

The Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra, known as “Yumikyo,” holds concerts not only at large halls, but also at elementary, junior high and high schools for children. The Yomiuri Shim bun is engaged in a diverse range of cultural activities and is also involved in nationwide sports events, public marathons and sport meets for children.

Children clean up railway cars at a site selected by The Yomiuri Shim bun as one of the 100 Landscapes of Metabo.

More details about our social responsibility programs can be found through the code on the right.

The environment

In an effort to reduce the company’s environmental impact, The Yomiuri Shim bun has been conducting conservation activities. Printing factories have adopted technologies that are more environmentally friendly and The Yomiuri Shim bun’s buildings, including its head office, are equipped with energy-saving devices. The raw material used to print the newspaper contains about 70% recycled waste-paper fiber. In the delivery area of The Yomiuri Shim bun’s Tokyo head office, about 20,000 tons of waste paper was recovered each month as of April 2016. The Yomiuri Shim bun is also conducting awareness-raising activities for the preservation of natural resources and the environment.

Professional Go player Yuta Iyama, who holds the title of Honinbo.
The Yomiuri Shimbun is also a superior advertising medium. Ads in The Yomiuri Shimbun have the power to reach their targets, as the paper has the world's largest circulation and boasts the strong credibility of an established newspaper.

**Circulation**

Compared with other Japanese newspapers that have the second-largest circulation or lower, The Yomiuri Shimbun has a far higher readership. You can reach many more people by placing an ad in The Yomiuri Shimbun.

**Circulation coverage rate**

Among commercial newspapers, The Yomiuri Shimbun has the highest coverage rate. We efficiently reach people in administrative positions and management, as well as those working at listed companies.

**Chosen by many top companies in Japan and the world**

Leading companies rely on The Yomiuri Shimbun and place their ads in the paper.

**Home delivery circulation by area**

The Japan News has the highest circulation of any English-language newspaper among JABC-member newspaper companies. About half its readers live in the Tokyo metropolitan area, and about 90 percent live in the nation's three major metropolitan areas.

**Readership**

About 40 percent of readers are foreign nationals, and 60 percent are Japanese. Seventy percent of our foreign readers are from North America, South America, or Europe.

The Japan News is read by people in various occupations but mainly by businesspeople. The average household income of readers is ¥7.19 million.

**Chosen by many top companies in Japan**

Leading companies rely on The Japan News and place their ads in the paper.

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**For advertising**

**The Japan News** is also an excellent advertising medium. The Japan News has the highest circulation of any English-language newspaper among JABC-member newspaper companies. About half its readers live in the Tokyo metropolitan area, and about 90 percent live in the nation's three major metropolitan areas.
About the Yomiuri Shimbun Group

At a glance

The Yomiuri Shimbun Group is an integrated media group centered on The Yomiuri Shimbun, Japan's leading newspaper, and includes numerous influential companies in such fields as culture, sports, leisure, and logistics. About 150 companies and organizations exist under the umbrella of The Yomiuri Shimbun Holdings. The total revenue (operating revenue) for the Yomiuri Shimbun Group in fiscal 2015 ending March 2016 was ¥656.8 billion.

Six mainstay entities of The Yomiuri Shimbun

The Yomiuri Shimbun
1-7-1 Otemachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8055
First published in 1874
Capital ¥11 billion

The Yomiuri Shimbun, Osaka
5-9 Kozan-cho, Kita-ku, Osaka 530-8511
First published in 1952
Capital ¥100 million

The Yomiuri Shimbun, Seibu
1-16-5 Akasaka, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 107-8051
First published in 1964
Capital ¥100 million

The Yomiuri Giants
1-7-1 Otemachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8151
The Yomiuri Shimbun Building, 26th floor

Chukoron-Shinsha, Inc.
1-7-1 Otemachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8152
The Yomiuri Shimbun Building, 19th floor

Hokkaido Branch Office
Chubu Branch Office
Hokuriku Branch Office

The History of The Yomiuri Shimbun

Nov. 2, 1874
The Yomiuri Shimbun launched

March 9, 1885
Sends first foreign correspondent to China (then under Qing dynasty)

April 3, 1914
Creates “Yomiuri Fujin Furuk,” a page dedicated to articles for women

April 27, 1917
Sponsors the Tokaido Ekiden Toho Kyuu, a relay race between Kyoto and Tokyo by the predecessors of the Tokyo-Hakone Intercollegiate Ekiden

Sept. 1, 1923
The Yomiuri Shimbun’s head office building destroyed in Great Kanto Earthquake

Dec. 26, 1934
Establishes Japan’s first professional baseball team, the Dainippon Tokyo Yakyu Club, now the Yomiuri Giants

May 25, 1945
The Yomiuri Shimbun’s head office building destroyed in an air raid by U.S. bombers

Nov. 25, 1952
Begins publishing the Osaka edition, its first step toward becoming a national newspaper

Aug. 28, 1953
Nippon TV commence commercial broadcasting

April 1, 1955
Begins publishing an English-language newspaper, now titled The Japan News

April 1, 1962
Founds the Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra

Sept. 23, 1964
Begins publishing the Seibu (Kyushu) edition

June 30, 1966
Sponsors The Beatles’ first performance in Japan

March 25, 1975
Begins publication of the Chubu (Nagoya) edition

Feb. 1977
Achieves the largest newspaper circulation in Japan

Oct. 19, 1986
Newspaper production process at the Tokyo head office fully computerized

May 1994
Circulation surpasses 16 million

Nov. 3, 1994
Releases draft for constitutional revisions

Jan. 1, 1995
A Yomiuri Shimbun scoop reveals that a residual product of sarin had been detected in the then village of Kamiizumi, Yamanashi Prefecture

June 16, 1995
Launches Internet news site

Oct. 17, 2002
Signs an official partnership contract with the Japanese Olympic Committee to support the Japanese delegation

March 3, 2011
The Yomiuri KODOMO Shimbun newspaper for children launched

Nov. 7, 2014
The Yomiuri Chukosei Shimbun newspaper for teens launched

April 9, 2015
Total number of editions published reaches 50,000

Signs a Tokyo 2020 Official Partner contract in the newspapers category with the Tokyo Organizing Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games

More details about our history can be found through the code on the right
読売新聞