

明治維新（1868）とは元々、サムライ階級の軍事革命であり、結果、その特性を憲法の中にも残してしまった。特性とは軍部が政府機関と同じ地位が与えられている点にある。また藩閥政治のなかで天皇の役割は「承認」であり、全員一致を見届ける役割である。法制的に政治参加がない。そして弱い政府。このような上図の「3すくみ」の仕組みが活用可能なのは、元勳（元老）\*1がいることで3つの機関に対して修正や調整をいつでも行えたからである。

1925年選挙権が拡大し政治は明治のしくみではなくなった。つまり元老は逝去、かつ「3すくみ」の仕組みが民主政治時代に残ったのである。元老の代わりは「連絡会議」であり、その参加者はだれも強い決定力など持っていない（下図）。

つまり、1925年頃から1945年の終戦まで「指導者のいない会議」で議案を決定をすることが続いた。

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この頃（満州事変の頃）から「国務と統帥の統一」「陸軍と海軍の調整」と言った言葉が盛んに見られるようになるわけです。こうした弊害を少しでも減らし各部署間の調整を図ろうとの意図で作られたのが大本営政府連絡会議でした。（中略）いくら名前が変わっても中身は皆同じです。あくまでも、その本質は文字通りの連絡会議ですから誰にも決定権はありません。

1937年11月～ 大本営政府連絡会議

1940年11月～ 大本営政府連絡懇談会

1941年 7月～ 大本営政府連絡会議

1944年 8月～ 最高戦争指導会議

：国務と統帥の分裂に悩む 政府がその調整を目指して設置した。権威はあっても法制的根拠はなく必要な場合は閣議決定の手続きを必要とした。\*2

重要なことは（1）明治維新は市民革命ではない特異な社会改革であり、特異な政治体制は明治時代におけるいくつかの困難な課題解決に貢献したものの、昭和の時代に入り「適合しない体制」になっていたこと。（2）その結果、日本のこの時代、政府と軍部が対立したが問題解決のしくみなく、バラバラのままだったこと。

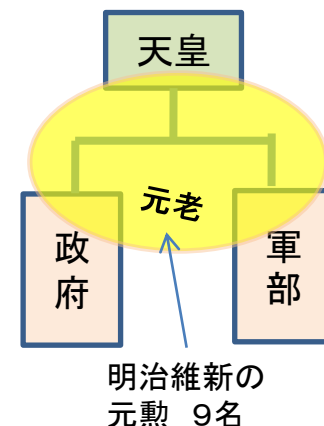
\*1「近代 日本人の肖像 元老」 <https://www.ndl.go.jp/portrait/pickup/014/>

\*2「東條英機歴史の証言」P93 渡部昇一 祥伝社文庫 2010年7月

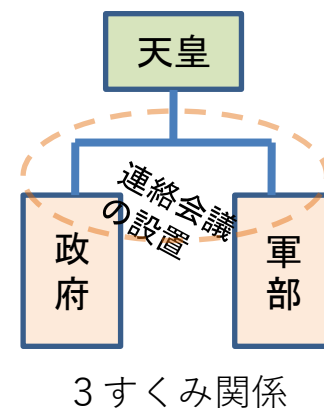
Manga, Image,

1889年～

立憲君主



≒1925年～



The Meiji Restoration (1868) was originally a military revolution of the Samurai class, and as a result, its characteristics were retained in the constitution. These characteristics were that the military was given the same status as a government institution. In addition, the role of the Ten-nou in clan-based politics was to "approve" and check unanimity. There was no legal participation in politics. And the government was weak. This "rock-paper-scissors" system was possible because the Genro (Meritorious contributors)\*1 had the power to make corrections and adjustments to the three institutions at any time. (Top diagram)

In 1925, voting rights were expanded and politics was no longer structured as it was in the Meiji period. In other words, the Genro passed away, and the "rock-paper-scissors" system remained in the era of democratic politics. The replacement for the Genro was the "liaison conference," and none of its participants had strong decision-making power (bottom diagram).

In other words, from around 1925 until the end of the war in 1945, proposals were decided at the "liaison conferences without an official leader ."

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Around this time , which was around the time of the Manchurian Incident, phrases like "unification of state affairs and command" as well as "coordination between the army and navy" began to be used frequently. The Imperial General Headquarters-Government Liaison Conference was created with the intention of reducing these problems as much as possible and coordinating between the various departments. (Omitted) No matter how many times the name changed, the contents were always the same. In essence, They were literally liaison conferences, so no one had the power to make decisions. These conferences were given different names as time went on. They were:

- The Imperial General Headquarters-Government Liaison Conference (1937 – 1940)
- The Imperial General Headquarters-Government Liaison Discussion Meeting (1940 – 1941)
- The Imperial General Headquarters-Government Liaison Conference (1941 – 1944)
- The Supreme War Leadership Council (1944 – 1945)

The government, which was troubled by the division between state affairs and command, established these conferences with the aim of coordinating the division. Although it had authority, it had no legal basis, and when necessary, a cabinet decision was required. \*2

The important points are (1) that the Meiji Restoration was a unique social reform, not a civil revolution, and that the curious political system contributed to solving some difficult problems during the Meiji era, However, by the time the Showa era began, it had become an "Outdated system." (2) As a result, during this period in Japan, the government and the military were in conflict, but there was no mechanism for resolving problems, and the country remained fragmented.

