

# Delve Deeper into "Campaign"

A film by Kazuhiro Soda

This multi-media resource list, compiled by Susan Conlon and Martha Perry of the Princeton Public Library, provides a range of perspectives on the issues raised by the upcoming P.O.V. documentary "Campaign" that premieres on July 28th, 2008 at 10 PM (check local listings at [www.pbs.org/pov/](http://www.pbs.org/pov/)).

*This is democracy — Japanese style. "Campaign" provides a startling insider's view of Japanese electoral politics in this portrait of a man plucked from obscurity by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to run for a critical seat on a suburban city council. Kazuhiro "Yama-san" Yamauchi's LDP handlers are unconcerned that he has zero political experience, no charisma, no supporters and no time to prepare. What he does have is the institutional power of Japan's modern version of Tammany Hall pushing him forward. Yama-san allows his life to be turned upside down as he pursues the rituals of Japanese electioneering — with both tragic and comic results. A co-presentation with the Center for Asian American Media (CAAM).*

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## ADULT NONFICTION

**Benedict, Ruth.** *The Chrysanthemum and the Sword: Patterns of Japanese Culture.* Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1946. Explores the effects of politics, religion, economics and personal family life on the Japanese from the seventh century through the mid-twentieth century.

**Bowen, Roger.** *Japan's Dysfunctional Democracy: The Liberal Democratic Party and Structural Corruption.* Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, 2003. A critical exploration of Japan's Liberal Democratic Party and its politics since WWII.

**Curtis, Gerald.** *The Logic of Japanese Politics.* New York: Columbia University Press, 2000. A great explanation of the often-convoluted culture of Japanese politics and the institutions that drive it.

**Curtis, Gerald.** *The Japanese Way of Politics.* New York: Columbia University Press, 1988. With a wealth of detail, this book describes Japan's nuanced political system, while challenging the myths and stereotypes surrounding it.

**Curtis, Gerald.** *Election Campaigning Japanese Style.* Columbia University Press, 2008. This book analyzes different Japanese campaigning methods as well as offers an overview on Japan's general campaigning culture.

**Christensen, Ray.** *Ending the Ldp Hegemony: Party Cooperation in Japan.* Honolulu : University of Hawaii Press, 2000. Author Ray Christensen gives us the first English language study of inter-party relations in Japan, offering a better understanding of modern Japanese politics.

**Flanagan, Scott C., Shinsaku Kohei, Ichiro Miyaki, and Bradley M. Richardson.** *The Japanese Voter.* New Haven: Yale University Press, 1991. An attempt to systematically describe the voting behavior of the Japanese people.

**Hendry, Joy.** *Understanding Japanese Society.* London; New York: Routledge Curzon, 2003. A comprehensive and logical approach to understanding Japanese culture and society.

**Ikeno, Osamu and Roger J. Davies, ed.** *The Japanese Mind: Understanding Contemporary Culture.* Charles E Tuttle Co., 2002. Davies offers Westerners an invaluable key to understanding the unique aspects of Japanese culture, while describing what really makes the Japanese, and their society, tick.

**Kuroda, Yasumasa.** *The Core of Japanese Democracy: Latent Interparty Politics.* New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005. Exposes the inner workings of Japanese Politics, describing the underlying negotiations and compromises between parties.

**Schafferer, Christian.** *Election Campaigning in East and Southeast Asia: Globalization of Political Marketing.* Ashgate Publishing, 2006. Examines the nature of campaigns in East and Southeast Asia, while asking the question of whether or not there is an "Asian style" of campaigning.

**Scheiner, Ethan.** *Democracy without Competition in Japan: Opposition Failure in a One-Party Dominant State.* New York: Cambridge University Press, 2006. Author Ethan Scheiner's details how a relatively unpopular party remains the majority power in Japan.

**Stockwin, J.A.A.** *Dictionary of the Modern Politics of Japan.* Routledge: 1 edition, 2003. A clear alphabetical reference list of the different names, entities, events and issues related to Japanese Politics. Each entry is followed by a list for further reading.

**Stockwin, J. A. A.** *Governing Japan: Divided Politics in a Major Economy.* Wiley-Blackwell, 1999. The third edition of *Governing Japan* provides a comprehensive introduction to Japanese political institutions, processes and culture, taking account of the remarkable changes made in recent years.

**Van Wolferen, Karel.** *The Enigma of Japanese Power: People and Politics in a Stateless Nation.* Vintage, 1990. A Dutch journalist attempts to shed light on the realities of Japanese politics.

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## NONFICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS

**Phillips, Charles.** *Japan.* Washington, DC: National Geographic, 2007. A basic overview of the history, geography, climate, and culture of Japan. Grades 3-6.

**Takabayashi, Mari.** *I Live in Tokyo.* Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2001. Far away, in the Pacific Ocean, Tokyo is a busy city of color, activity, celebrations, gigantic buildings and much more. Seven-year-old Mimiko lives in Tokyo, and here you can follow a year's worth of fun, food and



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festivities in Mimiko's life, month by month. Grades K-2.

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## FILMS, VIDEOS, AND BROADCASTS

**"Spirits of the State, Japan's Yasukuni Shrine," Films for the Humanities and Sciences, 2007. DVD. (28 min.)** John K. Nelson and Hannah Gordon. Tokyo's Yasukuni shrine honors and venerates the spirits of Japanese soldiers and officers, including convicted and executed war criminals. This program explores the history of the Shinto shrine, the complexity of its functions, and the controversies generated when political leaders appear there.  
<http://ffh.films.com/id/11748>

**"150 Years of US-Japanese Relations: Past, Present, and Future." Japan Center for Intercultural Communications, 2003. DVD. (39 min.)** English. The history and current state of Japanese-American social, political and economic relations.  
<http://home.jcic.or.jp/en/index-e.html>

