

On this occasion of Remembrance and Reconciliation, I bow my head deeply before the souls of all those who perished.

I express my feelings of profound grief and my eternal, sincere condolences.

We must never again repeat the devastation of war.

We shall never again resort to any form of threat or use of force as a means of settling international disputes. With deep repentance for the war, Japan made that pledge.

Japan has repeatedly expressed feelings of deep remorse and heartfelt apology for its actions during the war.

In order to manifest such feelings through concrete actions, we have engraved in our hearts the histories of suffering of the people, including those in Asia and we have consistently devoted ourselves to peace and prosperity of the region since the end of the war.

Such position articulated by the previous cabinets will remain unshakable into the future.

While taking quiet pride in the path we have walked as a peace-loving nation for more than seventy-five years, we remain determined never to deviate from this steadfast course.

We must pass this down from generation to generation into the future.

We have a great responsibility to take lessons of history deeply into our hearts so as to carve out a better future.