

How Has the LDP Stayed in Power for So Long?

Some of the most basic reasons include, firstly, the rapid postwar economic growth that occurred under their leadership. Secondly, the most important leadership positions, including prime minister, tend to run in families. A few examples include Prime Minister Hatoyama who was grandfather to Prime Minister Yukio, Prime Minister Yoshida who was grandfather to Prime Minister Aso, and Prime Minister Kishi who was grandfather to current Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. Thirdly, the LDP is so large that the factions within it allow for governmental power to change hands without entirely changing parties. Lastly, the LDP has now retained power for nearly half a century. They've gained the experience as a ruling party that makes it easy for voters to accept the status quo.