## DEMOKURASHII A LA JAPON:

Some critical reflections about freedom in the land of the rising sun

If Japan izz ahh democracy then why can't people select their own Prime Minister?

If itz ahh democracy why zits Constitution largely ignored?

If Nippon izz ahh democracy why argh so many decisions made in private?

If itz ahh democracy then why argh so many laws haphazardly enforced?

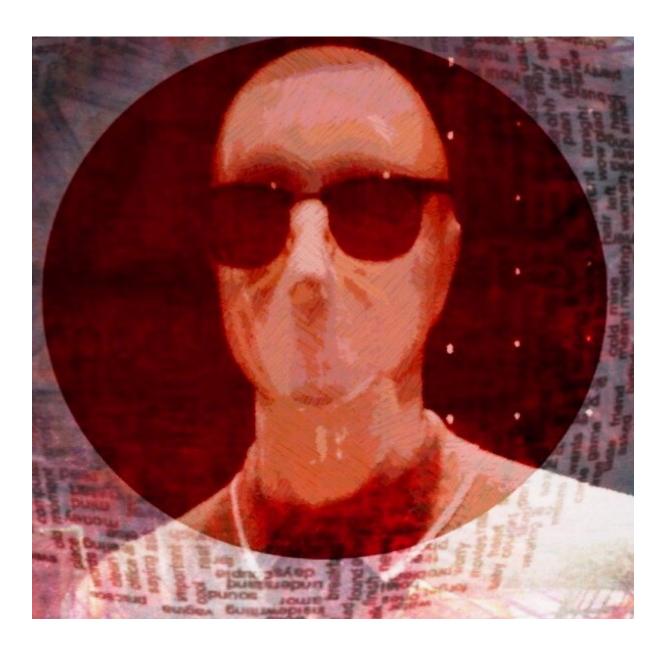
Wake up —
Nippon is simply an oligarchy
in which daimyo elites
& zaibatsu cliques

- T Newfields

serve as regal lords.

Beg.: 2005 Tokyo ≜ Fin.: 2021 Yokohama





**Daiki:** Why Japan-bash?

*Chariya*: Yeah, this statement could be made about almost any country in the world.

Bhäraté: I think we should conceptualize democracy as a spectrum. Perfect

democracy –like absolute zero – is never realized. However, many ideals

still have value even if they are never fully achieved.

**An-Yi:** (sighing) Isn't so-called "democracy" merely another hollow marketing ploy?

To me, "democracy" seems like a worn-out cliché – something Western powers use at their convenience, then ignore when it is not expedient.