



## 1 Article : [Hidden Wonders of Japan] The Archery Competition Where 'New Adults' Give it Their Best Shot

Directions: Read the following article aloud.

On Coming of Age Day, Kyoto hosts a national archery competition for new adults. It is a once-in-a-lifetime experience as all participants must be 20 years old.

On January 15, which is Coming of Age Day in Japan, the Omato National Archery Competition was held at Kyoto's Sanjusangendo Temple in Higashiyama ward. The Kyoto Kyudo Federation is the organizer of the competition.

About 1,600 men and women — all 20 years old — gathered from [across](#) Japan to compete in archery. Clad in beautiful kimonos, they shot their arrows [one after another](#) at a target 60 m (197 feet) away.

This [annual](#) New Year event originates in the Toshiya archery contest of the Edo period, where samurai competed in how many arrows they could shoot under the eaves of the main hall.

One of the participants, Marin Yamada, is a sophomore at Kyoto Sangyo University who lives in Kyoto's Kita Ward. Smiling, she says, "It really [struck home](#) that I've turned 20. I'm happy we could all draw our bows together."

Although the revised Civil Code lowered the age of adulthood in April 2022, this year's competitors were required to be 20 years old, just like in previous years.

Source: [Hidden Wonders of Japan] The Archery Competition Where 'New Adults' Give it Their Best Shot  
[JAPAN Forward](#)

## 2 Key phrases and vocabulary

Directions: First repeat after your tutor and then read aloud by yourself.

- 1. across** ~ ~のいたる所、~の各地で、~を横切って、~を渡って、~と交差して  
・ They can sell their products online and now they have customers **across** the world.
- 2. one after another** 次々に、相次いで  
・ I ate chocolate **one after another** until the box is finished.
- 3. annual** 年に一度の、毎年恒例の  
・ Everybody in our company gets an **annual** physical check up.
- 4. strike home** 感銘を受けさせる、感動させる、的を射る、急所を突く、胸にグサリと刺さる、痛切に感じる  
・ Her words in her speech **struck home** and it made me want to.

## 3 Questions

Directions: Read the questions aloud and answer them.

- 1. When does this competition take place in Sanjusangendo Temple every year?**
- 2. How are those competitors dressed?**
- 3. How did you celebrate the coming of Age day?**
- 4. Many parents spend a lot of money on kimono or other things to celebrate their children's important day. What are your thoughts on that?**

## 4

## 日本語関連記事：晴れ着姿の20歳、弓競う 京都・三十三間堂で通し矢

京都市東山区の三十三間堂で15日、晴れ着姿の20歳の男女が弓道の腕前を競い合う新春恒例の大的全国大会が開かれた。江戸時代に武士が、本堂の軒下で射通した矢の数を競った「通し矢」にちなむ行事。全国から集まった約1600人が、60メートル先の的に次々と矢を放った。

京都市北区に住む京都産業大2年山田まりんさん(20)は「二十歳になったことを実感できた。みんなで弓を引けてうれしい」と笑顔で話した。

京都府弓道連盟が主催。昨年4月施行の改正民法で成人年齢が18歳に引き下げられたが、従来通り2022年度に20歳となる男女を参加資格とした。