

**PRIME MINISTER  
NOBORU TAKESHITA**



Noboru Takeshita was born on February 26, 1924, in a village in Shimane Prefecture in Western Japan. He received his higher education at Waseda University. Toward the end of World War II he was conscripted into the army as a trainee pilot, but he returned to Waseda after the war to complete his studies, graduating from the School of Commerce in 1947.

Takeshita then returned to his hometown as a teacher, and in 1951 he was elected to the Shimane Prefectural Assembly. After serving for seven years, Takeshita won his first election to the House of Representatives in 1958. Takeshita has served in the Diet for 11 consecutive terms (29 years).

In 1971, at the age of 47, Takeshita entered the Cabinet for the first time serving as Chief Cabinet Secretary under Prime Minister Eisaku Sato. He was again appointed Chief Cabinet Secretary in 1974, and later served as Construction Minister. He has served for a total of five terms in the post of Minister of Finance, being appointed for the first time in 1979 and keeping the post from November 1982 to July 1986 under Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

From July 1986 to October 1987, Takeshita served as Secretary General of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). In July 1987, he became the Leader of the Keiseikai, the largest faction in the LDP. On November 6, 1987, Takeshita was appointed Prime Minister.

During his period in office as Finance Minister, Takeshita strove to achieve fiscal reconstruction, tax reform, and the liberalization and internationalization of Japan's financial markets.