



未来のための今

1858（安政5）年、激変する時代を前に、より新しい学問を求めた福澤諭吉は、洋学を学ぶ塾を開きました。

この福澤塾を慶應義塾と名づけた1868年（慶應4）年は、近代日本が誕生する前夜のまさに激動のまっただ中です。

彰義隊と官軍の戦いの砲声がかどまするなかにあっても、芝新銭座の慶應義塾の教室ではウェーランドの経済書の講述が続けられました。

「世の中にいかなる騒動があっても変乱があっても、いまだかつて洋学の命脈^{めいみやく}を絶やしたことはないぞよ。慶應義塾は一日も休業したことはない。この塾のあらん限り大日本は世界の文明国である。世間に頓着^{とんじやく}するな。」未来を見据えよ。今のための今ではなく、未来のための今。

このときの精神が慶應義塾の原点となりました。この精神が、近代日本の歴史の転換点に立ち会ってきた、多くの慶應義塾の卒業生たちを育てたのです。

それから161年、時代は変わりましたが、慶應義塾のこの精神は変わりません。

さて、明日の慶應義塾で、あなたはどんな「未来のための今」を始めるのでしょうか？

Look to Forge the Future Today

Yukichi Fukuzawa created Fukuzawa Juku in 1858 (Ansei 5), a decade before the major changes that would forever change Japan, as an institute for Western studies in order to seek new kinds of scholarship.

The school was renamed Keio Gijuku in 1868 (Keio 4) during the turbulent period that culminated in the Meiji Restoration and the birth of modern Japan.

Amid the chaos of the final days of the Edo Period, Keio Gijuku students carried on with their studies of Dutch economic textbooks, even as they heard the echoes of gunfire in the distance from battles between samurai loyal to the Tokugawa Shogun and Imperial forces.

Fukuzawa rallied his students, telling them: “Whatever happens in the country, whatever warfare harasses our land, we have never relinquished our hold on Western learning. As long as this school of ours stands, Japan remains a civilized nation of the world...there is no need to concern ourselves with the wayward trend of society.” Look to the future, he said. Don’t look to today, but look to forge the future today.

The Keio spirit of independent and advanced thinking took root in these difficult times and has served many Keio graduates well through the subsequent major turning points in Japan history.

In the 161 years since Keio’s establishment, Japan has undergone many transformations, but the Keio spirit remains steadfast.

We look forward to seeing how you will forge your future today at Keio.