



Flag of Japan - Nisshōki (sun-mark flag) or Hinomaru (circle of the sun)

Adopted on February 27, 1870

A red sun-disc centered on a white field. The sun plays an important role in Japanese mythology and religion as the emperor is said to be the direct descendent of the sun goddess Amaterasu. The Emperor Mommu used a flag representing the sun in his court in 701, and this is the first recorded use of a sun-motif flag in Japan.