

# Kagayaku



The character 「輝」 is pronounced *kagayaku*, which means “to shine.”

The kanji itself is made up of two components: the one on the left signifies a person holding up fire and means “light,” while the one on the right means “to encircle.” Together, they take on the meaning of “light encircling a center” and “light spreading outward,” or in other words, to shine.

“Womenomics” plays a crucial part in Abenomics—the economic program advocated by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. Japanese women have traditionally played a supportive role in the home, but by breaking down the barriers that have prevented women from participating in activities outside the home and allowing them to shine more brightly, Japan will be able to achieve further growth.

Once Japanese women make up their mind to do something, nothing can stop them—just look at the Japan women’s national football team which won the FIFA Women’s World Cup and the female athletes who held their own in the Olympics. In the years to come, the women of Japan will only shine brighter, casting their light across the entire world.