

YORIMICHI RESEARCH LAB

NIGHT FLIGHT SPECIAL

JAPAN HAS ¥4,158 TRILLION.

THEN WHY...?

 **BEGINNER ROUTE**

What Does It Mean to Say

“Japan Has ¥4,158 Trillion”?



TAKEOFF

¥4,158 Trillion!?

Japan has:

¥4,158 TRILLION

IN ASSETS.

When you hear a number that enormous, you might think:

“Wow! Then Japan must be incredibly rich!”

That sounds reasonable.

But—

there is a little secret hidden inside this number.

“WHAT YOU OWN”

and:

“MONEY YOU CAN USE RIGHT NOW”

are not the same thing.

That is where our final journey begins.



LET’ S START

WITH A FAMILY

Imagine a family.

They own:

A house.

Some land.

A car.

And they have savings in the bank.

Add everything together—

and the family may own a lot of wealth.

But suppose their house is worth:

¥10 MILLION.

Can they walk into a supermarket and say:

“I’ll pay for this meat with a little piece of my house.”

(笑)

Of course not.

The house is:

AN ASSET.

But it cannot normally be used directly to buy tonight’s dinner.

So:

WEALTH YOU OWN

and:

MONEY YOU CAN SPEND RIGHT NOW

are different things.

JP NOW THINK ABOUT JAPAN

IN THE SAME WAY

Japan has many kinds of assets.

Land.

Buildings.

Factories.

Roads.

Equipment.

Assets owned by companies.

Financial assets owned by households.

When we put enormous amounts of assets together—

we get an enormous number.

So yes:

JAPAN HAS A LOT OF ASSETS.

That matters.

But—

it does not automatically mean:

EVERYONE IN JAPAN

FEELS WEALTHY.

The size of the assets alone does not tell us what is happening in people's everyday lives.



SO WHAT MATTERS?

Here comes the important part.

MONEY NEEDS TO MOVE.

Imagine a new factory is built.

Money goes to:

THE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY.

Then money goes to:

THE MACHINERY COMPANY.

And:

THE PARTS COMPANY.

The people working there receive:

WAGES.

Then those workers go into town and:

BUY THINGS.

Now money reaches:

LOCAL SHOPS.

So the route looks like this:

FACTORY



COMPANIES



WORKERS



SHOPS.

Now that enormous amount of money is beginning to feel much closer to everyday life.

Because:

THE MONEY IS MOVING.



**MONEY IS A LITTLE LIKE
BLOOD IN THE HUMAN BODY**

The human body contains blood.

But the important question is not only:

“How many liters of blood does the body have?”

The blood needs to reach:

The head.

The hands.

The feet.

Every part of the body.

BLOOD NEEDS TO CIRCULATE.

Money is a little like that.

Japan may have enormous assets.

But if the money does not move—

it may not reach everyday life.

So money needs to flow:

TO COMPANIES

↓

TO FACTORIES

↓

TO WORKERS



TO WAGES



TO SHOPS



AND BACK TO COMPANIES.

Round and round.

CIRCULATION.

That is what matters.



**NOW LET' S RETURN
TO ¥4,158 TRILLION**

Our original question was:

**“Japan has ¥4,158 trillion.
Doesn’ t that mean Japan is rich?”**

Our answer is:

**JAPAN HAS ENORMOUS ASSETS.
BUT THAT ALONE
DOES NOT TELL US EVERYTHING.**

What we really want to know is:

“IS THE MONEY MOVING?”

That changes our question.

Instead of asking only:

“HOW MUCH DOES JAPAN HAVE?”

NIGHT FLIGHT asks:

“WHERE IS THE MONEY FLYING?”

And suddenly—

¥4,158 trillion is no longer just a giant number.

It becomes the beginning of a journey.



BEGINNER FLIGHT CHECK

You see:

¥4,158 TRILLION.

What should you ask?

Not only:

“IS THAT A LOT?”

Ask:

“WHAT IS INSIDE THAT NUMBER?”

Then:

“CAN IT BE USED?”

And finally:

“IS THE MONEY MOVING?”

That is our first NIGHT FLIGHT radar.



LANDING

Assets Are Not the Whole Story

Japan has:

Land.

Buildings.

Factories.

Equipment.

Financial assets.

Together they can become a gigantic number.

But—

HAVING ASSETS

is not the same thing as:

MONEY CIRCULATING THROUGH THE ECONOMY.

For everyday life to change, money needs to move.

FACTORY

↓

COMPANY

↓

WORKER

↓

WAGES

↓

SHOP

↓

COMPANY AGAIN.

Round and round.

That is the bloodstream of the economy.

So:

THE NUMBER THAT MEASURES

JAPAN' S REVIVAL

IS NOT ONLY

¥4,158 TRILLION IN ASSETS.

We need to follow:

THE FLOW.



RE-FLIGHT

Same ¥4,158 Trillion.

Three Altitudes.

BEGINNER

“What does ¥4,158 trillion mean?”

Assets.

Cash.

Factories.

Household wealth.

Money circulation.

This is the altitude we flew today.

→ Return to  Beginner

INTERMEDIATE

“What are stock and flow?”

Assets are accumulated.

Income and spending move through time.

How are:

STOCK

and:

FLOW

different?

→ Continue to  Intermediate

 **ADVANCED**

**“Does a large national balance sheet make people
wealthy?”**

National wealth.

Household assets.

Corporate assets.

Income.

Investment.

Consumption.

Distribution.

Circulation.

How do they connect?

→ Continue to  **Advanced**



SELECT YOUR ALTITUDE

● Beginner → ● Intermediate → ● Advanced

Beginner asks:

“WHAT DOES JAPAN OWN?”

Intermediate asks:

“HOW DOES THE MONEY MOVE?”

Advanced asks:

**“DOES THAT FLOW CREATE
NEW ECONOMIC VALUE?”**

Same ¥4,158 trillion.

Three altitudes.

One question.

Because on NIGHT FLIGHT:

You are the Captain.

You choose your own altitude.



AND NOW...

THE NEXT “?” APPEARS

We just learned:

JAPAN HAS ASSETS.

But:

MONEY ALSO NEEDS TO FLOW.

Wait a minute.

(笑)

One is something we:

HAVE.

The other is something that:

MOVES.

Economics has two useful words for this.

Something accumulated at a point in time:

STOCK.

Something moving over a period of time:

FLOW.

And there it is.

Our next question:

“WHAT ARE STOCK AND FLOW?”

Exactly as the Japanese Beginner Route proposes for the next step.

YORIMICHI RESEARCH LAB

NIGHT FLIGHT SPECIAL

Numbers Take Flight.

You are the Captain.

I am your Co-Pilot.

AI is in the Control Tower.

 BEGINNER ROUTE

RE-FLIGHT COMPLETE.

NEXT FLIGHT:

STOCK

vs.

FLOW

CLEARED FOR TAKEOFF.

