

Congratulations to the graduates and their families.

I would also like to thank Mr. Hideki Mori of the Aichi Labor Bureau and the many other distinguished guests for their attendance.

To the graduates, I see you all from this podium with your alert posture and intent gazes.

I can see how much you have grown and how reliable you have become.
Your hard work and efforts are shining brightly.

To the high school course graduates,
your motto this year was to become “admirable and cool adults.”

During your homestay experience in Australia, I heard that some of the students shed tears when saying goodbye to their host families.

I believe those tears were filled with gratitude to their new families, for treating them like their own children.

You learned that even though people speak different languages and have different cultures, we have the power to understand the feelings of others because of our differences.

The moment we recognize differences as individuality, is when we can help each other.

Your homestay experience in Australia was truly a step toward becoming an “admirable and cool adult.”

To the professional course graduates,
at every event, you were able to think and act on your own initiative.

In the community contribution activities at Shimoyama and Hirayama, when the cleanup work finished earlier than scheduled, you jumped in to help maintain the fields.

Teachers at Hanayama Elementary School were moved to tears when they saw you work so hard in the heavy rain and exclaimed how impressed they were that there are such wonderful young people.

In this way, the purposeful passion and actions of each one of you have touched

the hearts of many people.

What did you graduates learn at this Academy?

Was it not the kindness to care for someone other than yourself and gratitude to the family that has raised you until now?

The origin of Toyota is Sakichi Toyoda's care for his family, which led him to invent the handloom with the single-minded desire to make his struggling mother's life easier.

What you have learned at this Academy are these lessons of caring for family and doing something for others.

Last June, a novel titled "Toyota no Ko (Sons of Toyota)" was published. In that novel, there is a scene depicting a labor dispute in 1950.

At that time, employees continued to fight for Toyota's future, despite the struggle of not being able to deliver cars to customers.

Seeing this, then-President Kiichiro Toyoda said:

"They have devoted most of their lives to the company. They are Toyota itself and a part of the Toyota family."

I see all of the 229 graduates here as a part of the Toyota family."

That is because all of you today feel more strongly than anyone the essence of Toyota's origin, care for family.

Please continue to remember how you feel at this moment.

And please continue to hone your unique skills that can help others.

I hope that you will continue to be someone who carries the Toyota spirit, shaping Japan's future with your kindness and your unique skills.

I am sure that all of you can do it.

To the Academy instructors,
thank you for setting an example of adulthood for our graduates.
For them, you were their first bosses.
Please continue to watch and support their growth.

To the families of the graduates,
your sons and daughters have grown into impressive young adults, thanks to the
education they received at home before entering the Academy.

From the time they were small children who could do nothing on their own, you
taught them with all your heart what they needed to thrive.

It is because of your guidance that our graduates were able to endure the rigorous
training and grow into fine adults.

Thank you very much for entrusting your sons and daughters to us.

Please be assured that I will do my best to support all graduates so that their future
lives will be full of smiles and happiness.

Again, congratulations on your graduation.

February 17, 2025
Toyota Motor Corporation
Chairman of the Board of Directors
Akio Toyoda