

The `bxwareki` package

Takayuki YATO (aka. “ZR”)

v0.4 [2018/10/01]

1 Overview

This package provides commands to convert from the Gregorian calendar (2018/8/28) to the Japanese rendering of the Japanese calendar (平成 30 年 8 月 28 日). You can choose whether the numbers are written in Western numerals (28) or kanji numerals (二八).

Note that the package only deals with dates in the year 1873 or later, where the Japanese calendar is really a Gregorian calendar with the different notation of years.

System requirement

- \TeX format: \LaTeX .
- \TeX engine: $\text{pdf}\text{\TeX}$, $\text{Lua}\text{\TeX}$, $\text{Xe}\text{\TeX}$, $\text{p}\text{\TeX}$, $\text{up}\text{\TeX}$, $\text{Ap}\text{\TeX}$ ($\text{p}\text{\TeX}$ -ng), $\text{NTT-j}\text{\TeX}$.

Note: The modern (post-1873) Japanese calendar (*wareki*; 和暦) can be regarded as a variant of Gregorian calendar where only the notation of years differs from the original. To avoid confusion, this document refers to the original Gregorian calendar as the *Western calendar*, which corresponds to the Japanese term *seireki* (西暦).

2 Package Loading

No options are needed in normal use¹.

```
\usepackage{bxwareki}
```

3 Usage

3.1 Conversion from the given date

- $\text{\warekisetdate}\{\langle year \rangle\}\{\langle month \rangle\}\{\langle day \rangle\}$: Converts from the specified Western date. The result will be rendered by the commands described at the following items, where the result for the invocation $\text{\warekisetdate}\{2018\}\{8\}\{28\}$ will be shown as example.

Note: Although the Japanese calendar differs from the Western calendar only in the notation of years, the value of months and days are still required, since the notation of the year in which *kaigen* (改元; change of gengo) occurs depends on months and days.

- \warekisettoday : Does \warekisetdate with the current date.
- Counter warekiyear : The year number (within the gengo); e.g. “30”.

Note: Unlike ordinary counters, the assignment to warekiyear by \warekisetdate is *local*. Moreover, manual assignment to this counter is not supported.

¹See Section 4.1 for the `download2019` option.

- `\warekigengo` : The gengo in kanji, e. g. “平成”.
- `\warekigengoinitial` : The initial Latin letter of the gengo, e. g. “H”.
- `\warekiyear` : The full notation of the year (without ‘年’), e. g. “平成 30”.
Note: When the year number is one, the kanji ‘元’ is used instead of the numeral ‘1’.
- `\warekideate` : The date string, e. g. “平成 30 年 8 月 28 日”.
- `\warekikanjideate` : The date string using kansuji (kanji numerals), e. g. “平成三〇年八月二八日”.
- `\warekijkanjideate` : The date string using “kansuji-by-reading” (that is, kanji rendering of numbers in the Japanese language), e. g. “平成三十年八月二十八日”.
- `\warekicustomdate{<option>}` : The date string in the form specified with the option. The option is a string of letters such as `wk` and each letter means a specific setting. When the option is empty, the date is rendered in the form “2018 年 8 月 28 日” (using the Western calendar). The available option letters are:
 - `w` : uses Japanese calendar (2018 年 → 平成 30 年);
 - `k` : uses kansuji (28 → 二八);
 - `j` : uses kansuji-by-reading (28 → 二十八);*Note:* Western years does not support kansuji-by-reading and thus `k` will be applied instead (二〇一八, not 二千十八).
 - `J` : variant of `j` where “ten’s multiple” kanji characters (廿 and 卅) are employed (28 → 廿八);
 - `o` : uses *imyo* (異名) for months² (8 月 → 葉月).*Note:* This command is supported only on pdfL^AT_EX, X_YL^AT_EX, LuaL^AT_EX, upL^AT_EX, ApL^AT_EX and recent versions of pL^AT_EX. On other engines it simply falls back to `\warekideate`.
- `\WarekiIfCustomDateAvailable{<true>}{<>false>}` : Tests if the command `\warekicustomdate` is supported on the engine in use.

3.2 Current date

These commands always represent the current date, and are not affected by `\warekisetdate` (or `\warekisettoday`).

- `\warekitoday` : The `\warekideate` form of the current date.
- `\warekikanjitoday` : The `\warekikanjideate` form.
- `\warekijkanjitoday` : The `\warekijkanjideate` form.

3.3 Inter-alphabet-kanji glues

In quality Japanese typesetting, a thin space (*shibuaki*; 四分空き) must be inserted between an alphabet letter and a kanji letter. This package by default inserts a command suitable for the most prevalent Japanese-typesetting environment for the engine in use.

- On pL^AT_EX, upL^AT_EX and ApL^AT_EX: Nothing is inserted, since the engine can automatically insert shibuaki spaces.

²Don’t ask me if this form is ever used in La^TE_X document!

- On Lua \LaTeX and Xe \LaTeX : Nothing is inserted, on the assumption that the package for Japanese typesetting (such as Lua \TeX -ja and xeCJK) will automatically insert shibuaki spaces.
- On \LaTeX and pdf \LaTeX : ~ is inserted, on the assumption that the CJK package is employed and $\backslash\text{CJKtilde}$ is in effect.

On the engines with ε - \TeX extension, the command for shibuaki can be changed with the following commands:

- $\backslash\text{WarekiUseCustomInterGlue}\langle text \rangle$: Uses $\langle text \rangle$ for making shibuaki spaces.
- $\backslash\text{WarekiUseNormalInterGlue}$: Reverts $\backslash\text{WarekiUseCustomInterGlue}$ and uses the normal setting.

4 Support for the kaigen planned in 2019

In Japan a kaigen (due to the abdication of the Emperor) is planned on 2019/05/01, but the new gengo is not yet announced. Thus in the current version of the package, the date of the day or later is not supported (the Western year will be printed instead).

This package will be updated to support the new gengo and uploaded to CTAN, as soon as the new gengo is announced.

4.1 The download2019 option

Instead of manually downloading the new version from CTAN, you can get the support for the new gengo with a single run of \LaTeX (of course after the announcement of the gengo): when you compile a document which loads this package with `download2019` option using Lua \LaTeX with *full shell escape* enabled³, then the run will download an additional file from the package's GitHub repository and install it into the user's TEXMF tree.

In short: make the following dummy⁴ document file (named `dummy.tex`)

```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[download2019]{bxwareki}
\stop
```

and run `lualatex -shell-escape dummy`. After that, the new gengo will be supported on any engine, without shell escape.

5 Notices for \TeX programmers

- On the engines with native kanji/Unicode support (i. e. Lua \LaTeX , Xe \LaTeX , p \LaTeX , up \LaTeX , and Ap \LaTeX), the content (one-level expansion) of $\backslash\text{wareki}\dots\text{date}$ (except $\backslash\text{warekicustomdate}$) and $\backslash\text{wareki}\dots\text{today}$ is a simple string of character tokens, unless $\backslash\text{WarekiUseCustomInterGlue}$ is in effect. The same holds for \LaTeX and pdf \LaTeX , except that each kanji character is represented by the sequence of activated byte tokens and ~ is inserted as shibuaki spaces.
- On the engines with native kanji/Unicode support, $\backslash\text{warekicustomdate}$ fully expands to a simple string of character tokens (again without $\backslash\text{WarekiUseCustomInterGlue}$), and the situation on \LaTeX and pdf \LaTeX is parallel to that described at the previous item.
- The use of $\backslash\text{WarekiUseCustomInterGlue}$ does not break the full expandability of $\backslash\text{wareki}\dots\text{date}$ and $\backslash\text{wareki}\dots\text{today}$ on the engines with native kanji/Unicode support.

³In most system, full shell escape is enabled by `-shell-escape` option.

⁴Using the dummy document with minimal content could reduce the risk of using full shell escape, but you need to trust me, of course.