

## Japan The Meiji Restoration And Japanese Imperialism

Like the French Revolution, the Meiji Restoration transformed a whole society. Japan was never the same after 1868. The meaning of the events that led to the restoration has therefore profoundly concerned historians, but most Western accounts probe only the dimension of the state, largely ignoring the common people. In this book, George Wilson argues that the restoration was a total national event—a revolution to redeem the whole realm of Japan—accomplished by samurai and commoners alike. This study foregrounds the classic contest of agency versus structure on the actors in Meiji Restoration history rather than the institutions through which they acted. Wilson argues that the samurai who triumphed sought not only the patriotic goal of defending the realm against the external threat of Western imperialism but also the redemptive goal of the bakufu's failures. The common people no less than the samurai elite wanted to save Japan in its time of troubles. According to Wilson, redemption complemented patriotism as a motive for both the elite and the general public, contributing a double force to Japan's rising nationalism. "In this volume, Wert traces the shifting portrayals of Restoration losers and the supporters who promoted their legacy. By highlighting the overlooked sites of memory and legends, Wert illustrates how the process of commemoration and rehabilitation allows individuals a voice in national history"--Provided by publisher.

When Commodore Perry arrived in Japan to open the country to Western trade in 1853, he found a medieval amalgam of sword-bearing samurai, castle towns, Confucian academies, peasant villages, rice paddies, upstart merchants, bath houses, and Kabuki. Fifteen years later, Japan was becoming the only non-Western nation in the nineteenth century with a modern centralized bureaucratic state and industrial economy. This book is a study of the Meiji Restoration that changed the face of Japan. Prominent historian Albert M. Craig tells its story through the Choshu--whose role in the formation of modern Japan was not unlike that of Prussia in Germany--during the fifteen crucial years between 1853 and 1868. Whereas previous studies have stressed the role of discontented lower samurai and frustrated rich merchants and peasants, claiming that they provided the motive power behind the political movements of the Restoration period, this work sharply challenges these earlier interpretations. Craig instead emphasizes the vitality of traditional values in Japan's early reaction to the West and foregrounds the role of the old society to the formation of the new Meiji state. Choshu in the Meiji Restoration is a seminal work for scholars and students of Japanese history.

The Art of Modern Japan

Meiji Ishin

From the Meiji Restoration to the Second World War

Some Views on the Impact of the Meiji Restoration on the Modernization of Japan

A Brief History with Documents

Sakamoto Ry?ma and the Meiji Restoration

Seminar paper from the year 2004 in the subject Sociology - Miscellaneous, grade: A (1,0), The New School (Historical Studies), course: Sciological Foundations II: Sociology and History, language: English, abstract: "1. Deliberative councils shall be widely established and all matters decided by public discussion. 2. All classes, high and low, shall unite in vigorously carrying out the administration of affairs of state. 4. Evil customs of the past shall be broken off and everything based upon the just laws of nature. 3. The common people, no less than the civil and military officials, shall each be allowed to puse his own calling so that there may be no discontent. 5. Knowledge shall be sought throughout the world so as to strengthen the foundations of imperial rule" 1. These progressive pledges constituted the programmatic Charter Oath, issued by the Meiji emperor in April18682 and marking the official beginning of the Meiji restoration. Only fifteen years after the arrival of Commodore Matthew C. Perry’s “Black Ships” 3 and the forced opening to the world in 1853, Japan embarked on a rapid and successful modernizing process. By 1894, the Japanese modernization was already seen as a role model for other nations; the Chinese revolutionary Sun Yat-sen wrote in that year: “The first step in China’s revolution was the Meiji Restoration; the Chinese revolution is the second step in the Meiji revolution” 4. Instead of suffering the “fate of semi-colonialism” 5, Japan was able to start an own diplomacy of imperialism6. [...] 1 Jansen, Marius B.: The Making of Modern Japan, Cambridge, Mass. & London 2000, p. 338. 2 Jansen, Japan, p. 337. 3 Jansen, Japan, p. 277. 4 Takeda, Kiyoko: The Unfinished Meiji Revolution in Intellectual History, in: Nagai, Michio & Urritia, Miguel (eds.): Meiji Ishin: Restoration and Revolution, Tokyo 1985, p. 159-172, here: p. 169. 5 Lü, Wan-he: Western Learning and the Meiji Ishin, in: Nagai, Michio & Urritia, Miguel (eds.): Meiji Ishin: Restoration and Revolution, Tokyo 1985, p. 153-158, here : p. 153. 6 Jansen, Japan, p. 436.

Donald Keene, the preeminent authority on Japanese literature, crafts a definitive and vivid history of the life and times of the emperor who opened Japan to the West. When Emperor Meiji began his rule, in 1867, Japan was a splintered empire, dominated by the shogun and the daimyos, and cut off from the outside world. Before long, the shogun surrendered to the emperor, a new constitution was adopted, and Japan emerged as a modern, industrialized state. Despite the length of his reign, little has been written about the strangely obscured figure of Meiji himself. Donald Keene sifts the available evidence to present a rich portrait not only of Meiji but also of rapid and sometimes violent change during this pivotal period in Japan's history. We move with the emperor through his early, traditional education; observe his behavior at court, his marriage, and his relationships with various consorts; and follow his maturation into a "Confucian" sovereign dedicated to simplicity, frugality, and hard work. Later, during Japan's wars with China and Russia, we witness Meiji's struggle to reconcile his personal commitment to peace and his nation's increasingly militarized experience of modernization.

This is an insightful and intelligent re-thinking of Japanese art history & its Western influences. This broad-ranging and profoundly influential analysis describes how Western art institutions and vocabulary were transplanted to Japan in the late nineteenth century. In the 1870-80s, artists and government administrators in Japan encountered the Western 'system of the arts' for the first time. Under pressure to exhibit and sell its artistic products abroad, Japan's new Meiji government came face-to-face with the need to create European-style art schools and museums - and even to establish Japanese words for art, painting, artist, and sculpture. "Modern Japanese Art" is a full re-conceptualization of the field of Japanese art history, exposing the politics through which the words, categories, and values that structure our understanding of the field came to be while revealing the historicity of Western and non-Western art history.

The Growth of Political Consciousness in Tokugawa, Japan

Meiji Japan: The emergence of the Meiji state

China Policy and the Japanese Discourse on National Identity, 1895-1904

Japan's Modern Myths

Political and Economic Problems of the Meiji Period

Toward Restoration

The renowned Japanese scholar brings us as close to the inner life of the Meiji emperor as we are ever likely to get (The New York Times Book Review). When Emperor Meiji began his rule in 1867, Japan was a splintered empire dominated by the shogun and the daimyos, cut off from the outside world, staunchly antiforeign, and committed to the traditions of the past. Before long, the shogun surrendered to the emperor, a new constitution was adopted, and Japan emerged as a modern, industrialized state. Despite the length of his reign, little has been written about the strangely obscured figure of Meiji himself, the first emperor ever to meet a European. But now, Donald Keene sifts the available evidence to present a rich portrait not only of Meiji but also of rapid and sometimes violent change during this pivotal period in Japan's history.

In this vivid and engrossing biography, we move with the emperor through his early, traditional education; join in the formal processions that acquainted the young emperor with his country and its people; observe his behavior in court, his marriage, and his relationships with various consorts; and follow his maturation into a "Confucian" sovereign dedicated to simplicity, frugality, and hard work. Later, during Japan's wars with China and Russia, we witness Meiji's struggle to reconcile his personal commitment to peace and his nation's increasingly militarized experience of modernization. Emperor of Japan conveys in sparkling prose the complexity of the man and offers an unrivaled portrait of Japan in a period of unique interest. "Utterly brilliant . . . the best history in English of the emergence of modern Japan."Los Angeles Times

In world history, the Meiji Restoration of 1868 ranks as a revolutionary watershed, on a par with the American and French Revolutions. In this volume, leading historians from North America, Europe, and Japan employ global history in novel ways to offer fresh economic, social, political, cultural, and military perspectives on the Meiji Restoration and the subsequent creation of the modern Japanese nation-state. Seamlessly mixing meta- and micro-history, the authors examine how the Japanese state and Japanese people engaged with global trends of the early nineteenth century. They also explore the internal military conflicts that marked the 1860s and the process of reconciliation after 1868. They conclude with discussions of how new political, cultural, and diplomatic institutions were created as Japan emerged as a global nation, defined in multiple ways by its place in the world.

In the history of nineteenth-century imperialism, Japan is unique among non-western countries for its ability to fend off foreign domination. In this volume, Anne Walthall and M. William Steele examine how the tumultuous events happening inside Japan in the early nineteenth century contributed to this resiliency against western supremacy. The Introduction familiarizes students with the political and social conditions that contributed to Japan's development in the 1800s and details the events and causes of the Meiji Restoration, known among historians today as the Meiji revolution. The documents, some translated here for the first time, provide students with a range of perspectives on how Japanese people in the nineteenth century thought and acted in dealing with foreign pressure and domestic discord. Document headnotes, a chronology, questions for consideration, maps, and a bibliography all enrich students' understanding of Japan on the brink of modernity.

The Japanese Empire

Patriots and Redeemers in Japan

Multiple Modernities and the Case of Japan

Yokohama and the Transformation of Japan

Meiji Restoration Losers

Introduction to Japanese History Before the Meiji Restoration

***The Meiji Restoration of mid-nineteenth-century Japan was the outgrowth of upheaval as vital as the American Civil War or the French Revolution, and marked the beginnings of Japan as a forward-looking, unified state. The author tells the story of this crucial period of Japanese history through the career of a national hero, Sakamoto Ryoma, with Sakamoto as a symbol of Japan's enlightened growth. Originally published in 1961. The Princeton Legacy Library uses the latest print-on-demand technology to again make available previously out-of-print books from the distinguished backlist of Princeton University Press. These editions preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback and hardcover editions. The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by Princeton University Press since its founding in 1905.***

***The first war between China and Japan in 1894/95 was one of the most fateful events, not only in modern Japanese and Chinese history, but in international history as well. The war and subsequent events catapulted Japan on its trajectory toward temporary hegemony in East Asia, whereas China entered a long period of domestic unrest and foreign intervention. Repercussions of these developments can be still felt, especially in the mutual perceptions of Chinese and Japanese people today. However, despite considerable scholarship on Sino-Japanese relations, the perplexing question remains how the Japanese attitude exactly changed after the triumphant victory in 1895 over its former role model and competitor. This book examines the transformation of Japan's attitude toward China up to the time of the Russo-Japanese War (1904/5), when the psychological framework within which future Chinese-Japanese relations worked reached its erstwhile completion. It shows the transformation process through a close reading of sources, a large number of which is introduced to the scholarly discussion for the first time. Zachmann demonstrates how modern Sino-Japanese attitudes were shaped by a multitude of factors, domestic and international, and, in turn, informed Japan's course in international politics. Winner of the JaDe Prize 2010 awarded by the German Foundation for the Promotion of Japanese-German Culture and Science Relations***

***This volume presents the reader with thirty-one short chapters that capture an exciting new moment in the study of the Meiji Restoration. The chapters offer a kaleidoscope of approaches and interpretations of the Restoration that showcase the strengths of the most recent interpretative trends in history writing on Japan while simultaneously offering new research pathways. On a scale probably never before seen in the study of the Restoration outside Japan, the short chapters in this volume reveal unique aspects of the this transformative event and process not previously explored in previous research. They do this in three core ways: through selecting and deploying different time frames in their historical analysis; by creative experimentation with different spatial units through which to ascertain historical experience; and by innovative selection of unique and highly original topics for analysis. The volume offers students and teachers of Japanese history, modern history, and East Asian studies an important resource for coming to grips with the multifaceted nature of Japan's nineteenth-century transformation. The volume will also have broader appeal to scholars working in fields such as early modern/modern world history, global history, Asian modernities, gender studies, economic history, and postcolonial studies.***

***Japan and South East Asia: From the Meiji Restoration to 1945***

***Political History of Japan During the Meiji Era, 1867-1912***

***Nationalist Revolution in Japan***

***Restoration and Revolution***

***The Case of the Meiji Restoration in 1868***

***Modern Japanese Art and the Meiji State***

"This volume presents the reader with thirty-one short chapters that capture an exciting new moment in the study of the Meiji Restoration. The chapters offer a kaleidoscope of approaches and interpretations of the Restoration that showcase the strengths of the most recent interpretative trends in history writing on Japan while simultaneously offering new research pathways. On a scale probably never before seen in the study of the Restoration outside Japan, the short chapters in this volume reveal unique aspects of the this transformative event and process not previously explored in previous research. They do this in three core ways: through selecting and deploying different time frames in their historical analysis; by creative experimentation with different spatial units through which to ascertain historical experience; and by innovative selection of unique and highly original topics for analysis. The volume offers students and teachers of Japanese history, modern history, and East Asian studies an important resource for coming to grips with the multifaceted nature of Japan's nineteenth century transformation. The volume will also have broader appeal to scholars working in fields such as early modern/modern world history, global history, Asian modernities, gender studies, economic history, and postcolonial studies"--

This set provides a comprehensive introduction and contains the most important critical literature on the history and historiography of nineteenth-and early twentieth-century Japan.

In April 1859, at age fifty, Shinohara Ch?emon left his old life behind. Ch?emon, a well-off farmer in his home village, departed for the new port city of Yokohama, where he remained for the next fourteen years. There, as a merchant trading with foreigners in the aftermath of Japan ' s 1853 " opening " to the West, he witnessed the collapse of the Tokugawa shogunate, the civil war that followed, and the Meiji Restoration ' s reforms. The Merchant ' s Tale looks through Ch?emon ' s eyes at the upheavals of this period. In a narrative history rich in colorful detail, Simon Partner uses the story of an ordinary merchant farmer and its Yokohama setting as a vantage point onto sweeping social transformation and its unwitting agents. Ch?emon, like most newcomers to Yokohama, came in search of economic opportunity. His story sheds light on vital issues in Japan ' s modern history, including the legacies of the Meiji Restoration; the East Asian treaty port system; and the importance of everyday life—food, clothing, medicine, and hygiene—for national identity. Centered on an individual, The Merchant ' s Tale is also the story of a place. Created under pressure from aggressive foreign powers, Yokohama was the scene of gunboat diplomacy, a connection to global markets, the birthplace of new lifestyles, and the beachhead of Japan ' s modernization. Partner ' s history of a vibrant meeting place humanizes the story of Japan ' s revolutionary 1860s and their profound consequences for Japanese society and culture.

Japan in Transition

Sakamato Ryoma and the Meiji Restoration

Japanese Political History Since the Meiji Restoration, 1868-2000

From the Meiji Restoration to the Meiji Centennial, 1868-1968

Meiji and His World, 1852-1912

Japan as a Global Nation

**The samurai radicals who overthrew the last shogun in 1868 promised to restore ancient and pure Japanese ways. Foreign observers were terrified that Japan would lapse into violent xenophobia. But the new Meiji government took an opposite course. It copied best practices from around the world, building a powerful and modern Japanese nation with the help of European and American advisors. While revering the Japanese past, the Meiji government boldly embraced the foreign and the new. What explains this paradox? How could Japan's 1868 revolution be both modern and traditional, both xenophbic and cosmopolitan? To Stand with the Nations of the World explains the paradox of the Restoration through the forces of globalization. The Meiji Restoration was part of the global "long nineteenth century" during which ambitious nation states like Japan, Britain, Germany, and the United States challenged the world's great multi-ethnic empires--Ottoman, Qing, Romanov, and Hapsburg. Japan's leaders wanted to celebrate Japanese uniqueness, but they also sought international recognition. Rather than simply mimic world powers like Britain, they sought to make Japan distinctly Japanese in the same way that Britain was distinctly British. Rather than sing "God Save the King," they created a Japanese national anthem with lyrics from ancient poetry, but Western-style music. The Restoration also resonated with Japan's ancient past. In the 600s and 700s, Japan was threatened by the Tang dynasty, a dynasty as powerful as the Roman empire. In order to resist the Tang, Japanese leaders borrowed Tang methods, building a centralized Japanese state on Tang models, and learning continental science and technology. As in the 1800s, Japan co-opted international norms while insisting on Japanese distinctiveness. When confronting globalization in 1800s, Japan looked back to that "ancient globalization" of the 600s and 700s. The ancient past was therefore not remote or distant, but immediate and vital.**

**The Meiji RestorationStanford University Press**

**Comprehensive and engaging new history charting Japan's development from its origins through to the present day.**

**Revisiting Japan’s Restoration**

**A Concise History of Japan**

**Japan's Meiji Restoration in World History**

**Leaders of the Meiji Restoration in America**

**The Intellectuals and the Revolution**

**The Politics of Beauty**

***First, there are questions concerning the role and relative importance of internal and external factors in the pattern of events. Did the activities of the Western powers prompt changes in Japan that would not otherwise have taken place? Or did they merely hasten a process that had already begun? Similarly, did Western civilization give a new direction to Japanese development, or do no more than provide the outward forms through which indigenous change could manifest itself? Was it a matrix, or only a shopping list? Second, how far was the evolution of modern Japan in some sense "inevitable"? Were the main features of Meiji society already implicit in the Tempo reforms, only awaiting an appropriate trigger to bring them into being? More narrowly, was the character of Meiji institutions determined by the social composition of the anti-Tokugawa movement, or did it derive from a situation that took shape only after the Bakufu was overthrown? This is to pose the problem of the relationship between day-to-day politics and long-term socioeconomic change. One can argue, paraphrasing Toyama, that the political controversy about foreign affairs provided the means by which basic socioeconomic factors became effective; or one can say, with Sakata, that the relevance of socioeconomic change is that it helped to decide the manner in which the fundamentally political ramifications of the foreign question were worked out. The difference of emphasis is significant. Finally, have recent historians, in their preoccupation with other issues, lost sight of something important in their relative neglect of ideas qua ideas? Ought we perhaps to stop treating loyalty to the Emperor as simply a manifestation of something else? After all, the men whose actions are the object of our study took that loyalty seriously enough, certainly as an instrument of politics, if not as an article of faith.***

***Assassination--in Japanese, ansatsu or "dark murder"--was instrumental in the samurai-led revolution known as the Meiji Restoration, by which the shogun's military government was overthrown and the Imperial monarchy restored in 1868. The ideology and moral philosophy of the men behind the revolution--including bushidō or "the way of the warrior"--informed their actions and would become the foundation of the emperor-worship of World War II. This first-ever account in English of the assassins who drove the revolution details one of the most volatile periods in Japanese history--also known as "the dawn of modern Japan."***

***Ideology played a momentous role in modern Japanese history. Not only did the elite of imperial Japan (1890–1945) work hard to influence the people to "yield as the grasses before the wind," but historians of modern Japan later identified these efforts as one of the underlying pathologies of World War II. Available for the first time in paperback, this study examines how this ideology evolved. Carol Gluck argues that the process of formulating and communicating new national values was less consistent than is usually supposed. By immersing the reader in the talk and thought of the late Meiji period, Professor Gluck recreates the diversity of ideological discourse experienced by Japanese of the time. The result is a new interpretation of the views of politics and the nation in imperial Japan.***

***Grand Strategy from the Meiji Restoration to the Pacific War***

***Monarchism, Mass Communication and Conservative Revolution***

***Review of : Meiji Restoration, by W.G. Beasley***

***Politics and Society in Japan's Meiji Restoration***

***New Approaches to the Study of the Meiji Transformation  
Japan's Emergence as a Modern State***

The Meiji Restoration of 1868 is one of the most astonishing political events of the modern era, yet it doesn't fit easily with Western precedents of mass mobilization and social transformation. This book challenges some of the preconceptions that have hindered the Restoration being understood on its own terms.

In this book social scientists scrutinize the middle decades of the nineteenth century in Japan. That scrutiny is important and overdue, for the period from the 1850s to the 1880s has usually been treated in terms of politics and foreign relations. Yet those decades were also of pivotal importance in Japan's institutional modernization. As the Japanese entered the world order, they experienced a massive introduction of Western-style organizations. Sweeping reforms, without the class violence or the Utopian appeal of revolution, created the foundation for a modern society. The Meiji Restoration introduced a political transformation, but these chapters address the more gradual social transition. Originally published in 1986. The Princeton Legacy Library uses the latest print-on-demand technology to again make available previously out-of-print books from the distinguished backlist of Princeton University Press. These editions preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback and hardcover editions. The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by Princeton University Press since its founding in 1905.

Japanese Political History Since the Meiji Restoration, 1868-2000 explores, through a combination of narrative and analysis, the changes in the political process which lay behind Japan's transformation into a modern nation state; its successive turn toward militarism, fascism, and the Pacific War; and the imposition of a fully democratic constitution. Sims examines closely such central topics as the Meiji renovation, samurai modernisers, the rise of liberal political parties, the Meiji constitution, 'Taisho democracy', the wartime changes in the political system, postwar reforms and the 'reverse course', four decades of Liberal Democratic rule, and the shake-up of Japanese politics during the 1990s. No other book has covered Japanese political history over the entire period since 1868 in such detail, and the present volume aims to fill the gap between the various general histories of modern Japan and the ever-increasing monographic literature.

Ch?sh? in the Meiji Restoration

Meiji and His World, 1852–1912

Memory and Tokugawa Supporters in Modern Japan

The Economic Development of Modern Japan, 1868-1945

Emperor of Japan

First Published in 1966. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

An accessible, analytical survey of the rise and fall of Imperial Japan in the context of its grand strategy to transform itself into a great power.

This volume examines the Meiji Restoration through a global history lens to re-interpret the formation of a globally-cast, Japanese nation-state.

Samurai Assassins

Motives in the Meiji Restoration

"Dark Murder" and the Meiji Restoration, 1853–1868

The Merchant's Tale

Revisiting Japan's Restoration

Ideology in the Late Meiji Period

*This two-volume set presents the key contributions (including less well-known work first published in Japan) on the economic history of Japan from the Meiji Restoration to World War II. Volume I (27 contributions) discusses the patterns of economic development, land and agriculture (including its interaction with industrialization), the evolution of distinctive structures and forms of Japanese management and enterprise systems, and management and technology transfer. The 24 articles in Volume II discuss banking and finance, education and human capital, labor (the creation of a new world of labor, and the consolidation of new patterns of labor and work organizations), the transformation of women's social and economic position in Japan, and the macroeconomic implications of imperialism and war. Under each theme, Tolliday (economic and social history, U. of Leeds) includes new empirical or theoretical work that pertains to the major debates. Lacks a subject index. c. Book News Inc.*

*H. D. Harootunian has provided a new preface for the paperback edition of his classic study Toward Restoration, the first intellectual history of the Meiji Restoration in English. Book jacket.*

*Originally published in 1940 by the Institute of Pacific Relations(IPR), this classic work by a leading 20th-century Japanologist has anenduring value. Japan's Emergence as a Modern Stateexamines the problems and accomplishments of the Meiji period(1868-1912). This edition includes forewords by: R. Gordon Robertson, aformer member of the Canadian Department of External Affairs; LenEdwards, the present Canadian ambassador to Japan; and William L.Holland, former secretary-general of the IPR; as well as a preface andintroduction by Lawrence Woods. Also included are 10 short essays byleading Canadian, Japanese, and American scholars of Japanese politics.history, and economics,*

*From Tokugawa to Meiji*

*The Meiji Restoration and the Rise of Modern Japan*

*To Stand with the Nations of the World*

*The Meiji Restoration*

*China and Japan in the Late Meiji Period*