

# Aim #19: How Does Japan Resist European Imperialism & become imperialist?



# Tokugawa & the West



## Tokugawa Laws of Japan in 1634

- Japanese ships shall not be sent abroad.
- No Japanese shall be sent abroad. Anyone breaking this law shall suffer the penalty of death...
- The arrival of foreign ships must be reported to Edo (Tokyo) and a watch kept over them.
- The samurai shall not buy goods on board foreign ships.

Source: January 2002 Global History and Geography Regents Exam.

In 1862, the Tokugawa shogun sent officials and scholars to China to study the situation there. A Japanese recorded in his diary from Shanghai...

“The Chinese have become servants to the foreigners. Sovereignty may belong to China but in fact it's no more than a colony of Great Britain and France.”

How do you think the Japanese officials would react to the situation in China?

# The Meiji Restoration 1868

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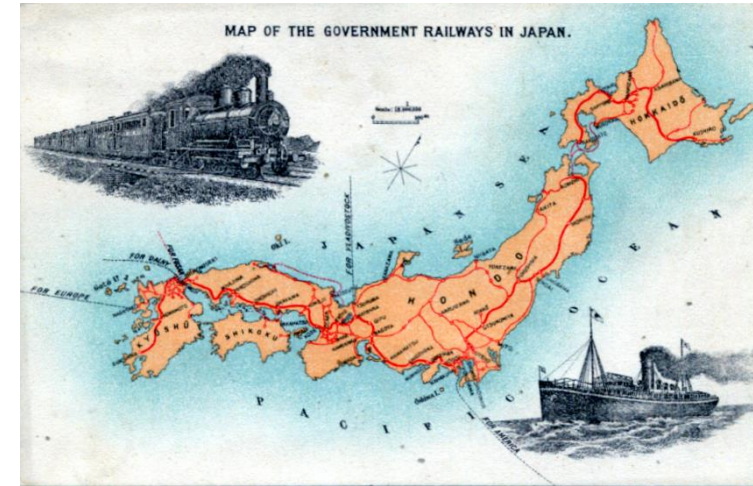
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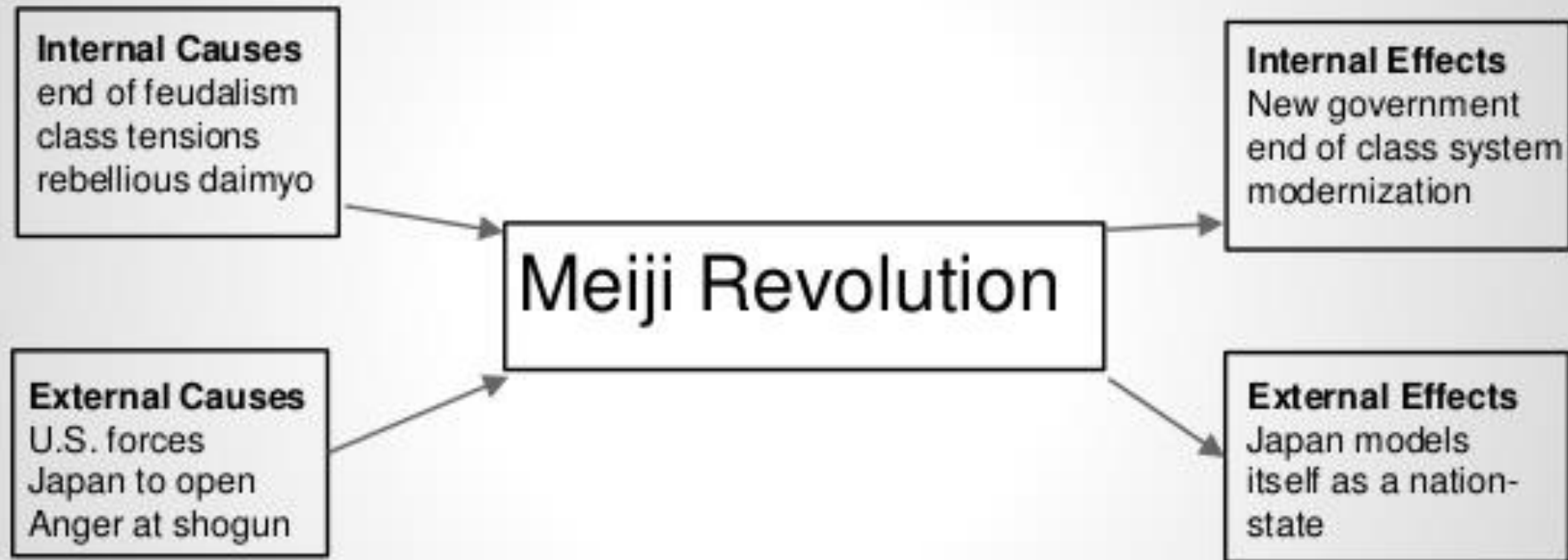


# The Meiji Restoration 1868



Year	Coal production		
	(millions of metric tons)	(millions of long tons)	(millions of short tons)
1875	0.6	0.59	0.66
1885	1.2	1.2	1.3
1895	5	4.9	5.5
1905	13	13	14
1913	21.3	21.0	23.5

# Cause and effect

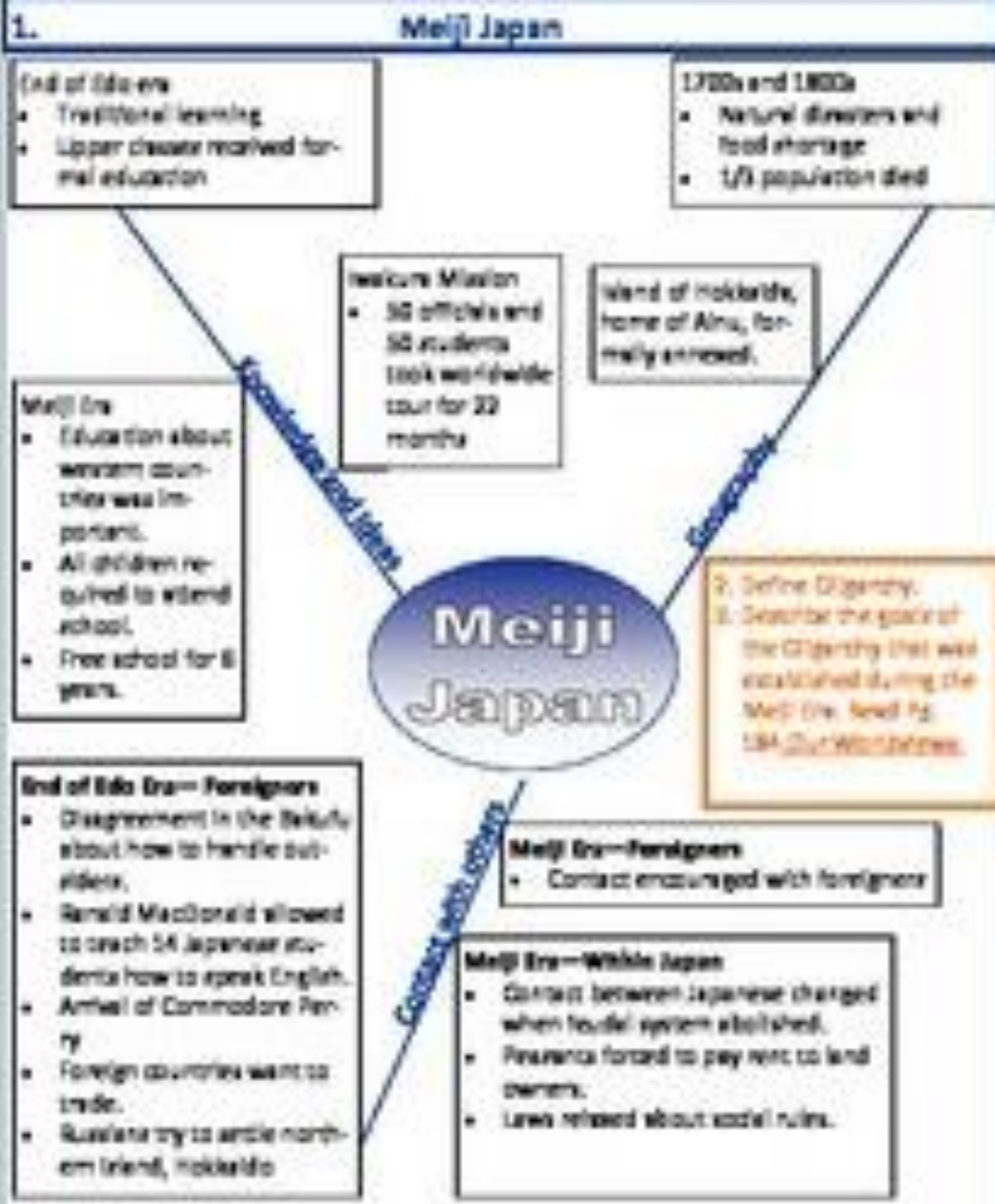


# Reforms Under the Meiji

The Meiji reformers wanted to replace the rigid feudal order with a completely new political and social system and to build a modern industrial economy.

GOVERNMENT	ECONOMIC REFORMS	SOCIAL CHANGE
<p>Adopted the German model of government</p> <p>Set forth the principle that all people were equal under the law</p> <p>Established a western-style bureaucracy</p> <p>Used western technology to strengthen the military</p> <p>Ended the special privilege of <b>samurai</b> under <b>bushido</b></p>	<p>Encouraged Japan's business class to adopt western methods</p> <p>Built factories and sold them to wealthy business families, known as <b>zaibatsu</b></p>	<p>Ended legal distinctions between classes</p> <p>Set up schools and a university</p> <p>Hired westerners to teach the new generation modern technology</p>





Answer the Chart Skills Qs in complete sentences in the available space.

## Meiji Restoration: Birth of Modern Japan

### Politics



### Economics



### Social Structure



### Changes and Events

- Imperial rule reestablished
- Capital moved to Edo
- Most power in executive branch (emperor, prime minister, cabinet)
- Daimyo's lands given to peasants
- Many farmers, unable to pay new land tax, forced into tenancy
- Industrialization encouraged
- New imperial army created
- Universal system of education developed
- Western practices adopted

### Chart Skills

The Meiji government began reforms that transformed Japan's political, economic, and social structures.

- 1. Cause and Effect** What changes noted on the chart most reflect the influence of Western ideas upon Japan?
- 2. Making Generalizations** How are the changes in the three areas of politics, economics, and social structure interrelated?

# Japan becomes an Imperial Nation



# Now This Cartoon Should Make More Sense



# **Compare & Contrast China & Japan Reaction to the West**

# Closure Activity

- Compare and contrast Chinese & Japanese reactions to imperialism:

## China and Japan Confront the West

### China

- Remains committed to traditional values
- Loses numerous territorial conflicts
- Grants other nations spheres of influence within China
- Finally accepts necessity for reform

### Both

- Have well-established traditional values
- Initially resist change
- Oppose Western imperialism

### Japan

- Considers modernization to be necessary
- Borrows and adapts Western ways
- Strengthens its economic and military power
- Becomes an empire builder

# Why did Japan industrialize during the Meiji Period? How did industrialization affect Japan?

## *Document Analysis*

**Task 1.** Describe *one* cause of industrialization in Japan in the late 19th & early 20th centuries

**Task 2.** Describe *two* social, political, and/or economic effects of industrialization on Japan in the late 19th and early 20th centuries

## Introduction: Review

→ **Directions:** Read the document below then respond to the questions that follow to review the Tokugawa Shogunate.

The Tokugawa Shogunate was the government that ruled Japan from 1600 to 1868.

### Tokugawa Laws of Japan in 1634

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Source: January 2002 Global History and Geography Regents Exam.

1. Based on the Tokugawa Laws of Japan in 1634 what was the Tokugawa Shogunate's point of view concerning people outside of Japan?

2. Review: Explain the historical context for the issuing of the Tokugawa Laws of Japan in 1634.

3. What effects do you think the Tokugawa Shogunate's policies had on Japan?



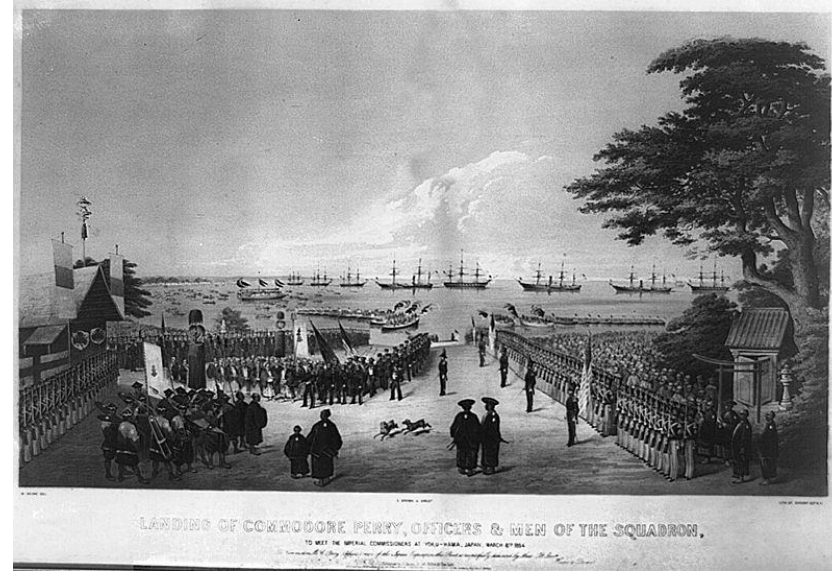
# Why did Japan end its isolation? Why did Japan industrialize during the Meiji Period?

**Directions:** Read the text below and answer the questions that follow.

The Tokugawa Shogunate (1603-1867) isolated the island nation of Japan from the rest of the world for more than 200 years. During this period, the emperors ruled in name only. The real political power was in the hands of the shoguns all of whom were from the Tokugawa family. The Tokugawa maintained a feudal system in Japan that gave them, and wealthy landowners called daimyo, power and control. After negative experiences with Europeans in the 1600s, the shoguns were extremely resistant to trade because they viewed outsiders as a threat to their power.

Japan's isolation came to an end in 1853 when **Commodore Matthew Perry** of the United States Navy, commanding two steamships and two sailing vessels, sailed into Tokyo harbor. He forced Japan to end their isolation and open their ports to trade with U.S merchant ships. At the time, many industrialized nations in Europe and the United States were seeking to open new markets where they could sell their manufactured goods, as well as new countries to supply raw materials for industry. The Japanese, because of their years of isolation, had no navy with which to defend themselves, so they agreed to the demands of the United States. In 1854, the Treaty of Kanagawa was signed which permitted trade and opened Japanese ports to merchant ships.

Commodore Matthew Perry's actions showed that Japan's ruling Shogunate was weak and unable to defend the nation against a threat from the Western powers. Convinced that modernization depended on abolishing [getting rid of] the Shogunate and the feudal order, a group of middle-ranking samurai overthrew the military government of the Shogun in 1868 and set to modernize and industrialize the country. The period of industrialization in Japan starting with the fall of the Tokugawa Shogunate is known as the **Meiji Restoration (1868-1912)**.



Landing of Commodore Perry, officers & men of the squadron, to meet the Imperial commissioners at Yoku-Hama July 14th 1853. Lithograph by Sarony & Co., 1855, after W. Heine.

- 1. Before 1867, what was the political structure of Japan like? Who had the power?**
- 2. Why did the Tokugawa government distrust foreigners?**
- 3. Why did Commodore Matthew Perry enter the Tokyo harbor with military ships?**
- 4. What were the effects of Commodore Matthew Perry's demands?**



Contextualize

## Why did Japan industrialize during the Meiji Period? How did industrialization affect Japan?

→ Directions: Read the text below and answer the questions that follow.

### The Meiji Restoration (1868-1912): Japan Industrializes and Modernizes



A sketched portrait of the Emperor Meiji, 1888.

[Image](#) is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons and is in the public domain

The arrival of warships from the United States and European nations, their advanced and formidable technology, and their ability to force the Japanese to agree to trade terms that were unfavorable for Japan sparked a period of rapid industrialization and modernization called the Meiji Restoration. This reaction was called the Meiji Restoration because *Meiji* (meaning “enlightened rule”) was the name taken by the emperor, and during this period he was “restored” as the leader of the nation, but like in monarchs of England or France at the time, he had very little real power. Under the slogan of “National Wealth and Military Strength,” the Meiji government adopted a number of ideas from European countries and the United States relating to government, and technologies to bolster industry, communication, and transportation that greatly impacted Japanese and global history.

Directions: As you examine the following documents related to the Meiji Restoration, fill in the graphic organizer below with evidence of the effects of industrialization on Japan during this period.

Social Effects	Political Effects	Economic Effects

## The Constitution of the Empire of Japan: The Meiji Constitution (1890-1947)



Illustration of the public acceptance of the Meiji Constitution (1889)

[Image](#) is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons and is in the public domain

During the Meiji Restoration, Japan's leaders sought to create a constitution that would define Japan as a capable, modern nation deserving of Western respect while preserving their own power. The resultant document was influenced by European style governments and included a bicameral parliament (the Diet) with an elected lower house and a prime minister and cabinet appointed by the emperor. The emperor was granted supreme control of the army and navy. A small council of powerful leaders who helped overthrow the Tokugawa Shogunate advised the emperor and had actual power. Voting restrictions, which limited the electorate to about 5 percent of the adult male population, were loosened over the next 25 years, resulting in universal male suffrage.

Source: Adapted from Encyclopædia Britannica Online, s. v. "Meiji Constitution", accessed December 08, 2015, <http://www.britannica.com/topic/Meiji-Constitution>.

### Excerpts from the Meiji Constitution (1889)

#### CHAPTER II.

##### RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF SUBJECTS

Article 20. Japanese subjects are amenable [open] to service in the Army or Navy, according to the provisions of law.

Article 23. No Japanese subject shall be arrested, detained, tried or punished, unless according to law.

Article 27. The right of property of every Japanese subject shall remain inviolate [untouchable].

Article 29. Japanese subjects shall, within the limits of law, enjoy the liberty of speech, writing, publication, public meetings and associations.

#### CHAPTER III.

##### THE IMPERIAL DIET

Article 33. The Imperial Diet shall consist of two Houses, a House of Peers and a House of Representatives.

Article 34. The House of Peers shall, in accordance with the ordinance concerning the House of Peers, be composed of the members of the Imperial Family, of the orders of nobility, and of those who have been nominated thereto by the Emperor.

Article 35. The House of Representatives shall be composed of members elected by the people, according to the provisions of the law of Election.

## Document Set 2

In addition to political changes, Japan changed economically and socially during the Meiji Restoration. The economy remained dependent on agriculture, but the government directed the development of strategic industries, transportation and communication. The first railroad was completed in 1872, and by 1890 there were more than 1,400 miles (2,250 kilometers) of railroad. All major cities were linked by telegraph by 1880. The government gave financial support to private companies and instituted a European-style banking system in 1882.

Source: Adapted from "Meiji Restoration," Encyclopedia Britannica. <https://www.britannica.com/event/Meiji-Restoration>



The picture of the steam locomotive railway at Yokohama seaside, drawn by Utagawa Hiroshige III, 1874.

[Image](#) is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons and is in the public domain.



Photography of a Japanese silk factory in the early 1900s. The first factory of its kind was the Tomioka Silk Mill established in 1872 by the government to introduce modern machine silk reeling from France and spread its technology in Japan.

[Image](#) is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons and is in the public domain.



Photograph of the first automobile introduced to the Japanese in 1898 by the French.

[Image](#) is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons and is in the public domain.

## Document Set 4

Western science and technology were imported, and a program of "Civilization and Enlightenment" (bunmei kaika) promoted Western culture, clothing, architecture and intellectual trends. In the 1880s, a renewed appreciation of traditional Japanese values slowed this trend. An educational system was developed which, though it made use of Western theory and practice, stressed traditional samurai loyalty and social harmony. Art and literature turned from outright imitation of the West to a synthesis of Japanese and Western influences.

Source: Adapted from "Meiji Restoration." Encyclopedia Britannica <http://www.britannica.com/entry/Meiji-Restoration>



Woodblock print of Emperor Meiji and his family on a walk in a park, 1890.

[Image](#) is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons and is in the public domain.



Photograph of a family from 1939 demonstrating the mix of Western influence and traditional Japanese dress that started during the Meiji Restoration.