

[SUMMARY] Imperial Japan

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Meiji Restoration (1868-1912)

- ① Open trade to rest of the world
- ② Infrastructure ↑↑
- ③ Introduction of Zaibatsu
 - ↳ Mitsui, Mitsubishi, Yasuda, Sumitomo
- ④ Army ↑↑
- ⑤ New Constituency
 - ↳ Emperor, Genro, Diet, Military
- ⑥ Nationalistic Education System

Challenges (1912-1932)

- ① Political
 - ↳ Emperor too sick
 - ↳ Genro left
 - ↳ Diet divided
 - ↳ Military appointed by Emperor, Not PM
- ② Economic
 - ↳ ↓↓ Space for farms
 - ↳ ↓↓ Tech for farmers
 - ↳ Inflation ↑↑
 - ↳ 1923 Great Kanto Earthquake
- ③ Tensions
 - ↳ Rural - Urban Divide (SES gap)
 - ↳ Women's role change ↓↓ traditional
- ④ 1927 Banking Crisis
 - ↳ Savings ↓↓
 - ↳ Stabilised by 1929
- ⑤ Great Depression
 - ↳ Farmer Demand ↓↓
 - ↳ Farmer Income ↓↓ 43%
 - ↳ Small businesses ↓↓
 - ↳ Unemployment ↑↑ 20%
 - ↳ Communism ↑↑
 - ↳ ∴ Distrust in Govt (eg. Zaibatsu corruption)

Rise of Military Influence on Govt

- ① Military felt disrespected
 - ↳ 1920s Budget Cuts
- ② 1930 London Naval Conference
 - ↳ Japan seen as weak
- ③ Manchuria
 - ↳ Kwantung Army kept order
 - ↳ Kwantung Army Assassinated Leader Zhang
 - ↳ 1931 Mukden Incident
- ④ ↓↓ Civilian Government
 - ↳ 1930 PM Assassinated
 - ↳ 1932 Finance Minister Assassinated
 - ↳ May 15 1932 Incident
 - ↳ Attempted Coup d'état
 - ↳ Failed, but assassinated PM
 - ↳ 1932 Vote
 - ↳ Majority Cabinet were Military
 - ↳ Militarist Rule

Life under Militarist Rule

- ① Imperial way & Control Factions
 - ↳ February 26 1931 Coup
 - ↳ Imperial way ↓↓ trust
 - ↳ Imperial way effectively gone
 - ↳ Control Faction Seized Military Control
 - ↳ Prepared Japan for war
- ② Japan's Industrialisation
 - ↳ Industrial Production doubled from 1930-1940
 - ↳ Shifted from Consumer Goods → Heavy / Chemical Industries
 - ↳ ↑↑ War supplies & Construction Projects
 - ↳ New Zaibatsu (Nissan, Nichitsi, Mori)
 - ↳ Allowed Japan to be Self-Sufficient
- ③ Formation of Cartels
 - ↳ Principle Industries Control Law 1931
 - ↳ Allowed Zaibatsu to form Cartels to limit competition
 - ↳ Govt Control ↑↑ in 1936, Zaibatsu angry ∴
- ④ Control of Labour Unions
 - ↳ ↑↑ Labour Unions in 1920s (↑↑ Stability)
 - ↳ ↓↓ Labour Unions in 1936 (Govt don't like)
 - ↳ Thousands of workers withdrew
- ⑤ Campaign for Economic Revitalisation
 - ↳ Measures to improve Rural Quality of Life
 - ↳ Help farmers pay debts
 - ↳ ↑↑ Rural public works, ↑↑ Jobs
 - ↳ Guidance on crop management
 - ↳ Not Significant
 - ↳ Govt focussed on industrialisation
- ⑥ Censorship
 - ↳ Publications Monitoring Dept
 - ↳ Guidelines & Restrictions to all media
 - ↳ Media cannot portray Emperor or Military badly
 - ↳ Ppl that did not conform imprisoned or dismissed
 - ↳ Enforced by Kempeitai
- ⑦ Control of Education
 - ↳ Stressed Shinto Beliefs
 - ↳ 1937 Kokutai No Hongi
 - ↳ Basis for Japan's education system
 - ↳ Distributed to Teachers
 - ↳ ↑↑ Military Drills
 - ↳ ↑↑ Sense of Patriotism