

DSE XII

HISTORY OF MODERN JAPAN (c. 1868-1950s)

Course Objectives:

The course studies the transition of Japan from quasi-feudalism to a modern industrialised capitalist nation. It focuses on the political and economic strategies adopted by Japan to meet the challenges posed by western imperialistic intrusions. It facilitates an understanding of Japan's emergence as a major non-European power within an international order dominated by western imperial powers. It studies the trajectory of Japan towards ultra-nationalism and militarism in the context of a failed parliamentary democracy, eventually leading to disaster in the Second World War. The course aims to pay close attention to historiographical shifts in all topics, contextualising these against the backdrop of their contemporary history and politics. Adequate attention is given to the study of social and cultural aspects with a special emphasis on the role of women in late 19th and early 20th century Japan.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course the student shall be able to:

- Explain Japan's attempts to create new institutional structures and recast traditions to encounter challenges of the west.
- Analyse historiographical shifts in Japanese history in the context of global politics.
- Examine the divergent pathways to modernity followed by Japan.
- Examine distinct perspectives on imperialism and nationalism in East Asia, and understand how historiographical approaches are shaped by their contexts.
- Conceptualise how these distinct histories can be rooted in common cultural traditions.
- Locate and contextualise the history of Japan in world politics.
- Critically discuss contemporary international studies with much greater clarity based on the knowledge of history and culture of Japan.

Course Content:

Unit 1: Transition from Feudalism to Capitalism

- a. Crisis of the Tokugawa *Bakuh*an System
- b. The Meiji Restoration : Nature and Significance; Early Meiji Reforms
- c. Economic Development in the Meiji Era
Agrarian Settlement
Industrialisation and Capitalism

Unit 2: Democracy and Militarism

- a. Popular Rights Movement
- b. Women's Rights in the Meiji Era
- c. Meiji Constitution
- d. Failure of Parliamentary Democracy; Militarism and Fascism

Unit 3: Imperialistic Expansion and Resistance

- a. Imperialism and Japanese Nationalism
- b. Expansion in China and Manchuria
- c. Colonisation of Korea and Korean Nationalism

Unit 4: American Occupation, post-War Reconstruction and "Reverse Course"

ESSENTIAL READINGS AND UNIT WISE TEACHING OUTCOMES:

Unit 1: This unit will introduce student to the history of Japan from its transitions from feudalism to Capitalism. The Unit will also examine historical process which led to Meiji Restoration and its impact on the economy of Japan. **(Teaching Time: 5weeks Approx.)**

- Gordon, A. (2003). *A Modern History of Japan- From Tokugawa Times to the Present*. New York: Oxford University Press, Chapters 3- The Intellectual World of Late Tokugawa &Chapter 4- Overthrow of the Tokugawa.
- Hall, J.W. (1970). *Japan from Pre-history to Modern Times*. Centre for Japanese Studies, the University of Michigan. Chapter 13- The Meiji Restoration and Its Meaning.
- Hall, J.W. (1991). (ed.). *Cambridge History of Japan*. Volume IV: Early Modern Japan. CUP. Cambridge.
- Jansen, M.B. (2000). *The Making of Modern Japan*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Jansen. M.B. and Gilbert Rozman. (1986). *Japan in Transition from Tokugawa to Meiji*. Princeton, Princeton University Press.
- Livingston, J. et al. (1974). *The Japan Reader: Volume I- Imperial Japan: 1800-1945*. Pantheon Asia Library, 1974.
- McClain, J.L. (2002). *Japan – A Modern History*. W.W. Norton and Company. Chapter 3- Self and Society.
- Pyle, K.B. (1995). *The Making of Modern Japan*. Lexington: D.C. Heath.
- Sansom, G.B. (2015). *The Western World and Japan-- a Study in the Interaction of European and Asiatic Cultures*. Bibliolife DBA of Biblio Bazaar II LLC. Chapters 14 and 15.
- Totman, C. (1980). *Collapse of the Tokugawa Bakufu.1862-1868*. University of Hawaii Press.

Unit 2: This unit deals with emergence and growth of democratic governance in Japan. Role of popular rights movements, polemics of Meiji constitution, and failure of democracy and subsequent rise of Militarism has been examined in this unit. **(Teaching Time: 4 weeks Approx.)**

- Moore Jr., Barrington. (2015). *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy, Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World*. Boston: Beacon Press.
- Beasley, W.G. (2000). *The Rise of Modern Japan: Political, Economic and Social Change Since 1850*. Palgrave Macmillan. Chapter 6- Protest and Dissent.
- Beckmann, G.M. (1957). *The Making of the Meiji Constitution: The Oligarchs and the Constitutional Development of Japan, 1868-1891*. University of Kansas Press.
- Jansen, M. B. et. al ed. (1988). *Cambridge History of Japan*. Volume V: *The Twentieth Century*. Cambridge, CUP.
- Fairbank, J.K., E.O. Reischauer and A. M. Craig. (1998). *East Asia: Tradition and Transformation*. New Jersey: Houghton Mifflin. Chapter 23- Imperial Japan: Democracy and Militarism.
- Gordon, A. (2003). *A Modern History of Japan- From Tokugawa Times to the Present*. New York: Oxford University Press. pp 88-91.
- Ike, N. (1969). *The Beginnings of Political Democracy in Japan*. Praeger, 1969.
- Jansen, M.B. (1988). *Cambridge History of Japan*. Volume V: *The Nineteenth Century*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. pp 651-673
- Hall, J.W. (1970). *Japan from Pre-history to Modern Times*. Centre for Japanese Studies, the University of Michigan. Chapter 16- The Meiji Constitution and the Emergence of Imperial Japan. Chapter 17- The Decade of the 20's- Political Parties and Mass Movements.

Unit 3: This unit will enable students to understand the imperialistic design of Japan and the role of nationalism in its conception. This unit will examine the nature and consequences of Japanese colonialism over China and Manchuria. It also deals with Japanese colonialism over Korea and the growth of Korean Nationalism. **(Teaching Time: 3weeks Approx.)**

- Beasley, W.G. (1987) *Japanese Imperialism 1894-1945*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- Buzo, A. (2002). *The Making of Modern Korea*. London: Routledge. Introduction, Chapter I- Joined to the Empire 1910-31, Chapter II- The dark gulf, 1931-45.
- Fairbank, J.K., E.O. Reischauer and A. M. Craig. (1998). *East Asia: Tradition and Transformation*. New Jersey, Houghton Mifflin, 1998, Chapter 26- The New Japan.
- Hall, J.W. (1970). *Japan from Pre-history to Modern Times*. Centre for Japanese Studies, the University of Michigan. Chapter 18- From Manchuria to War in the Pacific.
- Iriye, A. (1981). *Power and Culture, The Japanese-American War, 1941-1945*. Harvard University Press.

- Jansen, M.B. (1975). *Japan and China: From War to Peace, 1894-1972*. Princeton University: Rand McNally College Publishing Company/Chicago. Chapter 4- Japan and Change in Korea, Chapter 7-The New Generation, pp 241-247, Chapter 10-The Road to the Pacific War.
- Mayo, J.M.(Ed.). (1970). *The Emergence of Imperial Japan-Self Defence or Calculated Aggression?* Lexington, Massachusetts: D.C. Heath and Company. pp 19-24, 25-30, 47-53, 55-58, 69-73.
- Morley, J.W. (Ed). (1971). *Dilemmas of Growth in Pre-war Japan*. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press. Chapter I- introduction: Choice and Consequence, Chapter IV- The Failure of Military Expansionism, Chapter VI- Rural origins of Japanese Fascism, Chapter IX- Intellectuals as Visionaries of the New Asian Order, Chapter XIII- What Went Wrong?.
- Seth, M.J. (2011). *A History of Korea: From Antiquity to the Present*. New York, Toronto, Plymouth. Chapter 10- Colonial Korea, 1910 to 1945.

Unit 4: This unit deals with the period between the two World wars and the subsequent history of Japan. The American occupation of Japan after World War-II and the post war reconstruction has been examined in this unit.(Teaching Time: 2 weeks Approx.)

- Dower, J.W. (1999). *Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II*. New York.W.W. Norton & Company.
- Duus, P. (1997). *Modern Japan*. Boston. Houghton Mifflin
- Jansen, M.B. (1975). *Japan and China: From War to Peace, 1894-1972*. Princeton University: Rand McNally College Publishing Company/Chicago. Chapter 12- The Postwar Era, pp 447-462.
- Porter, E.A. and Porter, Ran Ying, (2018) *Japanese Reflections on World War II and the American Occupation*. Amsterdam, Amsterdam University Press.
- Takemae, E. (2002). *The Allied Occupation of Japan*. New York, London: The Continuum International publishing group.

SUGGESTED READINGS

- Akita, G. (1967). *Foundations of the Constitutional Government in Japan, 1868-1900*. Harvard East Asian Series, 23. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press.
- Allen, G.C. (1946). *A Short Economic History of Modern Japan 1867-1937*. London: Allen &Unwin. (Chapter 2).
- Allen, G.C. (1946). *A Short Economic History of Modern Japan 1867-1937*. London: Allen & Unwin, 1946, Chapter 2.
- Ayusawa, I.F. (1976). *History of Labour in Modern Japan*. Praeger.
- Barnhart, M.A. (1995). *Japan and the World since 1868*. New York: Edward Arnold.

- Beasley, W.G. (1963). *The Making of Modern Japan*. London:Wardenfield and Nicolson, 1963, Chapter VI- New Men and New Methods 1868-1873.
- Beasley, W.G. (1972). *The Meiji Restoration*. Stanford University Press.
- Borton, H. (1955). *Japan's Modern Century*. New York: Ronald Press Co.
- Chatterji, B.R. (1966). *Modern Japan: Perry to Sato*. Meerut, Meenakshi Prakashan, India.
- Duus, P. (1968). *Party Rivalry and Political Change in Taisho Japan*. Harvard: Harvard University Press.
- Fairbank, J.K., E.O. Reischauer and A. M. Craig. (1998). *East Asia: Tradition and Transformation*. New Jersey: Houghton Mifflin, Chapter 15-Tokugawa Japan: A Centralized Feudal State, Chapter 17- Japan's Response to the West, and Chapter 18- Modernization in Meiji Japan.
- Hall, J.W. (1970). *Japan from Pre-history to Modern Times*. Centre for Japanese Studies, the University of Michigan.
- Hall, J.W. (1991). ed. *Cambridge History of Japan*. Volume IV: *Early Modern Japan*. Cambridge University Press. Beasley, W.G. (1963). *The Making of Modern Japan*. London: Wardenfield and Nicolson Chapter 1- Japan in the Early 19th Century.
- Hane, M. (1992). *Modern Japan: A Historical Survey*. Avalon Publishing.
- Ike, N. (1969). *The Beginnings of Political Democracy in Japan*. Praeger.
- Jansen, M.B. (1965). ed. *Changing Japanese Attitudes toward Modernization*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Jansen, M.B. (1988). ed. *The Cambridge History of Japan*. Volumes IV, V and VI. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.
- Jansen, M.B. and Gilbert Rozmaned, (1986). *Japan in Transition: From Tokugawa to Meiji*. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.
- Kajima, M. (1965). *A Brief Diplomatic History of Modern Japan*. Charles E. Tuttle Co.
- Karlin, J.G. (2014). *Gender and Nation in Meiji Japan: Modernity, Loss, And The Doing of History*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2014.
- Kiguchi, Junko. *Japanese Women's Rights in the Meiji Era*. <https://www.soka.ac.jp>
- Kunio Y. (1967). *Japanese Economic Development: A Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press. Third edition 1995.
- Lockwood, W.W. (1954). *The Economic development of Japan: Growth and Structural Change, 1868-1938*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University press.
- Lockwood, W.W. (1965). *The State and Economic Enterprise in Japan*. Part I and II. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- McClain, J.L. (2002). *Japan – A Modern History*. Boston.W.W. Norton and Company.
- McLaren, W.W. (1923). *A Political History of Japan during the Meiji Era 1867-1912*. Reproduction by Nabu Press, 2000.
- Molony, Barbara, (2002). "Women's Rights, Feminism, and Suffragism in Japan, 1870-1925". *Pacific Historical Review*, Volume 69, No. 4, *Woman Suffrage: The View from the Pacific*. pp. 639-661.

- Molony, Barbara. *Feminism in Japan*. Oxford Research Encyclopaedia of Asian History.
- Morris I. (Ed.). (1963). *Japan 1931-1945: Militarism, Fascism, Japanism?* D.C. Heath and Company.
- Myers, R.H. and Mark R. Peattie (Ed.). (1984). *The Japanese Colonial Empire, 1895- 1945*. Princeton University Press.
- Norman, E.H. (1940). *Japan's Emergence as a Modern State*. New York: International Secretariat, Institute of Pacific Relations, First Indian Reprint 1977, Khosla and Co., Chapter III- The Restoration.
- Pepper, N. (1958). *The Far East: A Modern History*. University of Michigan Press. Chapter 14- Constitutionalism, Japanese Style.
- Pepper, N. (1958). *The Far East: A Modern History*. University of Michigan Press, Chapter 8- Japan Opened to the World, Chapter 13- Japan Resolves to Modernize.
- Pittau, J. (1967). *Political thought in Early Meiji Japan 1868-1889*. Cambridge, Harvard University Press.
- Sansom, G.B. (1931). *Japan: A Short Cultural History*. London and New York: Cresset Press and D. Appleton.
- Scalapino, R.A. (1953). *Democracy and Party Movement in Pre-War Japan: the Failure of the First Attempt*. Berkeley: California University Press.
- Shively, D.H. and Carmen Blacker, ed. (1976). *Tradition and Modernization in Japanese Culture*. Princeton University Press.
- Smethurst, R.J. (1974). *A Social Basis for Pre-War Japanese Militarism: The Army and the Rural Community*. University of California Press.
- Storry, R. (1991). *A History of Modern Japan*. Original Publication 1961. Penguin Publishing Group.
- Tipton, E.K. (2002) *Modern Japan: A Social and Political History*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Tsutsui, W.M. (2009). ed. *A Companion to Japanese History*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.
- Wray, H. and H. Conroy. (1983). *Japan Examined: Perspectives on Modern Japanese History*. University of Hawaii Press, Honolulu.
- Yanaga, C. (1949). *Japan since Perry*. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company.
- सत्यकेतु विद्यालंकार. (1952). एशिया का आधुनिक इतिहास, Masoori: Sarasvati Sadan.
- जैनएसके.आधुनिक एशिया का इतिहास.
- जैनकैलाशचंद्र.एशिया की विकासोन्मुखी एकता.
- नोरमनई. एच. जापान का इतिहास. Delhi: K. K. Publication.
- पाण्डेयधनपति. (2005). आधुनिक एशिया का इतिहास. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidas.
- तिवारीप्रेमशंकर. (2005). जापान का इतिहास. Vishwa Bharti: Vishwa Bharti Publications.
- स्कॉटलातौरैत्तेकेनेथ.जापान का इतिहास.
- सराओके. टी.एस. जापान का इतिहास. Place: Publisher

Teaching Learning Process:

Classroom teaching, classroom discussions and student presentations in class and/or in tutorials. Presentations shall focus either on important themes covered in the class lectures, or on specific readings. As this is a paper tracing the history of regions outside the Indian subcontinent, supporting audio-visual aids like documentaries, maps and power point presentations shall be used widely. Overall, the Teaching Learning Process shall emphasise the interconnectedness of issues within the different rubrics to build a holistic view of the time period and region under study.

Assessment Methods:

Students will be regularly assessed for their grasp on debates and discussions covered in class. Two written submissions and at least one presentation will be used for final grading of the students. As this is a discipline-specific elective paper actively chosen by the student, his/her engagement with the paper shall be assessed, preferably, through at least one project as a written submission. Overall, students will be assessed on their ability to engage with a sizeable corpus of readings assigned to the theme for written submissions, and to draw concrete connections between issues/events/debates discussed in this paper and the corresponding issues/events/debates discussed in their Core history papers.

Internal Assessment: 25 Marks

Written Exam: 75 Marks

Total: 100 Marks

Keywords:

Tokugawa, Meiji Era, Industrialisation and Capitalism, Popular Movements, Women Rights, Imperialism, Expansion into China, Korea, Post War Reconstruction