



Japan in Perspective

May 2015

Japan in Perspective: Contents

Chapter 1 Geography	5
Introduction	5
Topographic Features	6
Climate	7
Bodies of Water	8
Major Cities	9
<i>Tokyo</i>	9
<i>Yokohama</i>	10
<i>Osaka</i>	11
<i>Nagoya</i>	12
<i>Sapporo</i>	13
Environmental Concerns/Issues	14
Natural Hazards	15
Endnotes	16
Chapter 1 Assessment	21
Chapter 2 History	22
Introduction	22
Early History	23
Medieval Japan	24
Early Modern Japan	25
Meiji Restoration	26
Imperial Expansion	27
Prelude to War	28
World War II	29
After the War	30

Current Events: 2011-2014	31
Endnotes	32
<i>Chapter 2 Assessment</i>	38
Chapter 3 Economy	39
Introduction	39
Agriculture	40
Industry	41
Energy	42
Trade	43
Tourism	44
Banking & Finance	45
Standard of Living	46
Economic Outlook	47
Endnotes	48
<i>Chapter 3 Assessment</i>	55
Chapter 4 Society	56
Introduction	56
Ethnic Groups and Languages	57
Religion	58
<i>Shinto</i>	58
<i>Buddhism</i>	59
<i>Christianity</i>	60
Cuisine	61
Traditional Dress	62
Gender Issues	63
Arts	64
Sports and Recreation	65

<i>Baseball</i>	65
<i>Sumo Wrestling</i>	66
<i>Martial Arts</i>	66
<i>Traditional Games</i>	67
Endnotes	68
Chapter 4 Assessment	73
Chapter 5 Security	74
Introduction	74
Relations with the U.S.	76
Relations with Neighboring Countries	77
<i>China</i>	77
<i>North Korea</i>	78
<i>Russia</i>	79
<i>South Korea</i>	80
<i>Taiwan</i>	81
Police Force	82
Military	83
Issues Affecting Stability	84
Outlook	85
Endnotes	86
Chapter 5 Assessment	94
Final Assessment	95
Further Reading	98



Hokkaido
© Agustin Rafael Reyes

Chapter 1 Geography

Introduction

Japan is a nation of volcanic islands in the western North Pacific. Slightly smaller than the state of California, Japan's area is 377,915 sq km (145,914 sq mi).¹ Although thousands of islands make up the Japanese archipelago, four main islands constitute the heart of the country. The largest of the four islands is Honshu. Honshu comprises 60% of the total land area of the country and is home to approximately 80% of the population.² Hokkaido, the second-largest island, lies north of Honshu. In spite of its size, it is home to only 5% of the country's population.^{4,5} South of Honshu are Kyushu and Shikoku, the third- and fourth-largest islands, respectively. Kyushu is home to 11% of the population while 3% of the nation call Shikoku home.^{6,7} The total island chain of Japan, including the Ryukyu Islands of the south, stretches approximately 2,400 km (1,500 mi).^{8,9} Japan's closest neighbors are Russia and China to the northwest, and North Korea and South



Mt. Fuji
© hide99 / flickr.com

Korea to the west.¹⁰ The Sea of Okhotsk lies to the nation's north while to the east and south are the North Pacific Ocean and the East China Sea. On the country's western shores lie the Korea Strait and the Sea of Japan.¹¹

Topographic Features

More than four-fifths of Japan is mountainous.¹² Japan is not formed by a single mountain range, but rather by a series of distinct mountain arcs.¹³ ¹⁴ The highest mountains are on Hokkaido and central Honshu.¹⁵ Although most of the mountains are less than 1,825 m (6,000 ft), the Japanese Alps of Honshu have many peaks that reach above

3,050 m (10,000 ft).^{16, 17, 18} Mount Fuji, near Honshu's southeastern Pacific shore, is Japan's tallest mountain at 3,776 m (12,388 ft).^{19, 20, 21}

Below the mountain peaks, Japan's major cities lie in the coastal lowlands, the majority of which are on Honshu's eastern and southern borders. The Kanto Plain is the largest lowland area in Japan and is home to the nation's capital, Tokyo. The Osaka Plain lies to the south and east. It is the country's main agricultural area.^{22, 23} Smaller coastal lowlands, including the Kushiro Plain, are found along Hokkaido's eastern coast.²⁴ Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka, and Hiroshima are all port cities that developed on the country's natural bays.²⁵

Almost 70% of the surface area of Japan is forested. Of these areas, 54% are natural forests and the rest were planted.²⁶ Deciduous forests cover northern Honshu and much of Hokkaido. Evergreen forests of southern Honshu, Kyushu, and Shikoku grow in the warmer climate.²⁷



Weather at Miyajima
© Al Case

Climate

Japan's surrounding ocean waters, its mountainous topography, and its proximity to the large Asian continent all influence its weather patterns.²⁸ These factors produce a monsoonal climate with typically hot and humid summers. Winters are generally cold and dry.²⁹ Monsoons are winds that change directions according to the seasons. As Asia heats up during the summer, a large area of low pressure develops over the continent and draws in wind from the Pacific Ocean. During this time, from mid-April to early September, warm rain passes over Japan and falls primarily on the eastern shores, while the mountains keep western

Japan drier. As the continent of Asia cools from late September to late March, however, the winds reverse. Consequently, the winter monsoon picks up moisture from the Sea of Japan and it falls largely on the western side of the nation.^{30, 31}

The nation has four distinct seasons.³² The average annual temperature varies from about 10-20°C (50-68°F). Weather and temperatures vary from north to south. Temperatures are significantly cooler in the north of the country, which has a much more temperate climate than the tropical south.³³ Hokkaido, the northernmost of the four main islands, has heavy snowfalls and average temperatures that are below freezing in winter.^{34, 35} By comparison, Kyushu and Shikoku, the southern main islands, are much warmer, with winter temperatures averaging 8°C (46°F) in January in some spots. Summers tend to be short and wet but warm; burdensome heat is rare.^{36, 37}



Miyajima island
© jpellgen / flickr.com

Bodies of Water

Japan's most important bodies of water are its surrounding seas. In addition to influencing the climate, they provide food and offer avenues of transportation. Japan relies heavily on the western Pacific Ocean as a means to import vital raw materials and to export its valuable electronics and automobiles.³⁸ To the west of Honshu is the Sea of Japan (a name North and South Korea reject, referring to the body of water as the East Sea of Korea or the East Sea, respectively).³⁹ Annually, the Sea of Japan yields an average of one million tons of fish for surrounding countries.⁴⁰ The East China Sea, with significant oil and gas resources, sits southwest of the main islands. Directly south of the main islands is the Philippine Sea.^{41, 42}

Heavy rains and mountainous topography create many fast-flowing rivers in Japan that empty into the surrounding seas.^{43, 44} The Shinano River at 367 km (229 mi) is Japan's longest. It is highly navigable and has long facilitated transport inland.^{45, 46} Another river, the Tone, is an important source of irrigation water and hydroelectricity for millions along the Kanto Plain on the island of Honshu.^{47, 48}

All the major lakes in Japan—most of which are volcanic—lie in central or northern Honshu and Hokkaido. Japan's largest lake is Lake Biwa, which covers 670 square km (259 square mi). Many coastal lakes are former bays that have been naturally damned by sandbars.⁴⁹



Tokyo skyline
© Morio / wikipedia.org

Major Cities

City	Population (2013 estimates) ⁵⁰
Tokyo	9,059,903
Yokohama	3,705,551
Osaka	2,683,487
Nagoya	2,271,380
Sapporo	1,936,460
Kobe	1,539,751
Kyoto	1,470,742

Tokyo

Tokyo is Japan's largest and capital city. The city lies at the head of Tokyo Bay along Honshu's central Pacific coast.⁵¹ The city is more than 400 years old. Tokyo first began to grow and flourish under the Tokugawa Shogunate in 1603. The political and cultural capital of Japan, the city grew to over a million inhabitants in the mid-1700s. Tokyo, originally known as Edo, did not become the nation's official capital until the late 1860s when the Emperor moved to the city after the restoration of imperial rule.⁵²

The Kano Earthquake destroyed Tokyo in 1923, and the city center was destroyed by fire. More than 300,000 homes were ruined and more than 140,000 people were killed

or missing. The city's restoration was interrupted by World War II, during which allied forces bombed the city 102 times. By 1945, much of the city lay in ruins.⁵³

The Japanese capital is the world's largest city with a metropolitan urban population topping 37 million.^{54, 55} Today, the modern capital is a blend of old and new. The city contains modern shopping centers, entertainment venues, amusement parks, and all the trappings of contemporary world city. It is also home to historic temples, museums, and gardens.⁵⁶ It remains, as it has for centuries, the nation's political and economic center.⁵⁷



Yokohama city
© Ericson Machacon

Yokohama

Yokohama, the country's second-largest city, is part of the Tokyo metropolitan area and shares the Tokyo Bay. The origins of the city date back to the early 11th century, but the modern city did not exist until 1859.^{58, 59, 60} A century-and-a-half ago, Yokohama was only a small fishing village, but the area began to thrive after the government opened the city as an international port. Westerners were mostly confined to a moated area in the Kannai district. Later, foreigners began to buy property on the surrounding mountain sides. A large Chinese community began to develop around this time.^{61, 62}

Some say that Yokohama was the engine that helped Japan to enter the modern era. It served as the point where foreign culture and technology first entered the country, later spreading throughout Japan. Much of the city was destroyed by the earthquake of 1923. Air raids during World War II laid waste to 42% of Yokohama. Today, the city has been largely rebuilt into a modern port city and a major industrial center.^{63, 64}



Skyline of Osaka
© Cyberroach / wikipedia.org

Osaka

Osaka is the heart of Japan's third-largest metropolitan area. The city lies in the southwest of Honshu and at the head of Osaka Bay and is surrounded by mountains.⁶⁵ ⁶⁶ Humans have lived in the region for more than 10,000 years. It was here that Chinese culture was introduced to Japan. In the 7th century, Osaka became the first national capital modeled after the Chinese capital. Even when the capital was moved to Nara and later Kyoto, the city continued to grow and flourish, primarily as a trading and cultural center.^{67, 68}

Toward the end of the 1100s, the warrior class assumed power in Japan, but Osaka developed along the lines of the free cities in medieval Italy. In 1583, under the unification efforts of Toyotomi Hideyoshi, Osaka served as his base and the political and economic center of the nation. By the 17th century, political power moved to Tokyo, but Osaka continued its role as a major economic and distribution center. Although the city was heavily damaged by allied air raids during World War II, the city reemerged as Japan's commercial and heavy industry center. The nearby cities of Kobe and Kyoto join Osaka to form the Keihanshin Industrial Zone.^{69, 70, 71}

In keeping with its long tradition as a center for culture and trade, the city is home to some of the world's largest banks and is a major international port.⁷² The region's population is the most ethnically diverse in the nation. The city is popular with expatriates. Almost 16% of the foreign population lives in Osaka.^{73, 74}



Nagoya
© MD111 / flickr.com

Nagoya

The name “Nagoya” derives from the name of a famous 12th century manor called “Nagano.” Long after the demise of the Nagano manor in the 1300s, people continued to refer to the region as “Nagano.” The current name was adopted later from the Chinese characters, which may also be read as “Nagoya.”⁷⁵ The city played an important role in the unification of Japan, and in the establishment of the Tokugawa Shogunate in the early 17th century. The Nagoya Castle, built by Takugawa, remained the family home for 16 generations. Two other heroes from the era, Oda Nobunaga and Tyoytomi Hideyoshi, were born in

the area. Each year, the city hosts an annual festival honoring their “three heroes.”⁷⁶

In the early 20th century, the city developed its transportation infrastructure, including railways and ports. Nagoya quickly became a modern commercial and industrial city. Nearly 25% of the city was destroyed during the Second World War. Half the population fled the city which stood at a virtual standstill. But, only 45 days after the end of the war, the city began its reconstruction plan. The city was making good progress until 1959 when the Ise Bay typhoon devastated the city. All of Nagoya was flooded, 5,000 people killed, 118,000 buildings were damaged or destroyed, and more than one and a half a million people became homeless.^{77, 78}

The city set to work again rebuilding. Today, Nagoya is an important industrial sector and cultural center for Japan. The city is home to several universities, a 17th-century castle that was destroyed in World War II and rebuilt, important Shinto shrines, museums, and art and theater centers.^{79, 80}



Sapporo
© inefekt69 / flickr.com

Sapporo

Sapporo is Hokkaido's chief city and lies in the southwest of the island.⁸¹ The first snow usually falls in October and covers the ground here for 132 days a year.⁸² Originally home to several Ainu groups, the city was established in 1857 with a population of seven residents. The area began to grow in the 1860s, following the construction of a village around a canal. Sapporo's name is derived from the Ainu "*sat poro pet*" meaning "great dry river."^{83, 84, 85} In 1868, the Meiji named Sapporo the capital of Hokkaido. The city continued to grow and develop through the early 1900s. Tohoku Imperial University was established in the city in

1907 and Hokkaido Imperial University was established a few years later, in 1918. The city escaped much, but not all, of the bombing devastation that befell other parts of the nation during World War II. In July 1945, days before the war's end, 30 planes dropped nearly 900 tons of incendiary and fragmentation cluster bombs on the city, leaving 80,000 homeless.⁸⁶

Today, the city is internationally famous for its beer, ramen noodles and annual snow festival (Yuki Matsuri) held each February.^{87, 88} Printing, publishing, sawmilling, and the manufacture of foodstuffs are all major industries in Sapporo. The city is a popular destination for winter sports, and in 1972 hosted the first Winter Olympics held outside Europe or the United States.^{89, 90}



Volcanic mountain, Kagoshima
© Laura Longenecker

Environmental Concerns/Issues

Pollution in Japan is a major environmental concern. Green-house emissions and particulate emissions are serious issues.⁹¹ Rapid industrialization following World War II brought increased air pollution. A series of strict regulations, beginning in the 1960s, helped clean Japan's air, but the country continues to be plagued by pollution.^{92, 93} In 2014, pollution approached levels that would trigger government alerts as smog enveloped the city. Much of the problem stems from severe pollution in China, which drifts into Japan.⁹⁴ Acid rain is particularly problematic, degrading water supplies and damaging wildlife and infrastructure.^{95, 96}

The devastating tsunami that hit Japan and destroyed the Fukushima nuclear plant in 2011 has left lasting pollution problems. The long-term effects are unknown, but are potentially more serious than those caused by the Chernobyl disaster in 1986. Radioactive waste released in the sea and air around the plant has been found in fish and other sea life. Portions of the region remain uninhabitable. Above normal radiation levels have been confirmed as far away as Tokyo.⁹⁷ The ongoing cleanup will take decades to complete, but contamination levels continue to rise.^{98, 99}

As a result of Japan's large population and heavy reliance on its coastal waters for food, many of the country's fishing resources have been depleted. According to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, Japan's current fishing rates are not sustainable.^{100, 101, 102} Japan's heavy fishing is also negatively affecting other countries in Asia and beyond.^{103, 104}



*Aerial view of damage, Honshu
Naval Air Crewman 1st Class Jay Okonek*

Natural Hazards

Japan makes up part of the western boundary of the Pacific Ring of Fire and lies at the meeting point of several of Earth's tectonic plates.¹⁰⁵ ¹⁰⁶ As these plates move, volcanic activity and earthquakes commonly result. With 108 active volcanoes, which account for over 10% of the 840 active volcanoes worldwide, Japan averages 15 volcanic occurrences a year.¹⁰⁷ Japan also has about 1,500 seismic events annually.¹⁰⁸ The most serious earthquakes have killed thousands in Japan in the last century.¹⁰⁹ The 1923 Kanto earthquake killed 143,000 people and remains one of history's most devastating earthquakes.¹¹⁰ In March 2011,

a massive earthquake struck off of Honshu's northeastern shore. The 9.0 earthquake and subsequent tsunami killed as many as 28,000 people and damaged several nuclear reactors.^{111, 112}

Officials in Japan are preparing for another massive earthquake in the Tokai region of Honshu's southeast shore. Historical analysis shows that consistently large earthquakes recur in this region every 100 to 150 years. The most recent of the Tokai earthquakes had magnitudes from 7.9 to 8.6 and occurred in 1498, 1605, 1707, and 1854.^{113, 114} Experts believe an earthquake of magnitude 8 or more is looming.¹¹⁵

Although the densely populated eastern and southern shores are especially at risk, tsunamis can impact any part of the island nation. A recent study revealed that as many as 22 million are at risk for the next tsunami. The Japan Meteorological Agency has the capability of issuing tsunami warnings within 3 minutes of seismic activity.^{116, 117} It also coordinates with the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center in Hawaii for long-range tsunamis.¹¹⁸

Landslides and flash floods from typhoons also create dangers in Japan. In 1959, a typhoon killed more than 5,000 people. Early warning systems have helped prevent such losses in recent decades.¹¹⁹ In 2014, for example, landslides in Hiroshima killed an estimated 70 people.^{120, 121} In September 2014, torrential rain and landslides in the north displaced approximately one million residents and killed two people.^{122, 123}

Endnotes

- 1 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: Geography," in *The World Factbook*, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 2 William E. Deal, *Handbook to Life in Medieval and Early Modern Japan* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2007), 64.
- 3 World of Information, *Asia & Pacific Review 2003/2004: The Economic and Business Report* (London: Kogan Page, 2004), 90.
- 4 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 5 Alison Behnke, *Japan in Pictures* (Minneapolis, MN: Twenty-first Century Books, 2003), 12.
- 6 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 7 Alison Behnke, *Japan in Pictures* (Minneapolis, MN: Twenty-first Century Books, 2003), 12.
- 8 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 9 Peter J. Woolley, *Geography and Japan's Strategic Choices: From Seclusion to Internationalization* (Washington, DC: Potomac Books, Inc., 2005), 9–11.
- 10 Andrew Heritage, ed., *World Reference Atlas* (New York: Dorling Kindersley Publishing, 2004), 170–172.
- 11 Alison Behnke, *Japan in Pictures* (Minneapolis, MN: Twenty-first Century Books, 2003), 8–9.
- 12 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 13 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan: The Major Physiographic Regions," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 14 Sohei Kaizuka, "Morphotectonic Division of the Japanese Island Arcs" (paper, 1976), 103–107, <http://www.repository.lib.tmu.ac.jp/dspace/bitstream/10748/3450/1/20005-11-009.pdf>
- 15 Web Japan, "Flora and Fauna: Diversity and Regional Uniqueness," (factsheet, n.d.), <http://web-japan.org/factsheet/en/pdf/03FloraFauna.pdf>
- 16 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japanese Alps," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/301005/Japanese-Alps?anchor=ref246452>
- 17 Peter J. Woolley, *Geography and Japan's Strategic Choices: From Seclusion to Internationalization* (Washington, DC: Potomac Books, Inc., 2005), 12.
- 18 Alison Behnke, *Japan in Pictures* (Minneapolis, MN: Twenty-first Century Books, 2003), 11.
- 19 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Mount Fuji," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/221527/Mount-Fuji>
- 20 Alison Behnke, *Japan in Pictures* (Minneapolis, MN: Twenty-first Century Books, 2003), 11.
- 21 Japan Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication, Statistics Bureau, "Chapter 1: Land and Climate," in *Statistical Handbook of Japan 2014*, (2014), <http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/handbook/c0117.htm#c01>
- 22 Alison Behnke, *Japan in Pictures* (Minneapolis, MN: Twenty-first Century Books, 2003), 11.
- 23 Andrew Heritage, ed., *World Reference Atlas* (New York: Dorling Kindersley Publishing, 2004), 170–172.
- 24 Alison Behnke, *Japan in Pictures* (Minneapolis, MN: Twenty-first Century Books, 2003), 12.
- 25 Andrew Heritage, ed., *World Reference Atlas* (New York: Dorling Kindersley Publishing, 2004), 170–172.
- 26 Japan Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication, Statistics Bureau, "Chapter 5: Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries," in *Statistical Handbook of Japan 2014*, (2014), <http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/handbook/c0117.htm#c05>
- 27 Web Japan, "Flora and Fauna: Diversity and Regional Uniqueness," (factsheet, n.d.), <http://web-japan.org/factsheet/en/pdf/03FloraFauna.pdf>
- 28 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan: Climate," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 29 Japan Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication,

- Statistics Bureau, "Chapter 1: Land and Climate," in *Statistical Handbook of Japan 2014*, (2014), <http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/handbook/c0117.htm#c01>
- 30 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan: Climate," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 31 Japan Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication, Statistics Bureau, "Chapter 1: Land and Climate," in *Statistical Handbook of Japan 2014*, (2014), <http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/handbook/c0117.htm#c01>
- 32 Japan Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication, Statistics Bureau, "Chapter 1: Land and Climate," in *Statistical Handbook of Japan 2014*, (2014), <http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/handbook/c0117.htm#c01>
- 33 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: Geography," in *The World Factbook*, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 34 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan: Climate," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 35 Japan Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication, Statistics Bureau, "Chapter 1: Land and Climate," in *Statistical Handbook of Japan 2014*, (2014), <http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/handbook/c0117.htm#c01>
- 36 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan: Climate," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 37 Japan Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication, Statistics Bureau, "Chapter 1: Land and Climate," in *Statistical Handbook of Japan 2014*, (2014), <http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/handbook/c0117.htm#c01>
- 38 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Pacific Ocean," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/437703/Pacific-Ocean>
- 39 Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, "Sea of Japan: The One and Only Name Familiar to the International Community," (report, February 2009), <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/maritime/japan/pamph0903.pdf>
- 40 Mark McGinley, ed., "Sea of Japan: Large Marine Ecosystem," *The Encyclopedia of Earth*, 19 May 2008, http://www.eoearth.org/article/Sea_of_Japan_large_marine_ecosystem
- 41 Andrew Heritage, ed., *World Reference Atlas* (New York: Dorling Kindersley Publishing, 2004), 170–172.
- 42 U.S. Energy Information Administration, "Overview," 17 September 2014, <http://www.eia.gov/countries/regions-topics/cfm?fips=ecs>
- 43 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan: Drainage," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23233/The-major-physiographic-regions>
- 44 Alison Behnke, *Japan in Pictures* (Minneapolis, MN: Twenty-first Century Books, 2003), 14.
- 45 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Shinano River," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/540743/Shinano-River>
- 46 Alison Behnke, *Japan in Pictures* (Minneapolis, MN: Twenty-first Century Books, 2003), 15.
- 47 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Tone River," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/599127/Tone-River>
- 48 Alison Behnke, *Japan in Pictures* (Minneapolis, MN: Twenty-first Century Books, 2003), 15.
- 49 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan: Drainage," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23233/The-major-physiographic-regions>
- 50 Thomas Brinkhoff, "Japan: Major Cities," *City Population*, 1 October 2013, <http://www.citypopulation.de/Japan-Cities.html>
- 51 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Tokyo," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/598411/Tokyo>
- 52 Tokyo Metropolitan Government, "Overview of Tokyo: History of Tokyo," n.d., <http://www.metro.tokyo.jp/ENGLISH/PROFILE/overview01.htm>
- 53 Tokyo Metropolitan Government, "Overview of Tokyo: History of Tokyo," n.d., <http://www.metro.tokyo.jp/ENGLISH/PROFILE/overview01.htm>
- 54 World Atlas, "Largest Cities of the World (by Metro Population)," n.d., <http://www.worldatlas.com/citypops.htm>
- 55 Matt Rosenberg, "Largest Cities in the World—List Two," n.d., <http://geography.about.com/od/>

urbaneconomicgeography/a/agglomerations2.htm

56 Japan Guide, “Tokyo,” 2014, <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2164.html>

57 Japan National Tourism Organization, “Tokyo,” n.d., <http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/location/regional/tokyo/>

58 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Yokohama,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/653496/Yokohama>

59 Yokohama Customs, Government of Japan, “The History of Yokohama Customs,” n.d., <http://www.customs.go.jp/yokohama/english/e-history.htm>

60 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, “History,” n.d., http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/summit/2008/venue/yokohama_03.html

61 Lonely Planet, “Yokohama: History,” 2014, <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/japan/south-of-tokyo/yokohama/history>

62 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Yokohama,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/653496/Yokohama>

63 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Yokohama,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/653496/Yokohama>

64 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, “Yokohama: History,” n.d., http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/summit/2008/venue/yokohama_03.html

65 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Osaka,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/433718/Osaka>

66 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, “Osaka: Geography,” n.d., http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/summit/2008/venue/osaka_01.html

67 Osaka Prefectural Government, “Introduction to Osaka,” n.d., <http://www.pref.osaka.lg.jp/en/introduction/history.html>

68 Osaka Prefectural Internationalization Strategy Executive Committee, “Osaka Overview: History,” 2012, <http://osakaglobal.jp/en/profile/history.shtml>

69 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Osaka-Kobe Metropolitan Area: History,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/1357033/Osaka-Kobe-metropolitan-area/38014/Transportation>

70 Osaka Prefectural Government, “Introduction to Osaka,” n.d., <http://www.pref.osaka.lg.jp/en/introduction/history.html>

71 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Osaka-Kobe Metropolitan Area: Early Modern and Modern Periods,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/1357033/Osaka-Kobe-metropolitan-area/38024/Early-modern-and-modern-periods>

72 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Osaka: The Economy,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/1357033/Osaka-Kobe-metropolitan-area/38009/Settlement-patterns>

73 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Osaka-Kobe Metropolitan Area,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/433718/Osaka>

74 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, “Osaka: Geography,” n.d., http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/summit/2008/venue/osaka_01.html

75 Nagoya International Center, “History of Nagoya,” 9 September 2010, <http://www.nic-nagoya.or.jp/en/e/archives/637>

76 Nagoya International Center, “History of Nagoya,” 9 September 2010, <http://www.nic-nagoya.or.jp/en/e/archives/637>

77 Nagoya International Center, “History of Nagoya,” 9 September 2010, <http://www.nic-nagoya.or.jp/en/e/archives/637>

78 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Ise Bay Typhoon of 1959,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/1503600/Ise-Bay-typhoon-of-1959>

79 World Travel Guide, “Nagoya Travel Guide,” 2014, <http://www.worldtravelguide.net/nagoya>

80 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Nagoya,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/401674/Nagoya>

81 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Sapporo,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/523766/Sapporo>

82 Sapporo Tourism Official Website, City of Sapporo, “Welcome to Sapporo: Basic Information,” n.d., <http://www.welcome.city.sapporo.jp/learn/basicinfo/?lang=en>

83 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Sapporo,” 2014,

- <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/523766/Sapporo>
- 84 World Guides, "Sapporo History Facts and Timeline," 30 September 2014, http://www.world-guides.com/asia/japan/hokkaido/sapporo/sapporo_history.html
- 85 Japan Guide, "Sapporo," 23 June 2011, <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2163.html>
- 86 World Guides, "Sapporo History Facts and Timeline," 30 September 2014, http://www.world-guides.com/asia/japan/hokkaido/sapporo/sapporo_history.html
- 87 World Guides, "Sapporo History Facts and Timeline," 30 September 2014, http://www.world-guides.com/asia/japan/hokkaido/sapporo/sapporo_history.html
- 88 Japan Guide, "Sapporo," 23 June 2011, <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2163.html>
- 89 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Sapporo," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/523766/Sapporo>
- 90 Olympic, "Sapporo 1972," n.d., <http://www.olympic.org/sapporo-1972-winter-olympics>
- 91 Web-Japan, "Environmental Issues," (factsheet, n.d.), 1-3, http://web-japan.org/factsheet/en/pdf/e45_environment.pdf
- 92 Government of Japan, "State of Japan's Environment at a Glance," n.d., <https://www.env.go.jp/en/aboutus/pamph/html/00pan240.html>
- 93 Kanoko Matsuyama, "Tokyo Air Pollution Climbs, Approaches Government Alert Levels," Bloomberg, 27 February 2014, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-02-27/tokyo-air-pollution-climbs-approaches-government-alert-levels.html>
- 94 Zooming Japan, "How Dangerous is Air Pollution in Japan?" 3 June 2014, <http://zoomingjapan.com/life-in-japan/air-pollution-in-japan/>
- 95 Japan External Trade Organization, "TTPP (Special Issue of Environment: Air Pollution Control) Domestic Survey Report Summary Edition," (report, Shinko Research Co., Ltd., March 2008), 4, http://www.jetro.go.jp/tppos/special/env_rep2_english/surveyreport.pdf
- 96 Mark Schreiber, "No Clearing the Air over Neighbor's Pollution," Japan Times, 10 March 2013, <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2013/03/10/national/media-national/no-clearing-the-air-over-neighbors-pollution/#.VDMAqBYXPE4>
- 97 Michel Chossudovsky, "Fukushima: A Nuclear War without a War: The Unspoken Crisis of Worldwide Nuclear Radiation," Global Research, 11 March 2014, <http://www.globalresearch.ca/fukushima-a-nuclear-war-without-a-war-the-unspoken-crisis-of-worldwide-nuclear-radiation/28870>
- 98 News, "Three Years on from Japan's Nuclear Emergency, the Fallout Continues to Spread," 9 December 2013, <http://www.news.com.au/world/three-years-on-from-japan-nuclear-emergency-the-fallout-continues-to-spread/story-fndir2ev-1226778818502>
- 99 Johnny Magdaleno, "No One Wants You to Know How Bad Fukushima Might Still Be," Vice News, 24 August 2014, <https://news.vice.com/article/no-one-wants-you-to-know-how-bad-fukushima-might-still-be>
- 100 "United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, "General Situation of World Fish Stocks," (report, n.d.), <http://www.fao.org/newsroom/common/ecg/1000505/en/stocks.pdf>
- 101 Molly Sullivan, "Challenges Facing Japan's Marine Fisheries," Scientific American, 26 June 2013, <http://blogs.scientificamerican.com/expeditions/2013/06/26/challenges-facing-japans-marine-fisheries/>
- 102 Japan Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication, Statistics Bureau, "Chapter 5: Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries," in Statistical Handbook of Japan 2014, (2014), <http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/handbook/c0117.htm#c05>
- 103 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan," in The World Factbook, 14 February 2011, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 104 Molly Sullivan, "Challenges Facing Japan's Marine Fisheries," Scientific American, 26 June 2013, <http://blogs.scientificamerican.com/expeditions/2013/06/26/challenges-facing-japans-marine-fisheries/>
- 105 Paul Waldie, "Japan Sits Atop Deadliest Section of Ring of Fire," Globe and Mail, 11 March 2011, <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/technology/science/japan-sits-atop->

deadliest-section-of-ring-of-fire/article572438/

106 Plate Tectonics, “Deep Ocean Trenches and The Ring of Fire,” n.d., <http://www.platetectonics.com/oceanfloors/japan.asp>

107 Japan Meteorological Agency, “Monitoring of Earthquakes, Tsunamis and Volcanic Activity: Volcanic Disaster Mitigation,” n.d., <http://www.jma.go.jp/jma/en/Activities/earthquake.html>

108 Central Intelligence Agency, “Japan: Geography,” in *The World Factbook*, 20 June 2014,

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>

109 U.S. Geological Survey, “Historic World Earthquakes: Japan,” 23 November 2009, http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/world/historical_country.php

110 U.S. Geological Survey, “Earthquakes with 50,000 or More Deaths: Most Destructive Known Earthquakes on Record in the World,” 3 December 2012, http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/world/most_destructive.php

111 U.S. Geological Survey, “Largest and Deadliest Earthquakes by Year, 1990-2011,” 6 November 2013, <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/eqarchives/year/byyear.php>

112 International Atomic Energy Agency, “Fukushima Nuclear Accident Update Log, Updates of 2 May 2011,” 2 May 2011, <http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/tsunamiupdate01.html>

113 Shizuoka Prefectural Earthquake Preparedness Education Center, “What is the Tokai Earthquake?” n.d., http://www.e-quakes.pref.shizuoka.jp/english/guide_01.html

114 Andrew Alden, “The Tokai Earthquake of 20XX,” 2014, http://geology.about.com/od/eq_prediction/a/aa_tokaiquake.htm

115 CNN, “Preparing for the Great Quake,” 11 March 2011, <http://news.blogs.cnn.com/2011/03/11/preparing-for-the-great-quake/>

116 Japan Meteorological Agency, “Monitoring of Earthquakes, Tsunamis and Volcanic Activity: Tsunami Warnings,” n.d., <http://www.jma.go.jp/jma/en/Activities/earthquake.html>

117 Tairiku Kurosawa, “Study: 22 Million Japanese at Risk

for Next Tsunami,” *Asahi Shimbun*, 3 March 2013, http://ajw.asahi.com/article/0311disaster/quake_tsunami/AJ201303030023

118 Japan Meteorological Agency, “Monitoring of Earthquakes, Tsunamis and Volcanic Activity: Tsunami Warnings,” n.d., <http://www.jma.go.jp/jma/en/Activities/earthquake.html>

119 Japan Water Forum, “Typhoon Isewan (Vera) And Its Lessons,” November 2005, http://www.waterforum.jp/jpn/katrina/Typhoon_Isewan.pdf

120 Yoko Wakatsuki and Mayra Cuevas, “Death Toll in Japan Landslides Rises to 50,” *CNN World*, 24 August 2014, <http://www.cnn.com/2014/08/20/world/asia/japan-landslides/>

121 Agence France-Presse, “Japan Landslides Death Toll Hits 70 One Week On,” 27 August 2014, <http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/japan-landslides-death/1332084.html>

122 Dalia Ibrahim, “Torrential Rain is Causing Floods and Landslides in Northern Japan, Nearly One Million Residents Displaced,” *The Weather Network*, 11 September 2014, <http://www.theweathernetwork.com/news/articles/torrential-rain-is-causing-floods-and-landslides-in-northern-japan-nearly-one-million-residents-displaced/35724/>

123 Associated Press, “2 Dead, Thousands Evacuated after Typhoon Causes Major Flooding in Japan,” *Fox News*, 16 September 2014, <http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/09/16/powerful-typhoon-lashes-japan-causing-floods-as-thousands-evacuate/>

Chapter 1 Assessment

1. Japan's highest mountains are on the southern main islands of Kyushu and Shikoku.

FALSE

Mt. Fuji and the Japanese Alps are on Honshu, Japan's largest island. Hokkaido, further to the north, also has high mountains.

2. Japan is formed by a single mountain chain that reaches from the Ryukyu Islands in the south to Hokkaido and its neighbors in the north.

FALSE

Japan contains a series of volcanic mountain arcs and not a single chain. Honshu is the product of several converging arcs. Other arcs form Hokkaido in the north and the southern Ryukyu Islands.

3. Japan's climate is dominated by summer and winter monsoons.

TRUE

As the Asian continent heats up in the summer, the accompanying low pressure draws in wind from the Pacific Ocean. The opposite occurs in the winter. Moisture from the Pacific Ocean and the Sea of Japan blankets Japan during the monsoons.

4. The four largest cities in Japan are found on the shores of natural bays.

TRUE

Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka, and Nagoya were all built on strategic sites in natural bays. All are also on the southern or southwestern side of the main island Honshu.

5. Osaka was the first national capital of Japan.

TRUE

In the 7th century, Osaka became the first national capital modeled after the Chinese capital.



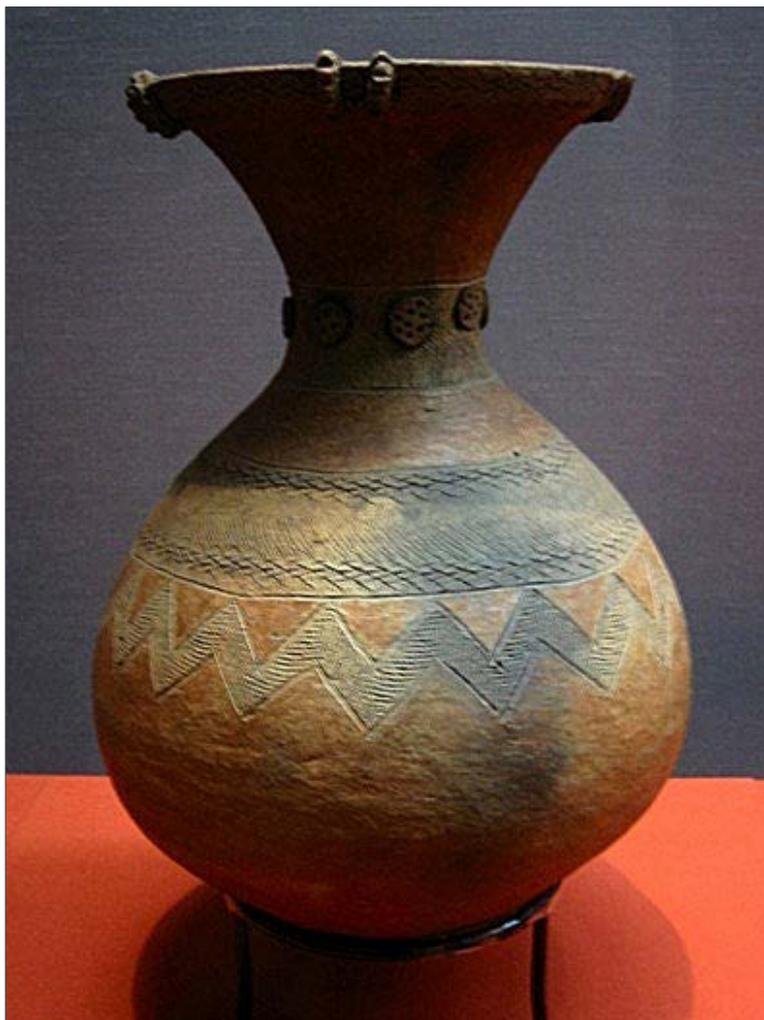
Yabusame rider
© Jeff Laitila

Chapter 2 History

Introduction

Japan is a country with a long and unique history. Its shoguns and samurai are enduring symbols of its feudal past. Its empire and economy have helped to shape the modern world. After 200 years of isolation Japan emerged in the late 1800s as a modern state with imperial motives. It quickly made significant territorial gains in wars with China and Russia. By 1939, Japan conquered much of China and set its sights on the whole of the Pacific.¹

World War II was a major turning point for Japan. In the course of the conflict, the country's cities and population were devastated. After the war, Japan rebuilt its infrastructure and made significant political and economic changes. Although it never possessed vast natural resources, Japan became one of the world's most important economies in the late 20th century.²



Yayoi jar
Courtesy of Wikipedia

Early History

Japan's earliest historical periods take their names from the distinctive pottery produced at the time. Jomon culture, named after Jomon pottery characterized by cord marks pressed into the clay, saw the beginning of agriculture and pasturage in Japan.^{3, 4} Although Japan's population was not ethnically diverse, there were regional differences across the Japanese archipelago.⁵ Around 250 B.C.E. a more advanced form of pottery, known as Yayoi, began to spread from Kyushu. The Yayoi period (250 B.C.E.–250 C.E.) saw strong influence from the Chinese Han, including rice cultivation and migration from the Asian mainland.^{6, 7, 8}

By the late fifth century C.E., Japan's first kingdom began to develop. The Yamato court unified surrounding clans through conquest and established aspects of an early state, including diplomatic envoys to China and an organized army. In the mid-sixth century, Buddhism entered Japan, an event that remains one of the most important in the country's history. As the Yamato court began to decline in the sixth century, rebel chieftains and regional clan leaders gained power from the weakening central authority.^{9, 10, 11, 12}

The seventh and eighth centuries were marked by a greater role of Buddhism in palace life, and a move toward a stronger central authority. Prince Shotoku (574–622) supported Buddhist principles, as did Emperor Shomu (701–756). Temples dotted the provinces, and Japan's monks amassed political strength. The Taika reforms and *ritsuryo* government structure sought to centralize the state. Measures included tax changes, land reform, and changes to the legal system.^{13, 14, 15, 16}

The Heian period (794–1185) saw the development of indigenous Japanese culture. Buddhism, though largely curtailed in the political sphere, began to develop Japanese traits, instead of being a copy of Chinese Buddhism. 17 Japanese script and writings developed in the Heian period. One of the most important developments was the rise of the warrior class. Samurai culture began among young members of the imperial family and low-ranking aristocrats. The Heian period ended with the establishment of a military government known as a shogunate (*bakufu*). In time this samurai culture developed into an ethical code that shaped the coming centuries.^{18, 19, 20}



*Portrait of the Emperor Go-Toba
Courtesy of Wikipedia*

Medieval Japan

The rise of a military class brought with it tensions between the military and the aristocracy. In 1221, the emperor Go-Toba issued a decree to overthrow the shogun (the head of a shogunate). The shogunate responded by sending an army that exiled the emperor and gave further political control to the shogun.^{21, 22}

Although Japan had become highly militarized, it took an act of fate to save it from foreign rule. Throughout the first half of the 13th century, the Mongols of Genghis Khan and his successors conquered most of Asia. By the 1260s, Kublai Khan established his capital in modern-day Beijing and began to set his sights on Japan. In 1274, as many as 40,000 men embarked from Korea intent on invading Japan.²³ They arrived in Hakata Bay of Kyushu, but a sudden typhoon destroyed the Mongol fleet and spared Japan. In anticipation of a second invasion, the shogunate

began building a defensive wall around Hakata Bay. The Mongols returned 7 years later with 140,000 Korean and Chinese troops. Once again a swift and fierce typhoon destroyed the invading army and saved Japan. Japanese still celebrate the “divine wind” (*kamikaze*) that saved them from foreign dominance.^{24, 25, 26}

The temporary unity found in fighting off the Mongol army was short-lived. Because the Kamakura Shogunate sought to further solidify its influence and weaken that of the imperial court, it allowed competing imperial lines to contend for power. Economic hardships spurred local challenges to the central authority of the shogun. By 1338, a new shogunate had taken power.^{27, 28, 29} The Ashikaga Shogunate (1338–1567) was not as powerful as its predecessor, and by 1467 each of Japan’s 260 feudal houses (*daimyo*) was essentially autonomous. A century of conflict followed, known as the Warring States Period, as warlords from many clans attempted to assert control.³⁰ Europeans first arrived in Japan in 1543 and their musket technology quickly revolutionized warfare in the country.^{31, 32, 33, 34}



Leyasu Tokugawa
Courtesy of Wikipedia

Early Modern Japan

The last decades of the 16th century saw a return toward unity. Several strong military leaders defeated the competing *daimyo*. The first was Oda Nobunga, who gained support of the emperor in 1568 and united about one-third of the country.^{35, 36, 37} After Nobunga's assassination in 1582, his chief general Hideyoshi followed in his footsteps. By 1590, all of Japan, though still decentralized, fell under Hideyoshi's rule without major competition from other *daimyo*.^{38, 39} However, Hideyoshi weakened his rule by overreaching into China in the 1590s. His death in 1598 left room for a new strongman to take control.^{40, 41}

After Hideyoshi's death, one of his chief lieutenants, Tokugawa Ieyasu, consolidated power and set the stage for nearly 300 years of peace. In 1600, Ieyasu defeated his military rivals, and in 1603, the emperor declared him shogun. Ieyasu chose Edo, modern-day Tokyo, for his capital, and the Tokugawa Shogunate (also known as the Edo Bakufu) began.^{42, 43, 44}

This period in Japanese history is known for several important factors. Ieyasu greatly strengthened the shogunate system and established his successor early; by doing so he ensured continued national unity. A class system developed, composed of warriors, farmers, artisans, and merchants developed.^{45, 46} Tension later arose among these groups as economic and social change challenged traditional social boundaries.⁴⁷

A policy of national seclusion began in the 1630s. Japanese were no longer permitted to travel outside the nation.^{48, 49} However, the real intent of the policy was not to end relations with outsiders. Rather, the intent was to gain more control over foreign trade and limit the influence of Christianity.⁵⁰ The Portuguese, and their Catholic missionaries, were not allowed to enter Japanese ports. The Dutch and Chinese were the only legally recognized foreign traders.^{51, 52} Seclusion brought with it a flowering of native culture. Isolation also further entrenched the military feudal system. As a commercial economy grew, greater stratification and exploitation led to unrest. Despite the long period without civil war, economic crises and natural disasters during the 1700s, as well as foreign pressure during the 1800s, caused many intellectuals to reject the shogunate system.^{53, 54, 55, 56}



*Writing the Meiji constitution
Courtesy of Wikipedia*

Meiji Restoration

A major shift in Japan occurred in the late 19th century when the shogunate ended. For decades, prominent thinkers had felt that the country needed to regenerate. The emperor, a symbol larger than the shogunate, was the focus of reform.⁵⁷ Foreign powers, unsatisfied *daimyo*, and discontent samurai had grievances with the shogunate.⁵⁸ By 1867 the shogun was pressured to step down, and 1868 marked the restoration of power to the emperor. Revolutionaries surrounded the newly crowned emperor (who took the name Meiji, “enlightened rule”) and took upon themselves an ambitious agenda for reform.^{59, 60, 61}

The Meiji originally intended to restore the power of the emperor, and rebuild Japan in the images of Shinto-oriented state that existed 1,000 years before. The Meiji quickly established an Office of Shinto Worship. The government lent its support and legitimacy to Shinto educators. The importance and power of Buddhism in state affairs diminished with the resurgence of Shintoism. Christianity became legal and Confucianism continued to be a central ethical doctrine.^{62, 63}

Meiji reformers quickly instituted many changes. They viewed the feudalism of the shogunate as a weakness and abolished the *daimyo*. The dissolving of class distinctions, and laws conscripting non-samurai into the military, further weakened the samurai. Education became compulsory, and the state actively developed the economy. Reformers introduced electoral politics, and a constitution came into effect in 1889. Many of the reforms met with considerable resistance, but the new Japanese army easily put down uprisings and protests.^{64, 65, 66} Meanwhile, the Meiji continued their efforts to modernize

Japan. Significant growth in manufacturing and industry began. Even the military underwent rapid modernization. Many Japanese military cadets went abroad to study in military academies in Europe and the United States.⁶⁷

Imperial Expansion

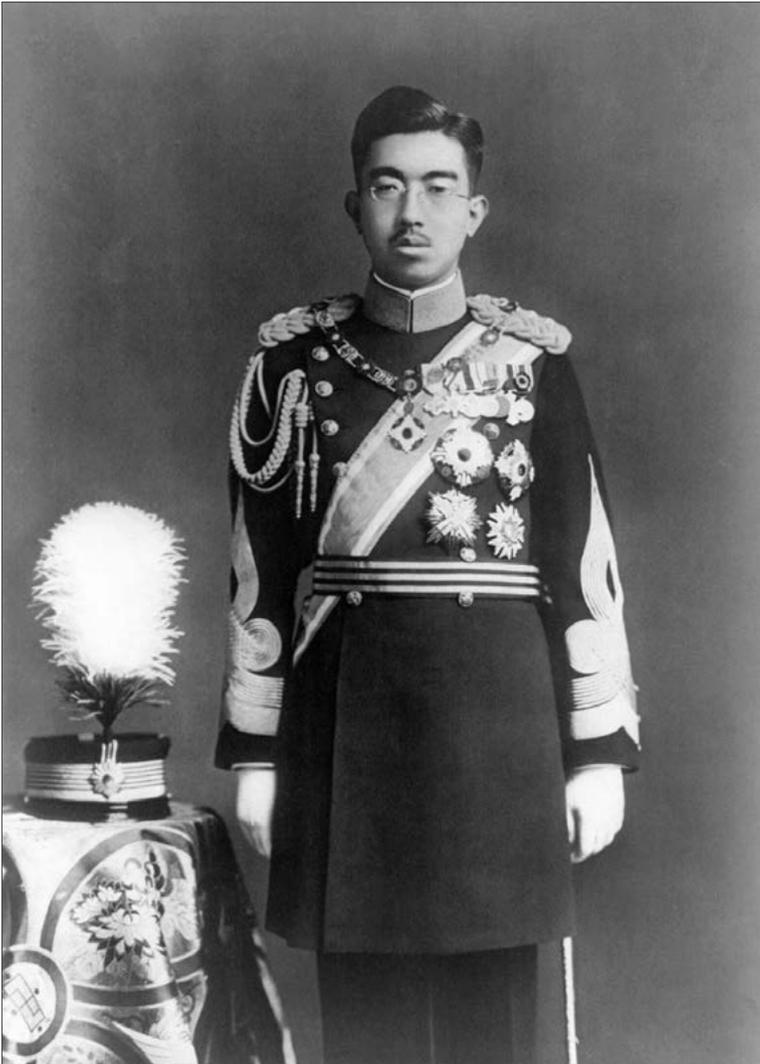
One of the most important aspects of the imperial restoration was the regional expansion that followed. Japan sought to include the Korean peninsula in its zone of influence from the first years of the Meiji period. By the time Emperor Meiji died in 1912, Japan had annexed Korea, taken control of Taiwan (Formosa), and won wars against China and Russia.^{68, 69, 70, 71}

Japan's imperial expansion continued into the 1930s. The rise of militarists in the government proved to be a major contributor to pre-war tensions.^{72, 73} In September of 1931, a unit of the Japanese military, acting independently of the government, occupied the Manchurian city of Mukden in northeast China. The army expanded into all of Manchuria in the following months.^{74, 75} When the League of Nations demanded Japan withdraw from Manchuria, Japan left the organization.^{76, 77}

In July 1937, Japan started a full-scale war with China at the Marco Polo Bridge near Beijing. During the invasion of mainland China that followed, Japan committed many atrocities. Among the most brutal was the incident known as “the rape of Nanking” during which 150,000 male

prisoners and 50,000 male civilians were murdered, and more than 20,000 women and girls were raped.^{78, 79, 80} The army knew Emperor Hirohito was upset by their actions in China. Many thought Hirohito an ineffective and weak leader. An assassination attempt was foiled in October 1932. Although the emperor's brother was implicated in the plot, he was not arrested. The others were arrested, but quickly released. In 1933, another coup backed by the army was thwarted. The conspirators got suspended sentences.⁸¹

Tensions flared between the military and the Rightists in the government. By 1936, the situation had reached a critical stage. Young army officers tried again to overthrow the government. Several people were killed, including the former prime minister. This



Hirohito
© Library of Congress

time, the Emperor's response was direct. On the third day, Hirohito ordered the rebels to withdraw. The leaders surrendered, but instead of the leniency granted to former conspirators, Hirohito had them executed. In a final insult, their ashes were never returned to the families.⁸²



*Chiang Kai-shek
Courtesy of Wikipedia*

Prelude to War

Japan's military actions concerned the United States, which supported the Chinese nationalist government of Chiang Kai-shek.⁸³ Japan strengthened its relations with Germany when it signed the Anti-Comintern Pact. Later, Japan firmed its relations with Italy, which officially recognized Japan as the leader of the new Asian order. The three nations agreed to come to each other's defense in the event that any were attacked.⁸⁴

Following the Anti-Comintern signing, relations with the Soviet Union declined. The Soviets were providing military and financial assistance to the Chinese. Tensions soon escalated further. Hundreds of border clashes between Soviet and Japanese troops occurred along the border. An air war broke out between the two nations over Mongolia in 1939. Divisions within the Japanese army, however, ended the campaign. Instead, the Japanese opted to continue its aggression against the Soviets with a land attack. The Soviets eventually overpowered the Japanese. A cease fire agreement in September ended the hostilities.^{85, 86}

Meanwhile, Japan's relations with the West continued to worsen. The United States and Great

Britain continued to support the Chinese nationalists. Anti-Japanese furor grew in the United States after a U.S. gunboat was sunk in the Yangtze River in 1937. In 1939, The U.S. renounced its 1911 commerce treaty with the Japanese, setting the stage for future embargos.⁸⁷ When Japan occupied Indochina in 1940, the United States froze its assets and placed an oil embargo on Japan, which lacked its own natural resources.⁸⁸ Subsequent negotiations between the United States and Japan failed, and Japan began its final preparations for war.^{89, 90}

World War II

Japan bombed Hawaii's Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941 in a surprise attack that killed 2,400 Americans and crippled the U.S. Pacific Fleet.^{91, 92} The Japanese strategy was to incapacitate the United States long enough to gain significant ground in the Pacific. With major territory won in the Pacific, Japan hoped the United States would view a counter-campaign as too costly. U.S. aircraft carriers were not in Pearl Harbor during the time of the attack, however, and the United States was able to rebuild its fleet faster than Japan expected. Although Japan had made significant gains in the first several months of 1942, by June the United States rebounded.^{93, 94}



USS Arizona after attack on Pearl Harbor
© Archives.gov

A major turning point occurred in June 1942 when United States forces devastated the Japanese Navy at Midway Island, southeast of Japan at the northwestern end of the Hawaiian Islands. U.S. forces sank four Japanese aircraft carriers, while only losing one of their own.^{95, 96} The decisive victory allowed the U.S. to begin taking the offensive in the war. Although many brutal battles occurred in the next 3 years, the United States made continuous progress until its island-hopping campaign brought it within striking distance of mainland Japan in 1944.⁹⁷

Although bombing raids on Japanese cities put pressure on Japan to surrender, Emperor Hirohito and some hawkish military advisors disregarded advice to end the war.⁹⁸ They hoped to gain a major victory that would sweeten the final peace terms.⁹⁹ In July of 1945, Japan rejected the ultimatum of the Potsdam Declaration, warning that Japan would face destruction if it did not surrender. In early August, the United States detonated atomic bombs over the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, prompting Japan to surrender.¹⁰⁰

Japan lay in ruins. Nearly 4% of the prewar population, including two million Japanese soldiers and one million civilians, perished during the war.¹⁰¹ Over 40,000 tons of napalm bombs had destroyed all of the nation's major cities—along with their industry and infrastructure. Food shortages wracked the nation.^{102, 103}



*General MacArthur and Emperor Hirohito
U.S. Federal Government*

After the War

The United States occupied Japan until 1952. Led by General Douglas MacArthur, Japan began a process of economic reform, democratization, and demilitarization. Japan lost the territory gained after 1894, and many Japanese military commanders were tried for war crimes. For the sake of stability, Hirohito remained emperor, but became a mere symbol of the state. Actual sovereignty shifted to the people.^{104, 105, 106, 107}

New economic reforms redistributed land to farmers. Farm subsidies helped invigorate the agriculture sector. Prosperity came quickly to rural Japan, leading to the nation's transition to a consumer economy by the 1960s. New laws

strengthened labor and led to the rise of unions.¹⁰⁸ Political reforms gave women the right to vote. They also ended the power of men as the undisputed heads of families. Women also received the right to serve in the government.¹⁰⁹

Between 1952 and 1973, Japan's economy grew exponentially. Economic change occurred alongside rapid social change. People moved to the cities in search of greater opportunities, leading to an explosion in the urban population. In 25 years, from 1945 to 1970, Tokyo's population tripled to about nine million people. Japan worked to forge new relations with the international community. Soon, the new Japan had considerably elevated its image and status and in 1964, it hosted the Summer Olympic Games.¹¹⁰

Japan responded to a downturn in the world economy in the 1970s by further diversifying its markets and sources of raw materials.¹¹¹ The automobile industry and the manufacturing of consumer electronics drove the economic boom.¹¹² In the 1980s, easy credit and high speculation drove a bubble economy that eventually burst in the early 1990s.¹¹³ In 2008, Japan spiraled into a deep economic depression. A fragile recovery in 2009 and 2010 was interrupted by the strongest earthquake in Japan's history in March 2011.¹¹⁴ The earthquake and the ensuing tsunami off the eastern coast of Honshu killed tens of thousands. The subsequent nuclear crisis from damaged nuclear power facilities devastated Japan's infrastructure.¹¹⁵



NRC team at Fukushima

© Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Current Events: 2011-2014

Following the largest natural disaster in its history, Japan set to work handling the aftermath. The nuclear meltdown of the Fukushima left nearly 800 sq km (310 sq mi) around the plant too contaminated for human habitation. Approximately 160,000 were forced to abandon their property and move elsewhere. Decontamination efforts have proved ineffective and left a devastated nuclear wasteland.¹¹⁶ The government's poor handling of the crisis and its immediate aftermath led the prime minister to step down.¹¹⁷

Diplomatic tensions with neighbors worsened in 2012. Japan recalled its ambassador to South Korea after the South Korean president visited the disputed islands of Takeshima (Dokdo to the South Koreans),^{118, 119} The Chinese cancelled ceremonies marking the 40th anniversary of renewed diplomatic relations with Japan, over another sovereignty dispute over the Senkaku Islands (Diaoyu to the Chinese).^{120, 121}

Japan began rethinking its national security policy in 2013. The government approved the relocation of a US military airbase on Okinawa.^{122- 123} The government also agreed to increase its defense spending. Some saw the measure as a response to China's continuing aggression in the region. Tensions over the administration of the Senkaku/ Diaoyu Islands are rising. Japan began the construction of a radar site on the island as part of its military expansion aimed at protecting its national sovereignty. The move angered China, which has recently been reminding the world of Japan's brutality during its World War II invasions of China.^{124, 125, 126} In 2014, the government passed legislation paving the way for Japanese troops to fight overseas. Since World War II, Japan's constitution has prohibited Japan from using military force, except as a matter of self-defense.^{127, 128}

Endnotes

- 1 Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), 204–209.
- 2 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Japan Since 1945,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 3 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, “Jōmon Culture (ca. 10,500–ca. 300 B.C.)” n.d., http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/jomo/hd_jomo.htm
- 4 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Jōmon Culture (c. 10,500 to C 300 BCE),” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23120/Jomon-culture-c-10500-to-c-300-bce>
- 5 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Ancient Japan to 1185,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 6 Robert L. Worden, “Chapter 1–Historical Setting: Ancient Cultures,” in *Japan: A Country Study*, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/jptoc.html>
- 7 Charles T. Keally, “Yayoi Culture,” *Japanese Archeology*, 3 June 2006, <http://www.t-net.ne.jp/~keally/yayoi.html>
- 8 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; The Yayoi Period (C. 3000 BCE to C. 250 CE),” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23121/The-Yayoi-period-c-300-bce-c-250-ce>
- 9 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Ancient Japan to 1185,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 10 Robert L. Worden, “Chapter 1–Historical Setting: Kofun and Asuka Periods,” in *Japan: A Country Study*, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/jptoc.html>
- 11 Richard Hooker, “Ancient Japan: The Yamato State,” Washington State University, 1996, <http://www.wsu.edu:8080/~dee/ANCJAPAN/YAMATO.HTM>
- 12 James L. McClain, *Japan: A Modern History* (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, Inc, 2002), 11-12.
- 13 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Ancient Japan to 1185,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 14 Robert L. Worden, “Chapter 1–Historical Setting: Kofun and Asuka Periods,” in *Japan: A Country Study*, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/jptoc.html>
- 15 Chris Rowthorn, et al., *Lonely Planet Japan* (Footscray, Victoria, Australia: Lonely Planet Publications, 2003), 14-15.
- 16 Robert L. Worden, “Chapter 1–Historical Setting: Cultural Developments and the Establishment of Buddhism,” in *Japan: A Country Study*, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query2/r?frd/cstdy:@field%28DOCID+jp0018%29>
- 17 View on Buddhism, “History of Japanese Buddhism,” 23 November 2006, http://viewonbuddhism.org/history_japanese_buddhism.html
- 18 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Ancient Japan to 1185,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 19 Robert L. Worden, “Chapter 1–Historical Setting: Nara and Heian Periods,” in *Japan: A Country Study*, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/jptoc.html>
- 20 Chris Rowthorn, et al., *Lonely Planet Japan* (Footscray, Victoria, Australia: Lonely Planet Publications, 2003), 14-15.
- 21 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Medieval Japan,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 22 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Go-Toba,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/597689/Go-Toba>

- 23 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Medieval Japan,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 24 Debbie Royal, “The Mongol Invasion of Japan,” ICE Case Studies, Spring 2006, <http://www1.american.edu/ted/ice/divine-wind.htm>
- 25 Bowdoin College, “The Mongol Invasions of Japan: 1274–1281,” Asian Studies, n.d., <http://learn.bowdoin.edu/asian-studies/mongol-invasions/>
- 26 Robert L. Worden, “Chapter 1–Historical Setting: Mongol Invasions,” in Japan: A Country Study, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query2/r?frd/cstdy:@field%28DOCID+jp0023%29>
- 27 Robert L. Worden, “Chapter 1–Historical Setting: Kamakura and Muromachi Periods,” in Japan: A Country Study, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/jptoc.html>
- 28 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Medieval Japan,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 29 James L. McClain, Japan: A Modern History (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, Inc, 2002), 17.
- 30 Richard Hooker, “Warring States Japan,” World Cultures, 31 March 1997, <http://richard-hooker.com/sites/worldcultures/TOKJAPAN/WARRING.HTM>
- 31 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan, History: Medieval Japan,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 32 Japan Guide, “Muromachi Period (1333–1573),” 9 June 2002, <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2134.html>
- 33 Robert L. Worden, “Chapter 1–Historical Setting: Ashikaga Bakufu,” in Japan: A Country Study, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query2/r?frd/cstdy:@field%28DOCID+jp0025%29>
- 34 Robert L. Worden, “Chapter 1–Historical Setting: Provincial Wars and Foreign Contacts,” in Japan: A Country Study, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query2/r?frd/cstdy:@field%28DOCID+jp0027%29>
- 35 Robert L. Worden, “Chapter 1–Historical Setting: Reunification,” in Japan: A Country Study, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/jptoc.html>
- 36 Marcia Yonemoto, “Tokugawa Japan: An Introductory Essay,” Program for Teaching East Asia, University of Colorado at Boulder, 2010, <http://www.colorado.edu/cas/tea/curriculum/imaging-japanese-history/tokugawa/essay.html>
- 37 James L. McClain, Japan: A Modern History (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, Inc, 2002), 18-20.
- 38 Robert L. Worden, “Chapter 1–Historical Setting: Reunification,” in Japan: A Country Study, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/jptoc.html>
- 39 James L. McClain, Japan: A Modern History (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, Inc, 2002), 20.
- 40 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Early Modern Japan,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 41 Andrew Gordon, A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), 11.
- 42 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Early Modern Japan,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 43 Andrew Gordon, A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), 11.
- 44 James L. McClain, Japan: A Modern History (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, Inc, 2002), 20.
- 45 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Early Modern Japan,” 2011, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 46 James L. McClain, Japan: A Modern History (New York:

W.W. Norton and Company, Inc., 2002), 20-26.

47 Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), 20.

48 James L. McClain, *Japan: A Modern History* (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, Inc, 2002), 44-47.

49 Robert L. Worden, "Chapter 1–Historical Setting: Decline of the Tokugawa," in *Japan: A Country Study*, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query2?r?frd/cstdy:@field%28DOCID+jp0033%29>

50 James L. McClain, *Japan: A Modern History* (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, Inc, 2002), 64.

51 James L. McClain, *Japan: A Modern History* (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, Inc, 2002), 44-47.

52 Robert L. Worden, "Chapter 1–Historical Setting: Decline of the Tokugawa," in *Japan: A Country Study*, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query2?r?frd/cstdy:@field%28DOCID+jp0033%29>

53 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan: History; Early Modern Japan," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>

54 Marcia Yonemoto, "Tokugawa Japan: An Introductory Essay," Program for Teaching East Asia, University of Colorado at Boulder, 2010, <http://www.colorado.edu/cas/tea/curriculum/imaging-japanese-history/tokugawa/essay.html>

55 James L. McClain, *Japan: A Modern History* (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, Inc, 2002), 44-47.

56 Robert L. Worden, "Chapter 1–Historical Setting: Decline of the Tokugawa," in *Japan: A Country Study*, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query2?r?frd/cstdy:@field%28DOCID+jp0033%29>

57 Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), 45.

58 Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From*

Tokugawa Times to the Present (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), 54.

59 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan: History; Japan from 1850 to 1945," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>

60 Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), 58–62.

61 Robert L. Worden, "Chapter 1–Historical Setting: The Meiji Restoration," in *Japan: A Country Study*, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query2?r?frd/cstdy:@field%28DOCID+jp0035%29>

62 Robert L. Worden, "Chapter 1–Historical Setting: The Meiji Restoration," in *Japan: A Country Study*, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query2?r?frd/cstdy:@field%28DOCID+jp0035%29>

63 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan: History; Abolition of Feudalism," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23188/Abolition-of-feudalism>

64 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan: History; Japan from 1850 to 1945," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>

65 Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), 61–76.

66 Robert L. Worden, "Chapter 1–Historical Setting: The Meiji Restoration," in *Japan: A Country Study*, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query2?r?frd/cstdy:@field%28DOCID+jp0035%29>

67 Robert L. Worden, "Chapter 1–Historical Setting: The Meiji Restoration," in *Japan: A Country Study*, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query2?r?frd/cstdy:@field%28DOCID+jp0035%29>

68 Robert L. Worden, "Chapter 1–Historical Setting: The Emergence of Modern Japan," in *Japan: A Country Study*, Eds.

- Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/jptoc.html>
- 69 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; The Sino-Japanese War,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23192/The-Sino-Japanese-War>
- 70 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; The Russo-Japanese War,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23192/The-Sino-Japanese-War>
- 71 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Japanese Expansionism,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23194/Japanese-expansionism>
- 72 Robert L. Worden, “Chapter 1–Historical Setting, Between the Wars in Japan: A Country Study, Eds. Ronald E. Dolan and Robert L. Worden (Washington DC: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1994), <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/jptoc.html>
- 73 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; The Rise of the Militarists,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23197/The-rise-of-the-militarists>
- 74 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Mukden Incident,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/396670/Mukden-Incident>
- 75 Frank E. Smitha, “More Expansion and International Opposition,” n.d., <http://www.fsmitha.com/h2/ch18-3.htm>
- 76 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Japan from 1850 to 1945,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 77 Johnndclare, “The League in Manchuria,” n.d., http://www.johndclare.net/league_of_nations6.htm
- 78 Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), 204–206.
- 79 History, “Dec 13, 1937: The Rape of Nanking,” n.d., <http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/the-rape-of-nanking>
- 80 Eyewitness to History, “The Rape of Nanking, 1937,” 2009, <http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/nanking.htm>
- 81 Frank E. Smitha, “Encouraged Rightists and the End of Parliamentary Government,” n.d., <http://www.fsmitha.com/h2/ch18-4.htm>
- 82 Frank E. Smitha, “Emperor Hirohito Asserts Himself,” n.d., <http://www.fsmitha.com/h2/ch18-6.htm>
- 83 Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), 209.
- 84 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Foreign Relations,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23201/Events-in-China>
- 85 Sherwood S. Cordier, “World War II: Soviet and Japanese Forces Battle at Khalkhin Gol,” *World War II Magazine*, 12 June 2006, <http://www.historynet.com/world-war-ii-soviet-and-japanese-forces-battle-at-khalkhin-gol.htm>
- 86 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Foreign Relations,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23201/Events-in-China>
- 87 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Foreign Relations,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23201/Events-in-China>
- 88 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; World War II and Defeat,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23201/Events-in-China>
- 89 Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), 209.
- 90 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; World War II and Defeat,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23201/Events-in-China>
- 91 Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), 209.
- 92 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Pearl Harbor Attack,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/448010/Pearl-Harbor-attack>
- 93 Naval History and Heritage Command, “Overview of The Pearl Harbor Attack, 7 December 1941,” n.d., <http://www.>

history.navy.mil/faqs/faq66-1.htm

94 PBS, “The Perilous Fight: America’s World War II in Color, Pearl Harbor,” 2003, http://www.pbs.org/perilousfight/battlefield/pearl_harbor/

95 Ohio State University, “The Battle of Midway: Aftermath and Significance of the Battle,” eHistory Archive, OSU Department of History, n.d., <http://ehistory.osu.edu/wwii/articles/midway/0004.cfm>

96 Naval History and Heritage Command, “Battle of Midway, 4–7 June 1942,” n.d., <http://www.history.navy.mil/photos/events/wwii-pac/midway/midway.htm>

97 Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), 211–212.

98 Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), 221–223.

99 Herbert P. Bix, “Why Did the Japanese Delay Surrendering?” History News Network, n.d., <http://historynewsnetwork.org/article/12947>

100 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Japan from 1850 to 1945,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>

101 Iris Kesternich et al., “The Effects of World War II on Economic and Health Outcomes across Europe,” (working paper, January 2012), 2, http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/working_papers/2012/RAND_WR917.pdf

102 Japan Guide, “Japanese History: Postwar (Since 1945),” n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2124.html>

103 Alex Wellerstein, “Interactive Map Shows Impact of WWII Firebombing of Japan, if It had Happened on U.S. Soil,” 13 March 2014, http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_vault/2014/03/13/map_interactive_visualizing_firebomb_damage_done_to_japan_during_wwii_through.html

104 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Japan Since 1945,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23205/Early-successes>

105 Japan Guide, “Japanese History: Postwar (since 1945),” 9

June 2002, <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2124.html>

106 Office of the Historian, U.S. Department of State, “Milestones: 1945-1952,” n.d., <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1945-1952/japan-reconstruction>

107 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Political Reform,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23210/Political-reform>

108 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Economic and Social Changes,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23211/Economic-and-social-changes>

109 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Economic and Social Changes,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23211/Economic-and-social-changes>

110 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; The Era of Rapid Growth,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23213/Political-trends>

111 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Japan Since 1945,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>

112 “Japan Country Profile,” BBC News, 15 August 2014, http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country_profiles/1258586.stm

113 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: History; Japan Since 1945,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>

114 Central Intelligence Agency, “Japan: Economy,” in *The World Factbook*, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>

115 Elliott C. McLaughlin, “Magnitude of Disaster to Test Japan’s Mettle Anew,” CNN, 18 March 2011, <http://www.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/asiapcf/03/18/japan.disaster.week.sweep/index.html?hpt=C1#>

116 Steven Starr, “Costs and Consequences of the Fukushima Daiichi Disaster,” Physicians for Social Responsibility, n.d., <http://www.psr.org/environment-and-health/environmental-health-policy-institute/responses/costs-and-consequences-of-fukushima.html>

- 117 BBC News Asia, "Japan Profile: Timeline," 15 August 2014, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-pacific-15219730>
- 118 BBC News Asia, "Japan Profile: Timeline," 15 August 2014, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-pacific-15219730>
- 119 Martin Fackler, "Under Diplomatic Strain, Japan Recalls Envoy in Dispute with China over Islands," *New York Times*, 15 July 2012, http://www.nytimes.com/2012/07/16/world/asia/japan-recalls-ambassador-to-china.html?_r=0
- 120 BBC News Asia, "Japan Profile: Timeline," 15 August 2014, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-pacific-15219730>
- 121 Press TV, "China Postpones Japan Ties Anniversary Ceremony over Island Dispute," 23 September 2012, <http://www.presstv.com/detail/2012/09/23/263191/china-postpones-japan-ties-ceremony/>
- 122 BBC News Asia, "Japan Profile: Timeline," 15 August 2014, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-pacific-15219730>
- 123 United Press International, "Relocation of Marine's Okinawa Base Will Go Ahead," 21 January 2014, http://www.upi.com/Top_News/Special/2014/01/21/Relocation-of-Marines-Okinawa-base-will-go-ahead/UPI-70031390287660/
- 124 BBC News Asia, "Japan Profile: Timeline," 15 August 2014, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-pacific-15219730>
- 125 Austin Ramzy, "A Troubled Outlook for China-Japan Ties," *New York Times*, 25 July 2014, <http://sinosphere.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/07/25/a-troubled-outlook-for-china-japan-ties/>
- 126 Reuters, "Japan to Build Military Site Near Disputed Islands," *Al Jazeera*, 19 April 2014, <http://america.aljazeera.com/articles/2014/4/19/japan-islands-base.html>
- 127 BBC News Asia, "Japan Cabinet Approves Landmark Military Change," 1 July 2014, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-28086002>
- 128 "Major Security Shift: Cabinet Opens Door for SDF to Use Force Abroad: Abe Says Risk of War Lessens," *Asahi Shimbun*, 1 July 2014, http://ajw.asahi.com/article/behind_news/politics/AJ201407010053

Chapter 2 Assessment

1. China had no influence on Japan until the Yamato court sent envoys to China in the fifth century C.E.

FALSE

Chinese Han influence was heavy in the Yayoi period of 250 B.C.E.–250 C.E. Migration from China was an important factor in early Japanese history.

2. Buddhism arrived in Japan in the mid-sixth century C.E.

TRUE

Buddhism played a significant role in Japanese government and society. After several centuries, Japan developed its own unique expression of Buddhism.

3. Japan's warrior class first developed among young members of the imperial family and low-ranking aristocrats.

TRUE

Samurai culture and the roots of a military government, known as a shogunate, are among the developments of the Heian period of 794–1185.

4. Japanese samurai decidedly defeated Mongol invaders in 1274, saving the country from foreign rule.

FALSE

Japan was saved from invading Mongol armies by fierce typhoons in 1274 and again in 1281. The “divine wind” (kamikaze) is still celebrated in Japan.

5. Tokugawa Ieyasu successfully consolidated power in Japan, starting a period of nearly 300 years of peace.

TRUE

Japan was spared from conflict with other countries and rebellious civil wars during the years of the Tokugawa Shogunate.



Workers in factory
© Steve Jurvetson

Chapter 3 Economy

Introduction

Following the end of World War II, Japan set about rebuilding the nation and its economy. Aided by a strong work ethic and close cooperation between manufacturing and government, the nation transformed itself. Today, Japan's economy is the fourth-largest in the world.¹ The economy enjoyed moderate growth from 2000 to 2008. Since 2008, the nation has suffered three recessions. Government stimulus packages aided economic recovery after the 2008 downturn and the economy appeared to be on the road to recovery in 2009. In 2011, a magnitude 9.0 earthquake caused a tsunami that devastated not only the economy, but the nation. Manufacturing throughout the nation was disrupted. Factories were destroyed. The flow of materials was interrupted and intermittent power outages stopped production.^{2,3,4} The tsunami caused the meltdown of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear reactors. Contamination from the accident has ruined nearly 800 sq km (310 sq mi) around the plant, leaving the land too contaminated for human habitation. Approximately 160,000 were forced to abandon their property and

move elsewhere.⁵

The country's new prime minister has made the country's economy his most urgent concern. Japan's membership in the Trans Pacific Partnership will open the Japanese economy to increased foreign competition, while creating new export markets. The government promises to restructure the economy, reduce the nation's huge debt burden, and increase the value of the yen.^{6, 7, 8, 9} These new efforts, however, are running into problems. Nearly one fifth of government debt, which stood at 240% of GDP in September 2014, is owned by the Bank of Japan. The weaker yen was supposed to increase export revenue and demand, but the benefit has yet to materialize.¹⁰ Although the economic reforms have created jobs, most are "non-regular" positions. Non-regular employees, now 37% of the labor force, receive few protections and low wages.^{11, 12} The nation's high-energy costs, aging population, dependence on exports, and shrinking population size offer long term challenges with no easy solutions.^{13, 14, 15, 16}

Agriculture

Japan has a small agricultural sector. It accounts for about 1% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employs approximately 4% of the labor force.¹⁷ Because of the mountainous terrain, only 11% of Japan's land is arable.¹⁸ Although much of the soil is of poor quality, Japan's consistent rainfall and ready supply of freshwater allow for relatively easy irrigation.¹⁹ Japanese agriculture is not confined to rural areas. In fact, agricultural land is quite common in urban areas. These urban plots generate nearly one-third of the nation's agricultural output. One in four farming households lives in an urban setting.²⁰

The most important agricultural product in Japan is rice.²¹ Japan is the world's tenth-largest rice producer.²² Nonetheless, the agriculture sector and the rice farmers are in for major changes. The aging farm population, the failure of young people to get into farming, and the number of abandoned rice paddies have created what some regard as an unsustainable system on the verge of collapse.^{23, 24, 25} Most rice is grown on inefficient paddies less than one hectare (2.5 acres) in size.^{26, 27, 28, 29, 30}

For many years, the government protected local



Fields in Japan
© autan / flickr.com

rice producers by banning the import of cheaper international rice. Although the government began allowing modest rice imports in 1993, most foreign rice is used as animal feed, stored, or re-exported as food aid.³¹ The government subsidizes rice farmers who are not making a profit.³² The policy of *gentan* pays farmers to let their land lie fallow, but the plan is slated to be discontinued by 2018.^{33, 34, 35}



Electronics and computer shops
© Richard Murdey

Industry

Japan's economy is driven by its industry, which accounts for 26% of the nation's GDP.³⁶ The industrial sector has been largely stagnant for twenty years. Nevertheless, Japanese industries are among the world's most technologically advanced and innovative.^{37, 38} The number of people employed in the manufacturing and industrial sector has been declining in recent years, as more people move into the expanding services sector. As the cost of labor increases in Japan, many manufacturers are moving their factories to other countries, such as Thailand, Myanmar, and Indonesia, where labor costs are lower.^{39, 40, 41} Today, the sector employs approximately 26% of

the labor force.⁴²

Japan is home to six of the top ten vehicle manufacturers in the world. The country's automotive industry is second only to China in terms of the number of vehicles produced.⁴³ Only Germany exports more automobiles.⁴⁴ The country is also the largest electronic manufacturer in the world.⁴⁵ In addition to popular consumer electronics and automobiles, Japan's main industries include machine tools, steel, ships, chemicals, textiles, and processed food.^{46, 47} Japanese manufacturing was severely disrupted after the earthquake and tsunami, which struck the country in 2011. Before the natural disaster, Japan had the 8th highest level of industrial production in the world. In 2011, it had the 8th worst level of growth.⁴⁸ The sector has largely recovered from the disaster. Most industries are back on track with pre-disaster production levels.⁴⁹ Still, the sector faces increasing pressure to reduce costs, reduce its labor force, and increase productivity.^{50, 51}



Onagawa Nuclear Power Plant
© LERK / wikipedia.org

Energy

With few of its own energy resources, Japan is able to meet less than 10% of its domestic energy supplies.⁵² Japan meets its significant energy needs largely through imports. It is the world's third-largest consumer of oil and third-largest importer of crude oil.⁵³ The majority of Japan's electricity comes from thermal plants that use either oil or coal for fuel.⁵⁴ Approximately 83% of Japan's oil comes from the Middle East. Saudi Arabia alone contributes nearly one-third of the oil imports, with the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Kuwait, and Iran providing much of the remainder.⁵⁵ No country imports more liquefied natural gas (LNG) and only China imports more coal than Japan.⁵⁶ LNG has become

more popular as the country has moved toward reducing pollutants, such as greenhouse gases.⁵⁷ Liquefied natural gas demand rose sharply following the earthquake in 2010. Roughly one-third of LNG imports are from Southeast Asia, particularly Indonesia and Malaysia. Qatar is now the nation's second largest LNG supplier.⁵⁸

Japan was the world's third-largest producer of nuclear energy before the Fukushima disaster in 2011.⁵⁹ All nuclear energy production stopped for two years after the plant's meltdown resulting from the devastating earthquake and tsunami. In 2013, several nuclear facilities reopened, but production remains far below 2011 levels.^{60, 61} The shutdown of the nuclear reactors cost the government millions. It also negatively affected the nation's balance of trade. Several major organizations have petitioned the government to reopen plants as quickly as possible.⁶²



Goods made in Japan
© Ballookey Klugeypop

Trade

Japan is one of the largest importers and exporters in the world.^{63, 64} In the first half of 2014, Japan carried a negative balance of trade.⁶⁵ The country's main exports include motor vehicles, semiconductors, iron and steel products, automobile parts, plastics, and power generating machinery. The top five export partners are the United States, China, South Korea, Thailand, and Hong Kong.^{66, 67, 68} Japan's imports are largely raw materials needed to drive the country's manufacturing. Fuel and food are also key imports.^{69, 70, 71} The top import partners include China, the United States, Australia, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, South Korea, and Qatar.^{72, 73}

Japan is implementing a series of reform and trade liberalization policies to open its economy. Japan, along with 15 other nations, is part of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). The aim of the organization is to develop stronger and more favorable trading policies among the participating nations.^{74, 75} Japan also joined the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) in 2014. TPP aims to establish a free-trade area involving a dozen countries. Disagreements between the United States and Japan, however, have created a stalemate, which has delayed full implementation.^{76, 77}



Imperial Palace, Tokyo
© Erik Dunham

Tourism

Tourism is rapidly becoming one of the most important segments in the Japanese economy. Prime Minister Abe is focused on doubling the number of international visitors to the island nation by 2020. As part of the strategy, Japan will host the 2020 Summer Olympics.⁷⁸ Nearly 10.4 million tourists visited Japan in 2013. In the first eight months of 2014, approximately 8.6 million foreigners visited Japan.⁷⁹ Nearly three-fourths of all tourists who visit Japan are from neighboring Asian countries. The largest number of Asian visitors came from China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Thailand. Significant numbers of tourists also arrive from the United States, Europe, and Canada.^{80, 81, 82} To help increase the number of tourists, important programs have been implemented. These include upgrading airport access, providing free internet services, increasing the number of English speakers in the tourism industry, and easing visa restrictions.^{83, 84} Domestic tourism is also increasing. Many domestic tourists take day trips, although more domestic travelers are choosing to stay overnight at their destination.⁸⁵

Popular destinations in Japan include castles, gardens, temples, and shrines. Japan has 18 sites on the UNESCO World Heritage List, including 14 fabricated structures and four natural areas.⁸⁶ UNESCO added Japan's famous Mt Fuji to its list of World Heritage Sites in 2013.⁸⁷ Winter sports attract many tourists to northern Japan.⁸⁸



Tokyo Stock Exchange
© tenaciousme / flickr.com

Banking & Finance

Japanese banks are among the largest in the world, but many of them are not profitable because they carry large debt loads.⁸⁹ The main types of banks are city, trust, regional, Shinkin, and Credit Cooperative banks. City banks deal primarily with corporate clients and operate nationwide. They control about half of all the banking sector's assets. Trust banks provide mostly commercial functions and asset management. They focus on real estate markets and wealth management. Regional banks are medium-sized institutions that provide retail services for mostly individual clients and small to medium sized enterprises (SMEs), within their specific prefecture. Shinkin banks are credit unions. Smaller than regional banks, Shinkin banks deal mostly with local clients, especially SMEs. Credit cooperatives specialize in SME finance.^{90, 91, 92, 93} In 2013, 59 foreign banks were licensed in Japan. These banks are from a variety of nations, including Brazil, China, India, Switzerland, Canada, South Korea, Germany, and the United States.⁹⁴

The Bank of Japan is the nation's central bank. It has 32 branches operating throughout the

nation. The bank was established in 1882, but was reorganized in 1942. In 1997, further changes made the bank more transparent and independent. Today, the Bank of Japan is responsible for issuing banknotes and regulating national monetary policy.^{95, 96, 97}

The yen (JPY) was established as the nation's official currency in 1871.^{98, 99, 100} In late October 2014, USD 1 traded at approximately JPY 107.¹⁰¹ The new economic policies of Prime Minister Abe have weakened the yen against the dollar. The fall of the yen against the dollar and other major currencies could spark broader problems for the global economy.¹⁰² Worries over the yen's continuing devaluation have prompted many in Japan's business sector to call for government intervention to stop the slide.^{103, 104}

In May 1878, the Tokyo Stock Exchange was established. In 2013, it merged with the Osaka Securities Exchange to become the world's third-largest exchange.^{105, 106, 107, 108} More than 3,400 companies are listed on the exchange. In 2013, the Tokyo Stock Exchange had a total market capitalization of more than USD 3.3 trillion.^{109, 110, 111}



Apartments, Osaka
© Magalie L'Abbé

Standard of Living

Despite economic challenges in the 1990s and early 21st century, Japan enjoys a high standard of living. According to the 2012 Human Development Index, Japan was ranked 10th in the world.¹¹² The average disposable income per capital is roughly USD 25,066, above the OECD average.¹¹³ Healthcare is free for every Japanese citizen.¹¹⁴ Japan has the world's third highest life expectancy at 84 years.¹¹⁵ The national literacy rate is 99%.¹¹⁶

The picture is not all rosy, however. A recent report suggests that poverty is on the rise. As many as one in six Japanese lives in poverty. Most of these are among Japan's working poor.¹¹⁷ In 2012, nearly 16% of Japanese children lived in poverty, the highest level in 30 years. This is the highest rate of child poverty among countries in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).¹¹⁸ Half of all single-parent families fell below the poverty line. Most single-parent households are headed by women, who average only JPY 1.8 million (USD 16,848) a year.^{119, 120}

The cost of living is generally higher than in the United States. Consumer prices, in general, are about 16% higher. Food, utilities, clothing, and leisure activities are all more expensive than in the United States. Rents for one-bedroom apartments are slightly lower than in the United States. In city centers, however, Japanese rents are approximately 11% higher, around USD 1,948 a month. However, the purchase price of apartments, per square meter, is nearly 67% higher.¹²¹ In 2013, Tokyo was the most expensive city in the world.^{122, 123} Osaka ranked as the world's second most expensive city.¹²⁴



Elderly Japanese women
© Mr Hicks46

Economic Outlook

Japan had an unemployment rate of 4.1% in 2013.¹²⁵ Although relatively low, unemployment continues to fall as Japan's workforce ages.¹²⁶ Unemployment is expected to remain below 4% through 2020.^{127, 128} Japan will be particularly hard-hit by the demands of its aging population. The country has a declining population growth rate and the fastest growing elderly population in the world. In 2011, nearly 25% of the population was over 65. Economic social security benefits and healthcare costs could slow economic growth as the government is forced to shift its fiscal priorities.^{129, 130} Japan's debt, the costs associated

with an aging population, and the lack of growth in the labor sector could produce future economic troubles.^{131, 132, 133, 134}

Prime Minister Abe has signaled his intention to move ahead with his economic reform package.¹³⁵ The three main thrusts of the Abe plan include providing fiscal stimulus packages, easing of monetary policy, and structural changes to the economy.¹³⁶ Abe's government increased taxes from 5% to 8% in April 2014. That move appears to have put the brakes on some economic growth and it has slowed down the recovery. The government plans to increase taxes to 10% later in 2014. Many fear that could further weaken the already fragile economy.¹³⁷ Some projections suggest that the reform package will double inflation to a rate of 2%.¹³⁸ It is likely, however, that inflation will stay below the 2% target set by the Bank of Japan.^{139, 140, 141} Japan's economy is expected to increase by less than 1% in 2015. Growth will remain below 1.5% in the medium term.^{142, 143, 144} Japan's current debt load is unsustainable. Debt reduction remains the centerpiece of any long term success in solving the nation's economic woes. Japan's current debt is more than 200% of national GDP. Numerous projections suggest that the debt level will remain and continue to be greater than 200% for at least the next decade.^{145, 146, 147}

Endnotes

- 1 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: Economy," in The World Factbook, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 2 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: Economy," in The World Factbook, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 3 Alex Taylor III, "Aftershocks Shake Japan's Auto Industry," *Fortune*, 14 March 2011, http://archive.fortune.com/2011/03/14/autos/japan_autos_earthquake.fortune/index.htm
- 4 Linda Conrad, "Japan One Year Later: The Long View on Tech Supply Chains," *Forbes*, 13 March 2012, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/ciocentral/2012/03/13/japan-one-year-later-the-long-view-on-tech-supply-chains/>
- 5 Steven Starr, "Costs and Consequences of the Fukushima Daiichi Disaster," Physicians for Social Responsibility, n.d., <http://www.psr.org/environment-and-health/environmental-health-policy-institute/responses/costs-and-consequences-of-fukushima.html>
- 6 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: Economy," in The World Factbook, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 7 Michael Hodin, "Why an Aging Japan is a Top Economic Priority," *The Fiscal Times*, 13 September 2013, <http://www.thefiscaltimes.com/Blogs/Age-Reason/2013/09/13/Why-Aging-Japan-Top-Economic-Priority>
- 8 Brian Bremner, "Japan's Incredible Shrinking Empire," *Bloomberg Business Week*, 5 June 2014, <http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2014-06-05/japan-must-open-up-to-foreign-labor-for-economic-boost>
- 9 Mitsuru Obe, "Japan Exports Continue to Disappoint," *Wall Street Journal*, 24 July 2014, <http://online.wsj.com/articles/japan-exports-continue-to-disappoint-1406161390>
- 10 "Slings and Arrows," *Economist*, 13 September 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/finance-and-economics/21617031-harmful-tax-hike-and-reticent-employers-take-their-toll-slings-and-arrows?zid=306&ah=1b164dbd43b0cb27ba0d4c3b12a5e227>
- 11 "Feeling the Pinch," *Economist*, 9 August 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/asia/21611152-even-jobs-grow-scarce-real-wages-continue-fall-feeling-pinch>
- 12 Kyoko Hasegawa, "Japan's Bid for Economy Driven by Women Faces Big Hurdles," *Agence France Presse*, 7 September 2014, <http://www.rappler.com/business/economy-watch/68394-japan-women-driven-economy-hurdles>
- 13 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: Economy," in The World Factbook, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 14 Michael Hodin, "Why an Aging Japan is a Top Economic Priority," *The Fiscal Times*, 13 September 2013, <http://www.thefiscaltimes.com/Blogs/Age-Reason/2013/09/13/Why-Aging-Japan-Top-Economic-Priority>
- 15 Brian Bremner, "Japan's Incredible Shrinking Empire," *Bloomberg Business Week*, 5 June 2014, <http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2014-06-05/japan-must-open-up-to-foreign-labor-for-economic-boost>
- 16 Mitsuru Obe, "Japan Exports Continue to Disappoint," *Wall Street Journal*, 24 July 2014, <http://online.wsj.com/articles/japan-exports-continue-to-disappoint-1406161390>
- 17 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: Economy," in The World Factbook, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 18 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: Geography," in The World Factbook, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 19 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 20 Raquel Moreno-Peñaranda, "Japan's Urban Agriculture: Cultivating Sustainability and Well-being," *United Nations University*, 20 September 2011, <http://unu.edu/publications/articles/japan-s-urban-agriculture-what-does-the-future-hold.html>
- 21 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: Economy," in The World Factbook, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>

- 22 The Countries of, “Top 10 Largest Producers of Rice in the World,” n.d., <http://www.thecountriesof.com/top-10-largest-producers-of-rice-in-the-world/>
- 23 Yutaka Harada, “Japan’s Agriculture and the TPP,” The Tokyo Foundation, 21 November 2013, <http://www.tokyofoundation.org/en/articles/2013/japan-agriculture-and-tpp>
- 24 Steven Harner, “TPP or No TPP Japanese Agriculture Must be Reformed,” Forbes, 19 August 2013, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/stephenharner/2013/08/19/tpp-or-no-tpp-japanese-agriculture-must-be-reformed/>
- 25 Martin Fackler, “Japan’s Rice Farmers Fear Their Future Is Shrinking,” New York Times, 28 March 2009, <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/29/world/asia/29japan.html>
- 26 Aya Takada and Chikako Mogi, “Rice Plan Signals End of Era as New World Farmers Beat OI,” Bloomberg, 14 November 2013, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-11-15/rice-plan-signals-end-of-era-as-new-world-farmers-beat-old-japan.html>
- 27 Philip Brasor, “The Sticky Subject of Japan’s Rice Protection,” Japan Times Online, 20 February 2011, <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2011/02/20/national/media-national/the-sticky-subject-of-japans-rice-protection/#.VEUa4xY58RY>
- 28 “You Are What You Eat: Can a Country as Modern as Japan Cling Onto a Culture as Ancient as Rice?” Economist, 17 December 2009, http://www.economist.com/node/15108648?story_id=E1_TVTRDGRQR
- 29 Yutaka Harada, “Japan’s Agriculture and the TPP,” The Tokyo Foundation, 21 November 2013, <http://www.tokyofoundation.org/en/articles/2013/japan-agriculture-and-tpp>
- 30 “Rice Farming in Japan: Political Staple,” Economist, 30 November 2013, <http://www.economist.com/news/finance-and-economics/21590947-government-abolishes-previously-sacrosanct-agricultural-subsidies-political>
- 31 Philip Brasor, “The Sticky Subject of Japan’s Rice Protection,” Japan Times Online, 20 February 2011, <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2011/02/20/national/media-national/the-sticky-subject-of-japans-rice-protection/#.VEUa4xY58RY>
- 32 Central Intelligence Agency, “Japan: Economy,” in The World Factbook, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 33 Yutaka Harada, “Japan’s Agriculture and the TPP,” The Tokyo Foundation, 21 November 2013, <http://www.tokyofoundation.org/en/articles/2013/japan-agriculture-and-tpp>
- 34 Steven Harner, “TPP or No TPP Japanese Agriculture Must be Reformed,” Forbes, 19 August 2013, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/stephenharner/2013/08/19/tpp-or-no-tpp-japanese-agriculture-must-be-reformed/>
- 35 “Rice Farming in Japan: Political Staple,” Economist, 30 November 2013, <http://www.economist.com/news/finance-and-economics/21590947-government-abolishes-previously-sacrosanct-agricultural-subsidies-political>
- 36 Central Intelligence Agency, “Japan: Economy,” in The World Factbook, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 37 Central Intelligence Agency, “Japan: Economy,” in The World Factbook, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 38 Economy Watch, “Japan Industry Sectors,” 4 June 2013, http://www.economywatch.com/world_economy/japan/industry-sector-industries.html
- 39 “Decline of Manufacturing,” Japan Times, Editorial, 25 February 2013, <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/opinion/2013/02/25/editorials/decline-of-manufacturing/#.VEUdiBY58RY>
- 40 “Slings and Arrows,” Economist, 13 September 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/finance-and-economics/21617031-harmful-tax-hike-and-reticent-employers-take-their-toll-slings-and-arrows?zid=306&ah=1b164dbd43b0cb27ba0d4c3b12a5e227>
- 41 Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Government of Japan, “Chapter 3: Economy,” in Statistical Handbook of Japan 2014, <http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/handbook/c0117.htm>
- 42 Central Intelligence Agency, “Japan: Economy,” in The World Factbook, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 43 Economy Watch, “Japan Industry Sectors,” 4 June 2013,

- http://www.economywatch.com/world_economy/japan/industry-sector-industries.html
- 44 Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, “Great East Japan Earthquake: Economic and Trade Impact,” (report, n.d.), 4, <https://www.dfat.gov.au/publications/stats-pubs/great-east-japan-earthquake-economic-and-trade-impact.pdf>
- 45 Economy Watch, “Japan Industry Sectors,” 4 June 2013, http://www.economywatch.com/world_economy/japan/industry-sector-industries.html
- 46 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: Economy,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23253/Demographic-trends#toc23254>
- 47 Central Intelligence Agency, “Japan: Economy,” in *The World Factbook*, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 48 Central Intelligence Agency, “Japan: Economy,” in *The World Factbook*, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 49 Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, “Great East Japan Earthquake: Economic and Trade Impact,” (report, n.d.), 1-2, <https://www.dfat.gov.au/publications/stats-pubs/great-east-japan-earthquake-economic-and-trade-impact.pdf>
- 50 Chris Williamson, “Japan’s Manufacturing Sector Still Struggling after Sales Tax Rise,” *Markit*, 1 October 2014, <http://www.markit.com/Commentary/Get/01102014-Economics-Japan-s-manufacturing-sector-still-struggling-after-sales-tax-rise>
- 51 Keiko Ujikane, “Japan’s Output Drops Most since 2011 as Consumers Spend Less,” *Bloomberg*, 29 July 2014, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-07-29/japanese-output-falls-by-most-since-2011-as-consumers-spend-less.html>
- 52 U.S. Energy Information Administration, “Japan: Overview,” 31 July 2014, <http://www.eia.gov/countries/cab.cfm?fips=ja>
- 53 U.S. Energy Information Administration, “Japan: Overview,” 31 July 2014, <http://www.eia.gov/countries/cab.cfm?fips=ja>
- 54 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: Power,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23268/Power>
- 55 U.S. Energy Information Administration, “Japan: Overview,” 31 July 2014, <http://www.eia.gov/countries/cab.cfm?fips=ja>
- 56 U.S. Energy Information Administration, “Japan: Overview,” 31 July 2014, <http://www.eia.gov/countries/cab.cfm?fips=ja>
- 57 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan: Power,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23268/Power>
- 58 U.S. Energy Information Administration, “Japan: Overview,” 31 July 2014, <http://www.eia.gov/countries/cab.cfm?fips=ja>
- 59 U.S. Energy Information Administration, “Japan: Overview,” 31 July 2014, <http://www.eia.gov/countries/cab.cfm?fips=ja>
- 60 U.S. Energy Information Administration, “Japan: Overview,” 31 July 2014, <http://www.eia.gov/countries/cab.cfm?fips=ja>
- 61 World Nuclear Association, “Nuclear Power in Japan,” 30 September 2014, <http://www.world-nuclear.org/info/Country-Profiles/Countries-G-N/Japan/>
- 62 World Nuclear Association, “Nuclear Power in Japan,” 30 September 2014, <http://www.world-nuclear.org/info/Country-Profiles/Countries-G-N/Japan/>
- 63 Economy Watch, “Japan Export, Import and Trade,” 5 June 2013, http://www.economywatch.com/world_economy/japan/export-import.html
- 64 Daniel Workman, “Japan’s Top Import Partners,” *World’s Top Exports*, 16 October 2014, <http://www.worldstopexports.com/japans-top-import-partners/2082>
- 65 Ministry of Finance, Government of Japan, “Trade Statistics,” (financial report, 28 August 2014), 2, http://www.customs.go.jp/toukei/shinbun/trade-st_e/2014/2014_316e.pdf
- 66 Daniel Workman, “Japan’s Top Import Partners,” *World’s Top Exports*, 16 October 2014, <http://www.worldstopexports.com/japans-top-import-partners/2082>

- 67 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: Economy," in The World Factbook, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 68 Daniel Workman, "Highest Value Japanese Export Products," World's Top Exports, 17 March 2014, <http://www.worldstopexports.com/highest-value-japanese-export-products/2091>
- 69 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australian Government, "Japan Country Brief," 2014, https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/japan/japan_brief.html
- 70 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: Economy," in The World Factbook, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 71 Ministry of Finance, Government of Japan, "Trade Statistics," (financial report, 28 August 2014), 4, http://www.customs.go.jp/toukei/shinbun/trade-st_e/2014/2014_316e.pdf
- 72 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: Economy," in The World Factbook, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 73 Ministry of Finance, Government of Japan, "Trade Statistics," (financial report, 28 August 2014), 2, http://www.customs.go.jp/toukei/shinbun/trade-st_e/2014/2014_316e.pdf
- 74 Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Government of New Zealand, "Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)," 15 September 2014, <http://www.mfat.govt.nz/Trade-and-Economic-Relations/2-Trade-Relationships-and-Agreements/RCEP/>
- 75 Rohit Sinha and Geethanjali Nataraj, "Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP): Issues and Way Forward," The Diplomat, 30 July 2013, <http://thediplomat.com/2013/07/regional-comprehensive-economic-partnership-rcep-issues-and-way-forward/>
- 76 Simon Tay, "Lack of Compromise Delays Trans-Pacific Trade," The Japan Times, 5 October 2014, <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/opinion/2014/10/05/commentary/japan-commentary/lack-of-compromise-delays-trans-pacific-trade/#.VEVRURY58RY>
- 77 "Stalemate," Economist, 4 October 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/asia/21621893-trade-talks-unexpectedly-break-down-stalemate>
- 78 Atsushi Kodera, "Tourism Emerges as New Economic Driver for Japan," The Japan Times, 25 August 2014, <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2014/08/25/reference/tourism-emerges-new-economic-driver-japan/#.VEVUpBY58RY>
- 79 Japan Tourism Marketing Co., "Tourism Statistics," 9 October 2014, <http://www.tourism.jp/en/statistics/>
- 80 Japan Tourism Marketing Co., "Tourism Statistics," 9 October 2014, <http://www.tourism.jp/en/statistics/>
- 81 Atsushi Kodera, "Tourism Emerges as New Economic Driver for Japan," The Japan Times, 25 August 2014, <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2014/08/25/reference/tourism-emerges-new-economic-driver-japan/#.VEVUpBY58RY>
- 82 Dennis C. McCornac and Rong Zhang, "Japan's International Tourism Challenges," The Diplomat, 12 October 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/10/japans-international-tourism-challenge/>
- 83 Atsushi Kodera, "Tourism Emerges as New Economic Driver for Japan," The Japan Times, 25 August 2014, <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2014/08/25/reference/tourism-emerges-new-economic-driver-japan/#.VEVUpBY58RY>
- 84 Dennis C. McCornac and Rong Zhang, "Japan's International Tourism Challenges," The Diplomat, 12 October 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/10/japans-international-tourism-challenge/>
- 85 Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Government of Japan, "White Paper on Tourism in Japan: The Tourism Situation in FY 2012," (report, 2013), 8-9, <http://www.mlit.go.jp/common/001018364.pdf>
- 86 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, "Japan: Properties Inscribed on the World Heritage List (18)," n.d., <http://whc.unesco.org/en/statesparties/jp>
- 87 Euromonitor International, "Travel and Tourism in Japan," September 2014, <http://www.euromonitor.com/travel-and-tourism-in-japan/report>
- 88 Japan Guide, "Sightseeing Guide," n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e623.html>
- 89 Bank of Japan, "Financial System Report (October

- 2014),” October 2014, <https://www.boj.or.jp/en/research/brp/fsr/fsr141017.htm/>
- 90 San Jose State University, “The Japanese Financial System,” n.d., <http://www.sjsu.edu/faculty/watkins/jfin.htm>
- 91 Hong Liu and John O.S. Wilson, “Bank Type, Competition and Stability in Japanese Banking,” (paper, March 2011), 4-6, http://www.gallbladder-research.org/media/media_199406_en.pdf
- 92 Reszatonline, “Japan’s Banking Structure,” 24 April 2011, <http://reszatonline.wordpress.com/2011/04/24/japanese-banks-and-fukushima/>
- 93 G. Vento, “International Banking,” (PowerPoint lecture presentation, April 2013), https://web.uniroma1.it/dip_management/sites/default/files/allegati/12%20Banking%20in%20Japan.ppt
- 94 KMPG, “Foreign Banks in Japan Survey 2013,” (report, 2013), 4, <http://www.kpmg.com/Jp/en/knowledge/article/foreign-banks-in-japan-survey/Documents/foreign-banks-japan-2013.pdf>
- 95 Bank of Japan, “Outline of the Bank,” n.d., <https://www.boj.or.jp/en/about/outline/index.htm/>
- 96 Bank of Japan, “History,” n.d., <https://www.boj.or.jp/en/about/outline/history/index.htm/>
- 97 Bank of Japan, “Annual Review 2014,” (annual report, 29 August 2014), 17, <https://www.boj.or.jp/en/about/activities/act/data/ar2014.pdf>
- 98 Japan-Zone, “Money,” n.d., <http://www.japan-zone.com/new/money.shtml>
- 99 ADVN, “Japanese Yen,” n.d., <http://www.advfn.com/currencies/jpy/about/JapaneseYen.html>
- 100 Go Currency, “What is the Japanese Yen (JPY)?” n.d., <http://www.gocurrency.com/countries/japan>
- 101 Oanda, “Currency Converter,” 20 October 2014, <http://www.oanda.com/>
- 102 “Jason Clenfield and Kevin Buckland, “Yen’s Drop may Trigger Global Stock Selloff, Says SocGen Strategist,” Bloomberg Business Week, 9 October 2014, <http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2014-10-09/yens-drop-may-trigger-global-stock-selloff-says-socgen-strategist>
- 103 Tetsushi Kajimoto, “Japan Firms Want Government Action if Yen Weakens: Reuters Poll,” Reuters, 20 October 2014, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/20/us-japan-companies-idUSKCN0I902L20141020>
- 104 Jason Clenfield and Kevin Buckland, “Albert Edwards Says Watch Japanese Yen and be Very Afraid,” Bloomberg Business Week, 3 October 2014, <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2014-10-02/albert-edwards-says-watch-japanese-yen-and-be-very-very-afraid>
- 105 Tokyo Stock Exchange, “About: History,” 8 July 2014, <http://www.tse.or.jp/english/about/history.html>
- 106 Hiroko Tabuchi, “Japanese Stock Market Is Getting New Respect,” New York Times, 21 February 2011, http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/22/business/global/22yen.html?_r=1&ref=tokyostockexchange
- 107 “Top 10 Largest Stock Exchanges,” China Daily, 29 April 2014, http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2014-04/29/content_17472002_3.htm
- 108 Masaaki Iwamoto and Toshiro Hasegawa, “Tokyo Exchange Merges with Osaka to Form World’s No. 3,” Bloomberg, 15 July 2013, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-07-15/tokyo-exchange-merges-with-osaka-to-form-world-s-no-3.html>
- 109 Tokyo Stock Exchange, “Market Value: Monthly Statistics Report,” (report, September 2014), 1, <http://www.tse.or.jp/english/market/topix/data/b7gje60000003vq2-att/b7gje60000025m3a.pdf>
- 110 Money-Zine, “Tokyo Stock Exchange,” 2010, <http://www.money-zine.com/Investing/Stocks/Tokyo-Stock-Exchange>
- 111 Central Intelligence Agency, “Japan: Economy,” in The World Factbook, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 112 United Nations Development Programme, “Human Development Report 2013,” (annual report, United Nations, 2013), 142, http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/reports/14/hdr2013_en_complete.pdf
- 113 OECD, “Better Life Index: Japan,” n.d., <http://www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org/countries/japan/>
- 114 Allianz, “Healthcare in Japan,” n.d., <http://www.allianzworldwidecare.com/healthcare-in-japan>

- 115 Central Intelligence Agency, "Country Comparison: Life Expectancy at Birth," 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/rankorder/2102rank.html?countertype=Japan&countrycode=ja®ionCode=eas&rank=3#ja>
- 116 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: People and Society," in *The World Factbook*, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 117 Grace Zhao, "The Truth Behind Poverty in Japan," *The Borgen Project*, 30 July 2013, <http://borgenproject.org/the-truth-behind-poverty-in-japan/>
- 118 Press TV, "Japan Child Poverty Rate Hits Record High," 18 February 2014, <http://www.presstv.com/detail/2014/07/18/371807/japan-poverty-rate-hits-alltime-high/>
- 119 Press TV, "Japan Child Poverty Rate Hits Record High," 18 February 2014, <http://www.presstv.com/detail/2014/07/18/371807/japan-poverty-rate-hits-alltime-high/>
- 120 "Half of Single-mother Households in Japan Below Poverty Line, among Worst in OECD Rankings," *Asahi Shimbun*, 9 September 2014, http://ajw.asahi.com/article/behind_news/social_affairs/AJ201409090005
- 121 Numbeo, "Cost of Living Comparison between Japan and the United States," October, 2014, http://www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living/compare_countries_result.jsp?country1=Japan&country2=United+States&displayCurrency=USD
- 122 Mercer, "2014 Cost of Living Rankings," 10 July 2014, <http://www.mercer.com/newsroom/cost-of-living-survey.html>
- 123 "Worldwide Cost of Living Index 2013," *Economist*, n.d., http://www.eiu.com/public/topical_report.aspx?campaignid=Wcol2013
- 124 Intelligence Unit, "Worldwide Cost of Living 2013," (annual report, *Economist*, 2013), 1, http://www.iberglobal.com/files/cities_cost_living_eiu.pdf
- 125 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: Economy," in *The World Factbook*, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 126 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: People and Society," in *The World Factbook*, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 127 Trading Economics, "Japan Economic Forecasts 2014-2050 Outlook," 2014, <http://www.tradingeconomics.com/japan/forecast>
- 128 Knoema, "Japan GDP Growth Forecast 2013-2015 and up to 2060, Data and Charts," 2014, <http://knoema.com/igsdjtg/japan-gdp-growth-forecast-2013-2015-and-up-to-2060-data-and-charts>
- 129 Derek Anderson, Dennis Botman, and Ben Hunt, "Is Japan's Population Aging Deflationary?" (working paper, International Monetary Fund, August 2014), 3-4, <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2014/wp14139.pdf>
- 130 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: People and Society," in *The World Factbook*, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 131 Derek Anderson, Dennis Botman, and Ben Hunt, "Is Japan's Population Aging Deflationary?" (working paper, International Monetary Fund, August 2014), 3-8, <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2014/wp14139.pdf>
- 132 Economy Watch, "Japan Economic Forecast," 4 June 2013, http://www.economywatch.com/world_economy/japan/economic-forecast.html
- 133 "Reform in Japan: the Third Arrow," *Economist*, 28 June 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/leaders/21605905-shinzo-abe-has-best-chance-decades-changing-japan-better-he-seems-poised>
- 134 Kato Hisakazu, "The Japanese Economy amid Aging and Declining Population and Fiscal Deficits," *Economy*, 9 (30 January 2012), <http://www.japanpolicyforum.jp/en/archives/economy/pt20120130124136.html>
- 135 Focus Economics, "Japan Economic Outlook," 30 September 2014, <http://www.focus-economics.com/countries/japan>
- 136 "Reform in Japan: the Third Arrow," *Economist*, 28 June 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/leaders/21605905-shinzo-abe-has-best-chance-decades-changing-japan-better-he-seems-poised>

- 137 “Japan’s Economy: Consumptive,” *Economist*, 18 October 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/asia/21625863-will-prime-minister-keep-his-nerve-over-consumption-tax-consumptive>
- 138 Joshua K. Hausman and Johannes F. Wieland, “Abenomics Preliminary Analysis and Outlook,” *Brookings*, spring 2014, <http://www.brookings.edu/about/projects/bpea/papers/2014/abenomics-preliminary-analysis-and-outlook>
- 139 Mizuho, “FY 2014, 2015 Economic Outlook,” (report, 9 September 2014), 4, <http://www.mizuho-ri.co.jp/publication/research/pdf/eo/EconomicOutlook1409r.pdf>
- 140 “Interest Rates and Inflation: Zero Forever,” *Economist*, 28 March 2014, <http://www.economist.com/blogs/freexchange/2014/03/interest-rates-and-inflation>
- 141 Mimi Whitefiled, “Abenomics Struggles to Lift Japan Out of Economic Doldrums,” *Miami Herald*, 16 October 2014, <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/business/article2921441.html>
- 142 Andrew Mayeda, “IMF Cuts Global Outlook as Risk of ‘Frothy’ Stocks Raised,” *Bloomberg*, 7 October 2014, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-10-07/imf-cuts-global-outlook-as-frothy-stocks-raise-correction-risk.html>
- 143 Mizuho, “FY 2014, 2015 Economic Outlook,” (report, 9 September 2014), 4, <http://www.mizuho-ri.co.jp/publication/research/pdf/eo/EconomicOutlook1409r.pdf>
- 144 Knoema, “Japan GDP Growth Forecast 2013-2015 and up to 2060, Data and Charts,” 2014, <http://knoema.com/igsdjtg/japan-gdp-growth-forecast-2013-2015-and-up-to-2060-data-and-charts>
- 145 Biagio Bossone and Richard Wood, “To G-20 Leaders: Urgent Need to Boost Demand in the Eurozone,” *EuroMonitor*, 14 October 2014, <http://www.economonitor.com/blog/2014/10/to-g-20-leaders-urgent-need-to-boost-demand-in-the-eurozone/>
- 146 Knoema, “Japan GDP Growth Forecast 2013-2015 and up to 2060, Data and Charts,” 2014, <http://knoema.com/igsdjtg/japan-gdp-growth-forecast-2013-2015-and-up-to-2060-data-and-charts>
- 147 “Slings and Arrows,” *Economist*, 13 September 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/finance-and-economics/21617031-harmful-tax-hike-and-reticent-employers-take-their-toll-slings-and-arrows?zid=306&ah=1b164dbd43b0cb27ba0d4c3b12a5e227>

Chapter 3 Assessment

1. Japan no longer operates any nuclear power plants.

FALSE

All nuclear energy production stopped for two years because of the Fukushima meltdown after the devastating earthquake and tsunami. In 2013, several nuclear facilities reopened, but production remains far below 2011 levels.

2. Japan's agricultural sector accounts for less than 5% of the nation's Gross Domestic Product.

TRUE

Japan has a small agricultural sector. It accounts for about 1% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employs approximately 4% of the labor force.

3. In addition to consumer electronics and automobiles, Japan exports chemical products and plastics.

TRUE

Other exports include cement, paper, synthetic rubber, and metals. Japan is also one of the world's major shipbuilders.

4. Japan is the world's largest automobile exporter.

FALSE

Japan is the second-largest automobile exporter in the world behind Germany, which exports more automobiles.

5. Japan imports its oil primarily from the South Pacific.

False

Approximately 83% of Japan's oil comes from the Middle East. Saudi Arabia alone contributes nearly one-third of the oil imports with the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Kuwait, and Iran providing much of the remainder.



Japanese family
© Kiks Balayon

Chapter 4 Society

Introduction

More than two centuries of national seclusion during the Tokugawa shogunate helped Japan develop a society and culture unique to the rest of the world. The country has undergone modernization since the Meiji restoration of 1868, and throughout the 20th century. Despite fundamental changes in Japanese society following World War II, many prewar aspects of Japanese culture have endured. Among them are the traditional religious beliefs that have helped shape Japanese society for centuries. Many of Japan's traditional arts are also centuries old, although other art forms have developed much more recently. As Japan became a major global economic player during the late 20th century, symbols of its unique society also became internationally recognizable.



Middle-aged Japanese woman
© Trent McBride

Ethnic Groups and Languages

Today, 98.5% of the population is ethnically Japanese. Most of the population today descended from migrants from China and Korea many centuries ago.^{1,2} An indigenous group, known as the Ainu, once occupied much of Hokkaido, the Kuril Islands, and Sakhalin. However, this group has largely vanished in Japan through generations of intermarriage and assimilation.³ Today, roughly 25,000 people of Ainu descent live in Japan, and the Ainu language has almost completely vanished.^{5,6} In 2008, a new law recognized the Ainu as an indigenous people with a distinct language, culture, and religion.⁷

During Japan's occupation of Korea, many Koreans moved (or were moved by the Japanese) to Japan. Their descendents have either intermarried with ethnic Japanese or they constitute much of Japan's Korean minority.⁸ The largest number of ethnic Koreans live in Osaka, although Tokyo and Hyogo prefectures also have a substantial number of ethnic Koreans. Most speak only Korean, although an increasing number of the younger population speaks only Japanese.⁹

Although the country has no secondary languages competing with Japanese, the Japanese language varies throughout the country. Regional dialects developed over time, benefitting from the geographic isolation and mountainous topography of the islands. Some dialects, such as the Kagoshima dialect of Kyushu, are completely unintelligible to residents of the main island of Honshu. Similarly, some dialects in the north are not understood outside that region.^{10,11} Residents of Okinawa and the other islands in the Ryukyu chain have their own unique dialects.¹² Nevertheless, the Tokyo dialect of the warrior class is the standard for a common language.^{13,14}

The Japanese writing system developed from Chinese characters, beginning in the fourth century C.E. The Chinese-based writing system, known as *kanji*, is still used along with the later-developed *kana* system of writing in Japan. The *kana* system has characters for every syllable in a word as opposed to the purely symbolic iconography of the *kanji* system. The modern language is uses two phonetic alphabets: *hiragana* and *katakana*. Modern script includes a combination of *hiragana*, *katakana*, and *kanji*. Some texts may also include *romaji* or Roman letters.^{15,16,17}

Religion

Religion has historically played an influential role in Japan. It still plays an important role in society, although that role is largely hidden. Two beliefs, Shinto and Buddhism, dominate the religious sphere. Unlike religions in many other parts of the world, Japan's major faiths are not mutually exclusive. Followers of Shinto in Japan account for nearly 84% of the population, while 71% of the country believes in Buddhism. Added together, these numbers equal far more than 100% because many in Japan follow both Shinto and Buddhism.^{18, 19}



Shinto shrine
© Timothy Takemoto

Shinto

Shinto (literally “the way of the gods”) differs from other major world religions in that it does not trace its roots to a single founder, nor does it have sacred scripture. Rather, it is an indigenous Japanese spirituality and holds that humans are essentially good and must perform certain rites to keep away evil spirits. These rites usually occur at sacred Shinto shrines, where people gather to pay their respects to the gods (*kami*) and to gain fortification from evil spirits. *Kami* may be contained in physical aspects, such as mountains and rivers, or in the more abstract manifestations of nature, such as the wind. When people die they become *kami* and are revered by their

descendants.^{20, 21, 22}

Shinto played a major role in the social development of Japan. Its principles are still evident in the daily rituals of many Japanese. It is closely connected to the basic Japanese value system. The basic principles include the veneration of ancestors, a respect for the beauty of nature, and ritual purity. One essential feature of the religion is the view that each person is not considered a solitary person, separate from the community. Instead, each individual is considered as one who bears a long history from his/her ancestors, which is continued through each individual. Each person is also regarded as a member of group.^{23, 24}

At the end of World War II, The Allied Supreme Commander ordered the Japanese government to end State Shinto. The government cut off all public funds supporting the religion, and ended official relations with Shinto shrines. These regulations were included in the new national constitution adopted in 1947.²⁵



Zen Buddhist temple, Kyoto
© Aurelio Asiain

Buddhism

Buddhism first came to Japan from Korea and China in the sixth century C.E. The new religion fell in and out of favor with ruling elites for centuries.^{26, 27} Its central tenet is the possibility of escaping human suffering through the practice of meditation and certain moral precepts.^{28,}²⁹ Buddhism teaches that salvation comes by relinquishing worldly goods and desires, and living a life of moderation. Believers can reach a state of nirvana, or ultimate peace, and no longer experience pain or worry.³⁰ Several branches of Buddhism exist in Japan, but there are two main branches. The first is the Mahayana school, which believes that the goal of Buddhist practice is the

liberation of all people. The second, Hinayana (aka Theravada), focuses on individual liberation.³¹

Zen Buddhism is the most widely practiced form of the religion in Japan, today. Zen Buddhism emphasizes personal experience over scriptural study. The main objective of Zen is *satori*, or personal enlightenment which can be reached through practice. Two main schools of Zen Buddhism operate in Japan. Although both agree about the basic nature and quality of *satori*, they differ in how it is obtained. The first school is Soto Zen, which emphasizes sitting meditation. The second school, Rinzai Zen, places less emphasis on meditation and quiet contemplation as a path to enlightenment. The Rinzai approach is much more dynamic, and historically included shouting and yelling at disciples. It sometimes included hitting or kicking individuals. Those practices have largely been replaced by the trademark “*koan*.” The *koan* is a paradoxical statement such as “what is the sound of one hand clapping?” The idea is to force disciples to appreciate life beyond rational limits, and to create a greater awareness. Rinzai Zen was particularly popular among the military who saw it as a way of life, rather than simply a religious philosophy.^{32, 33, 34, 35}



Church in Japan
© waka / flickr.com

Christianity

Christianity has a small presence in Japan. It first reached Japan's shores in the 16th century, but it was banned through much of the Tokugawa period. Freedom of religion was introduced after the Meiji Restoration (1868), and Christians were allowed to practice openly in Japanese society. Today, Christians officially comprise between 1 and 2% of the population. Most are centered in the western region of the country.^{36, 37} Some surveys suggest that the number of Christians may be as high as 5%. Christianity seems to be more popular among the young population, particularly teenagers.^{38, 39}

Catholic missionaries are thought to have first arrived in Japan in 1549. They built churches and schools and began to convert the local population. By 1597, however, anti-Christian sentiment was on the rise. More than two dozen Christians were crucified by order of the Japanese ruler. In 1614, Tokugawa Ieyasu outlawed the religion and expelled all missionaries. Japanese Christians were persecuted and many were killed. For the next 250 years, Japan's surviving Christians continued to practice their religion in secret with no priests. Many more Christians were killed in the mid-1800s when they were discovered. Pressure by Europe and the United States to end the persecution resulted in the legalization of Christianity in 1873.^{40, 41}



Shabu-Shabu dinner
© Jedi RC

Cuisine

Japanese cuisine is one of the country's most famous cultural exports. Among all its celebrated dishes, sushi is king. First created centuries ago as a way of preserving fish, sushi dishes are prepared with rice, vinegar, and seafood.⁴² Tuna, seaweed, octopus, and tofu are common ingredients.⁴³ Sashimi is a similar dish that consists of thinly sliced seafood served without rice. Raw tuna, squid, mackerel, and octopus are common sashimi dishes. A Japanese spicy mustard, wasabi, may accompany sushi or sashimi, in addition to soy sauce.^{44, 45} Other traditional foods include tempura, a Portuguese-inspired dish of battered and fried seafood or vegetable; soba noodles made

of wheat flour; and soups.⁴⁶

Popular dishes include *Donburi*, a bowl of plain rice with ingredients such as stewed beef, chicken and eggs, or raw seafood.⁴⁷ *Kare raisu*, curried rice, is Japanese-style rice served with Japanese curry sauce. The dish is often served with potatoes carrots, onions, and some kind of meat. Unlike the familiar Indian curry sauces, Japanese curry is generally thicker and sweeter.⁴⁸

Hot-pot dishes (*nabe*) are popular noodle dishes. Typical ingredients are Japanese vegetables, such as leeks and cabbage, mushrooms with some meat or seafood. The dish has many regional variations. *Sukiyaki* is a *nabe* dish made with vegetables, thinly sliced meat, mushrooms, and noodles simmered in sweet soy sauce. *Chanko nabe*, also known as Sumo stew, is a dish favored by Sumo wrestlers. The dish often features daikon radishes, carrots, mushrooms, leeks, cabbage, and large amounts of protein in the form of pork, beef, or chicken all simmered in broth and served in one pot.^{49, 50, 51}

Tokyo has become a major player in the game of high-class restaurants and is now home to restaurants that rival the best in London, Paris, and New York. Many of Tokyo's highly rated restaurants serve Italian, French, Spanish, and other international cuisine.⁵² Tokyo also has many eating options beyond its top-tier restaurants, and boasts many more total restaurants than Paris and New York combined.⁵³



Woman wearing kimono
© ThisParticularGreg / flickr.com

Traditional Dress

Western-style clothing is the most popular fashion in Japan, but traditional Japanese clothing continues to thrive. The Japanese kimono, an ankle-length robe tied with a sash and usually with long sleeves and a v-neck, remains important not only as a cultural symbol, but also for use on special occasions. The tradition of the kimono (which literally means “clothing”) began with the Chinese *pào* robe and dates to before the Nara Period (710–794). Many varieties of kimono have developed over time. The kimono did not originate in Japan, but its unique Japanese decorative styles developed in the 17th and 18th centuries. Kimonos are popularly worn for cultural events such as tea ceremonies and art classes. They are also common for weddings (during which the bride and groom may each wear several different styles throughout the ceremony) as well as for funerals and coming-of-age ceremonies.^{54, 55, 56}

Women’s kimono come in various colors and designs. The more formal *furisode* kimono, worn by single women, is distinguished by its long baggy sleeves. The *tomosode*, with its characteristic normal sleeves, is worn by married women.

Men’s kimono are usually black. For ceremonial occasions, the men’s kimono includes a *hakama*

and a *haori*. The *hakama* resembles culottes worn over the kimono. The *haori* is a half-length coat commonly sporting the family crest on the front, just below the shoulder line. A sash, known as an *obi*, is tied around the waist. Women also wear an *obijime*, which is a band of cloth securing the *obi* in place. It can be tied in different ways to communicate messages such as congratulations or condolences.⁵⁷

Both outfits are worn with socks called *tabi*.⁵⁸ Traditional Japanese footwear is rarely worn, except with traditional clothing. The *zori*, reserved for formal occasions, are sandals made of rice straw or lacquered wood. *Geta* are raised wooden clogs worn with more informal clothing. They are a common part of the attire of today’s sumo wrestlers. *Waraji* are sandals made of straw rope. They were the choice of most common people in the past.⁵⁹



Woman in kimono
© idua_japan / flickr.com

Gender Issues

In conventional Japanese society, women managed the daily affairs of the home, while their husbands stood as the head of the family for all other purposes. The constitution of 1947 overturned long-held laws that had reinforced such gender roles.⁶⁰ Though progress has been made, many barriers remain for women. Much of Japanese society continues to value traditional gender roles. In a 2014, 40% of respondents aged 20-49, believed that married women should not work.⁶¹ Japan continues to rate poorly in terms of gender equality. Discrimination may be more subtle than in the past, but remains pervasive. In the World Economic Forum Gender Equality Index in 2013, Japan rated 105 out of 135 nations.^{62, 63}

Although more women appear to be embracing the idea of working, they are encountering a labor market that does not embrace their participation. Although 63% of women work in Japan, most hold temporary, part-time, or low status jobs.⁶⁴ In 2013, the World Economic Forum ranked Japan poorly for its preference for men in the workplace. Women continue to be paid less than men. In fact, men get higher wages if their wives don't work. There are very few women in decision-making or power positions, and a serious underrepresentation of women in political power

positions.^{65, 66, 67}

More Japanese women are choosing to remain single. Marriage is no longer the social or economic necessity it once was.^{68, 69} In Tokyo, 21% female university graduates aged 40-44 are not married and are likely to remain single. Half of Japanese women between the ages of 18-34 are unmarried and do not have a partner.^{70, 71} Many women report that it is too difficult to manage the home, take care of husbands and children and hold a full-time job. One consequence is that Japan has the most rapidly aging population in the world.^{72, 73, 74} For those who choose marriage, many are waiting longer. The average age for marriage among Japanese is about 30.⁷⁵



Childs Kabuki theatre
© nkenji / flickr.com

Arts

Japanese arts are important contributors to a unique Japanese cultural identity. Many arts are instantly recognizable as Japanese, and carry an aura of romanticism and elegance outside of Japan.

Two forms of traditional Japanese theater have developed through the centuries. *Noh* theater traces its roots more than 800 years. The stage setup is rather simplistic with a notable absence of props, set pieces, and a main curtain.^{76, 77, 78}

Most *Noh* performances center around a main performer called the *shite* and a secondary role known as the *waki*.⁷⁹ The visual appearance of the performers and their movements are essential in suggesting the theme of their drama. A musical chorus accompanies the performance, and masks and fans are especially indicative of the genre.^{80, 81}

Kabuki theater, in contrast to its older relative, tends to be more high-spirited than *Noh* theater. Impressive staging, extravagant costuming, music, dance, mime, and singing all combine in plays that range from tragedies to adventures. In Kabuki, males play all the roles; an actor may appear as a man and a female impersonator (*onnagata*) in

the same performance.^{82, 83, 84} Originally a product of the 17th century, Kabuki theater remains popular in Japan today.^{85, 86}

While many of Japan's arts remain concentrated in the island nation, one popular art form has had wide influence outside Japan. Japan's unique *manga* style of comic art, in which long stories are told through black and white pictures with little text, is widely popular there. The comic industry in Japan is bigger than any other in the world.^{87, 88}

Manga comics have made an impression in Western media through the popular growth of Japanese *anime* (animation).⁸⁹ Many other forms of artistic expression thrive in Japan. Landscape gardening, haiku poetry, flower arranging (*ikebana*), and *taiko* drum music.^{90, 91, 92, 93, 94}

Sports and Recreation

Baseball

Both foreign and native-born sports are popular in Japan. Baseball, known as *yakyu* in Japan, has become a popular national sport. Baseball's roots in the country extend to the 1870s, and its popularity has grown ever since.⁹⁵ By the 1950s, two competing leagues emerged that continue to play every year for the championship of the "Japan Series." High-school games are also popular, with championship games nationally televised.⁹⁶ Baseball parks in Japan are smaller than their American counterparts and are less standardized.

The game revolves less around power, than around finesse.⁹⁸ In 2006, a worldwide baseball championship, known as the World Baseball Classic, was inaugurated. The Japanese national team won the honor over teams laden with Major League Baseball professionals from the United States, Venezuela, and the Dominican Republic, who were playing for their native countries.⁹⁹ In 2009, Japan solidified its international credentials by winning the second World Baseball Classic.¹⁰⁰ A host of Japanese players, mostly pitchers, are played in the Major Leagues in the United States. One of the most successful and popular non-pitchers is Ichiro Suzuki. Ichiro, who plays the outfield, is one of the most prolific hitters in major league history.^{101, 102, 103}



Crowded street, Setagaya
© Charles Monaco



Sumo ring ceremony
© Gaijin Guide

Sumo Wrestling

Sumo wrestling is Japan's most popular native sport. Though the actual contest in the ring usually lasts only a few seconds, the buildup to the match is highly ritualistic and evokes aspects of Shinto spiritualism. Sumo wrestlers are expected to act according to strict traditions, even outside the ring. Athletes live in communal training complexes known as stables, where a stable master guides both training and free time.^{104, 105} Sumo wrestling's top competitors, especially signified by those with the rank of *yokozuna* (grand champion), occupy an elite niche in society as superstars. This image began to erode in the early 21st century, however, as allegations of fixed matches and illegal gambling became widespread.^{106, 107} By 2013, sumo had dropped out of the top ten favorite sports in Japan.¹⁰⁸ In 2014, the sport had once again increased in popularity, with matches selling out.¹⁰⁹ The sport is expanding beyond Japan's borders to Bulgaria, Georgia, Mongolia, United States and South America.^{110, 111}



Martial arts contest
© Edward Dalmulder

Martial Arts

Martial arts are common in Japan. Among the most well-known are judo and karate. Other lesser known forms include aikido, kendo, and kyudo. Aikido is a new martial arts form created at the beginning of the 20th century to promote physical and mental training. The sport does not involve a lot of kicking and punching, as is typical in other forms. The goal is to overpower an opponent, using the opponent's own energy to throw them aside without injury.^{112, 113} Kendo is fencing, Japanese-style. Once popular among the Samurai warriors, today's participants use bamboo swords. Kendo is both a mental and a physical sport. Many regard it as a way of life and an important mechanism for building one's character.^{114, 115, 116} Kyudo refers to Japanese archery. Today's version is virtually unchanged from the historical brand developed during the feudal era. Archers use a long bow (2.2 m/ 7.2 ft) to launch arrows at a target. Unlike western styles of archery, in addition to accuracy, there is a stronger emphasis on form.^{117, 118}



Shogi
© Francisco Javier Argel

Traditional Games

Board games such as *shogi* (similar to chess), *go*, and mahjong are common leisure activities.¹¹⁹ Origami, the art of paper-folding is a popular pastime. There are a number of popular games played by children. *Ohajiki* is a game popular among girls. Similar to the marbles, players take turns flicking coin-shaped pieces to try to hit other pieces.¹²⁰ *Menko* is a game popular among boys. In this game, players have cards with pictures of famous figures on one side. All players, except one, place the cards face down on the ground. The player whose turn it is, throws his *menko* to the ground trying to turn over another player's card. If successful, the player gains the others' cards.¹²¹

Endnotes

- 1 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: People and Society," in *The World Factbook*, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 2 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan: People," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23242/Fauna#toc23248>
- 3 Japan Guide, "Ainu," n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2244.html>
- 4 Heritage of Japan, "Who are the Ainu People?" n.d., <http://heritageofjapan.wordpress.com/just-what-was-so-amazing-about-jomon-japan/1-temp-from-africa-to-east-asia-the-tale-of-migration-and-origins-emerges-from-our-mitochondria-dna/origins-of-the-jomon-jomon-connections-with-the-continent-and-with-todays-japanese/who-are-the-ainu-people/>
- 5 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Ainu," n.d., <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/10567/Ainu>
- 6 Heritage of Japan, "Who are the Ainu People?" n.d., <http://heritageofjapan.wordpress.com/just-what-was-so-amazing-about-jomon-japan/1-temp-from-africa-to-east-asia-the-tale-of-migration-and-origins-emerges-from-our-mitochondria-dna/origins-of-the-jomon-jomon-connections-with-the-continent-and-with-todays-japanese/who-are-the-ainu-people/>
- 7 Heritage of Japan, "Who are the Ainu People?" n.d., <http://heritageofjapan.wordpress.com/just-what-was-so-amazing-about-jomon-japan/1-temp-from-africa-to-east-asia-the-tale-of-migration-and-origins-emerges-from-our-mitochondria-dna/origins-of-the-jomon-jomon-connections-with-the-continent-and-with-todays-japanese/who-are-the-ainu-people/>
- 8 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japanese Language," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/301146/Japanese-language>
- 9 World Directory of Minorities, "Koreans: Profile," n.d., <http://www.minorityrights.org/?lid=5369&tmpl=printpage>
- 10 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japanese Language," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/301146/Japanese-language>
- 11 Japanese Language, "Japanese Dialects," 2014, <http://www.japanese-language.org/japanese/dialects.asp>
- 12 Japanese Language, "Japanese Dialects," 2014, <http://www.japanese-language.org/japanese/dialects.asp>
- 13 Japanese Language, "Japanese Dialects," 2014, <http://www.japanese-language.org/japanese/dialects.asp>
- 14 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 15 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japanese Language," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/301146/Japanese-language>
- 16 Omniglot, "Japanese," n.d., <http://www.omniglot.com/writing/japanese.htm>
- 17 "Japan: Language," CultureGrams Online Edition, ProQuest 2014.
- 18 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: People and Society," in *The World Factbook*, 20 June, 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 19 Japan Guide, "Religion in Japan," n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e629.html>
- 20 Japan Guide, "Shinto," n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2056.html>
- 21 Jinja-Honcho: The Association of Shinto Shrines, "Shinto's Views," n.d., <http://www.jinjahoncho.or.jp/en/view/>
- 22 Japan: Religion," CultureGrams Online Edition, ProQuest 2014.
- 23 "Japan: Language," CultureGrams Online Edition, ProQuest 2014.
- 24 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Shinto," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/540856/Shinto>
- 25 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Shinto," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/540856/Shinto>
- 26 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Buddhism," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/83184/Buddhism>
- 27 Buddhnet and Japan Buddhist Federation, "Part 1: A Brief History of Buddhism in Japan," 2007, http://www.buddhanet.net/nippon/nippon_partI.html#1

- 28 Idiot's Guides, "What is Buddhism?: The Basic Principles Explained," n.d., <http://www.idiotsguides.com/static/quickguides/religionspirituality/what-is-buddhism-the-basic-principles-explained.html>
- 29 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Buddhism," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/83184/Buddhism>
- 30 Idiot's Guides, "What is Buddhism?: The Basic Principles Explained," n.d., <http://www.idiotsguides.com/static/quickguides/religionspirituality/what-is-buddhism-the-basic-principles-explained.html>
- 31 California Polytechnic State University, "Japanese Buddhism," n.d., <http://cla.calpoly.edu/~bmori/syll/Hum310japan/JBUDDHISM.html>
- 32 Buddhnet and Japan Buddhist Federation, "Part 1: A Brief History of Buddhism in Japan," 2007, http://www.buddhanet.net/nippon/nippon_partI.html#1
- 33 Cobras, "Soto vs. Rinzai: Japan's Major Schools of Zen Buddhism," 17 January 2013, <http://cobras.hubpages.com/hub/Soto-and-Rinzai-Japans-Major-Schools-of-Zen-Buddhism>
- 34 Zen-Buddhism, "Soto Zen," n.d., <http://zen-buddhism.net/two-schools-of-zen/soto-zen.html?headerbar=1>
- 35 Zen-Buddhism, "Rinzai Zen," n.d., <http://zen-buddhism.net/two-schools-of-zen/rinzai-zen.html?headerbar=1>
- 36 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: People and Society," in *The World Factbook*, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 37 Japan-Guide, "Christianity," n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2298.html>
- 38 Gallup Poll, "Christianity on Upswing in Japan," 18 March 2006, <http://www.wnd.com/2006/03/35319/>
- 39 Jennifer Van House Hutcheson, "After Fatalism, Japan Opens to Faith," *Mercatornet*, 18 October 2007, http://www.mercatornet.com/articles/view/after_fatalism_japan_opens_to_faith/
- 40 Simon Hull, "Christian Heritage of Japan," *Japan Times*, 4 August 2014, <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/opinion/2014/08/04/commentary/world-commentary/christian-heritage-japan/#VDXS0hYXPE4>
- 41 Miyazaki Kentaro, (Brian Burke-Gaffney trans.), "Hidden Christians in Contemporary Nagasaki," n.d., http://www.uwosh.edu/home_pages/faculty_staff/earns/miyazaki.html
- 42 Sushi FAQ, "Sushi and Sashimi," n.d., <http://www.sushifaq.com/sushi-sashimi-info/#sushi>
- 43 Japan Guide, "Sushi," n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2038.html>
- 44 Japan Guide, "Sashimi," n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2044.html>
- 45 Sushi FAQ, "Sushi and Sashimi," n.d., <http://www.sushifaq.com/sushi-sashimi-info/#sushi>
- 46 Japan Guide, "Japanese Food," n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e620.html>
- 47 Japan Guide, "Popular Dishes," n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2035.html>
- 48 Japan Guide, "Japanese Curry," n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2351.html>
- 49 Munchies, "Chanko-Nabe," n.d., <http://munchies.vice.com/recipes/chanko-nabe>
- 50 Japan Guide, "Popular Dishes," n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2035.html>
- 51 Tania Kadokura, "Sumo Stew," *Banzuke*, n.d., <http://www.banzuke.com/chanko-nabe/>
- 52 "Tokyo Food: Fishy Business, Gems of the Ocean," *Economist*, 23 May 2008, <http://www.economist.com/node/11394712>
- 53 Gwen Robinson, "Michelin Sprinkles Stars on Tokyo," *Financial Times*, 19 November 2007, <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/9952f580-96c4-11dc-b2da-0000779fd2ac.html#axzz1I678GAds>
- 54 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Kimono," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/317977/kimono>
- 55 Japan Zone, "Kimono," n.d., <http://www.japan-zone.com/culture/kimono.shtml>
- 56 Japan National Tourism Organization, "Traditional Costumes," n.d., <http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/indepth/cultural/experience/q.html>

- 57 Japan National Tourism Organization, “Traditional Costumes,” n.d., <http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/indepth/cultural/experience/q.html>
- 58 Japan National Tourism Organization, “Traditional Costumes,” n.d., <http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/indepth/cultural/experience/q.html>
- 59 Japan Zone, “Footwear,” n.d., <http://www.japan-zone.com/culture/footwear.shtml>
- 60 Christine Russell, “The American Woman Who Wrote Equal Rights into Japan’s Constitution,” *The Atlantic*, 5 January 2013, <http://www.theatlantic.com/sexes/archive/2013/01/the-american-woman-who-wrote-equal-rights-into-japans-constitution/266856/>
- 61 “40% Want Wives Kept Out of Work Force,” *Japan Times*, 13 July 2014, <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2014/07/13/national/40-of-japanese-want-wives-kept-out-of-workforce-survey-finds/#.VDarXyXPE4>
- 62 World Economic Forum, “Japan,” in *The Global Gender Gap Report 2013*, (report, 2013), 236, http://www3.weforum.org/docs/GGGR13/GGGR_CountryProfiles_2013.pdf
- 63 Daan Bauwens, “Japan Values Women Less—As it Needs them More,” *Inter Press Service*, 31 January 2013, <http://www.ipsnews.net/2013/01/japan-values-women-less-as-it-needs-them-more/>
- 64 “More Women Working for Less,” *Japan Times*, 7 December 2013, <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/opinion/2013/12/07/editorials/more-women-working-for-less/#.VDajGRYXPE4>
- 65 World Economic Forum, “Japan,” in *The Global Gender Gap Report 2013*, (report, 2013), 236, http://www3.weforum.org/docs/GGGR13/GGGR_CountryProfiles_2013.pdf
- 66 Eleanor Warnock, “It’s a Woman’s World in Japan’s Jobs Recovery,” *Wall Street Journal*, 29 July 2014, <http://blogs.wsj.com/economics/2014/07/29/its-a-womans-world-in-japans-jobs-recovery/>
- 67 Daan Bauwens, “Japan Values Women Less—As it Needs them More,” *Inter Press Service*, 31 January 2013, <http://www.ipsnews.net/2013/01/japan-values-women-less-as-it-needs-them-more/>
- 68 “Asia’s Lonely Hearts,” *Economist*, 20 August 2011, <http://www.economist.com/node/21526350>
- 69 “The Flight from Marriage,” *Economist*, 20 August 2011, <http://www.economist.com/node/21526329>
- 70 Roland Buerk, “Japan Singletons Hit Record High,” *BBC News Asia*, 28 November 2011, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-15915118>
- 71 “Asia’s Lonely Hearts,” *Economist*, 20 August 2011, <http://www.economist.com/node/21526350>
- 72 “Asia’s Lonely Hearts,” *Economist*, 20 August 2011, <http://www.economist.com/node/21526350>
- 73 Bloomberg, “Most Rapidly Aging: Countries,” n.d. <http://www.bloomberg.com/visual-data/best-and-worst/most-rapidly-aging-countries>
- 74 Olson and Farlow, “Japan is the Most Rapidly Aging Country in the World,” n.d., <http://olsonfarlow.com/editorial-images/tokyo-subway-japan-is-the-most-rapidly-aging-country-in-the-world>
- 75 “The Flight from Marriage,” *Economist*, 20 August 2011, <http://www.economist.com/node/21526329>
- 76 Japan Guide, “Noh Theater,” n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2091.html>
- 77 The Noh, “What is ‘Noh?’” 2014, <http://www.the-noh.com/en/world/what.html>
- 78 The Noh, “Stage,” 2014, <http://www.the-noh.com/en/world/stage.html>
- 79 Japan Guide, “Noh Theater,” n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2091.html>
- 80 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Noh Theater,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/416766/Noh-theatre>
- 81 The-Noh, “Masks,” n.d., <http://www.the-noh.com/en/world/mask.html>
- 82 Carleton College, “Visualizing Japanese Theatre: The Art of Sight, Sound, and Heart,” 7 January 2011, <http://apps.carleton.edu/events/japan/exhibition/>
- 83 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Kabuki Theater,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/309298/>

Kabuki

84 Japan Guide, "Kabuki," n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2090.html>

85 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Kabuki Theater," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/309298/Kabuki>

86 The British Museum, "Kabuki Theatre of Japan," n.d., http://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/online_tours/japan/kabuki_theatre_of_japan/kabuki_theatre_of_japan.aspx

87 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Comic Strip: Asia and the Manga," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/127589/comic-strip/278938/Asia-and-the-manga?anchor=ref1005726>

88 "The Professor to the Rescue: A Cartoon Strip Takes on the Repatriation of Treasures from the British Museum," *Economist*, 26 August 2010, <http://www.economist.com/node/16886045>

89 Martin Webb, "Manga By Any Other Name is...: Do Japan's World Conquering Cartoons Have to be Created by Japanese to be the Real Deal?" *Japan Times*, 28 May 2006, <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/life/2006/05/28/to-be-sorted/manga-by-any-other-name-is/#.VDayuxYXPE4>

90 San Jose State University, "Historical Japanese Gardens," 2001, <http://gallery.sjsu.edu/oldworld/asiagate/gardens/jpgardens.html>

91 Toby Musgrave, "Kyoto: Zen and the Art of Japanese Gardens," *Telegraph*, 18 September 2008, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/destinations/asia/japan/2980769/Kyoto-Zen-and-the-art-of-Japanese-gardens.html>

92 Escape into Life, "The Art of Haiku," n.d., <http://www.escapeintolife.com/essays/the-art-of-haiku/>

93 Taiko, "Overview and History," n.d., http://www.taiko.com/taiko_resource/history.html

94 Japan-Zone, "Ikebana," n.d., <http://www.japan-zone.com/culture/ikebana.shtml>

95 "For the Love of Yakyu," *New York Times*, 22 March 2006, <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/03/22/opinion/22wed4.html>

96 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan: Sports and Recreation," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23319/Sports-and-recreation>

97 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan Series," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300992/Japan-Series>

98 WBGU PBS, "Baseball in Japan," n.d., http://wbgu.org/community/documentary/BaseballJapan/BIJ_index.html

99 Jayson Stark, "World's Best? Japan's Proof is in the Result," *ESPN*, 21 March 2006, http://sports.espn.go.com/mlb/worldclassic2006/columns/story?columnist=stark_jayson&id=2377375

100 Barry M. Bloom, "Ichiro Lifts Japan to Classic Glory," *World Baseball Classic*, 24 March 2009, http://web.worldbaseballclassic.com/news/article.jsp?ymd=20090323&content_id=4056138&vkey=wbc&team=jpn

101 Baseball Reference, "Ichiro Suzuki," 2014, <http://www.baseball-reference.com/players/s/suzukic01.shtml?redir>

102 Japanese Ball Players, "Active Players," 2014, <http://www.japaneseballplayers.com/en/>

103 Baseball Reference, "61 Players Born in Japan," n.d., http://www.baseball-reference.com/bio/Japan_born.shtml

104 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Sumo," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/573457/sumo>

105 Japan Guide, "Sumo," n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2080.html>

106 Justin McCurry, "Sumo Wrestlers Knocked Down by Scandals," *Christian Science Monitor*, 25 February 2011, <http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Global-News/2011/0225/Sumo-wrestlers-knocked-down-by-scandals>

107 Justin McCurry, "Sumo Recruitment Hits 54-year Low in Japan," *Guardian*, 1 November 2012, <http://www.theguardian.com/sport/2012/nov/01/sumo-recruitment-low-japan>

108 Jack Gallagher, "The Fall of Sumo Wrestling," *Sports on Earth*, 17 September 2013, <http://www.sportsonearth.com/article/60775930/>

109 Katsudon, "Sumo has Regained Popularity!" What is Popular in Japan Right Now," 20 September 2014, <http://>

whatispopularinjapanrightnow.com/sumo-wrestling-has-regained-popularity/

110 Norimitsu Onishi, "Fears That the New State of Sumo Defies Tradition," New York Times, 3 August 2003, <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/08/03/world/fears-that-the-new-state-of-sumo-defies-tradition.html?ref=sumowrestling&pagewanted=1>

111 Georgia Asian Times, "Japan's Sumo has Following in Soccer-mad Brazil," 29 July 2012, <http://gasiantimes.com/lifestyle/japans-sumo-has-following-in-soccer-mad-brazil/>

112 Japan Guide, "Aikido," n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2088.html>

113 Akido FAQ, "Introduction to Aikido," 1 November 2011, <http://www.aikidofaq.com/introduction.html>

114 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, "Kendo in Japan," n.d., <http://web.mit.edu/21f.066/www/mhori/kendo.html>

115 Leif Almo, "Kendo Both Culture and Sport," Consul General of Japan in Malmo, December 2008, <http://kendo.com/>

116 Japan Guide, "Kendo," n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2085.html>

117 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, "Kyudo in Japan," n.d., <http://web.mit.edu/21f.066/www/mhori/kyudo.html>

118 Japan Guide, "Kyudo," n.d., <http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2086.html>

119 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan: Sports and Recreation," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan/23319/Sports-and-recreation>

120 Japan-org, "Traditional Japanese Games," Nipponia 26, 15 September 2003, <http://web-japan.org/nipponia/nipponia26/en/topic/>

121 Japan-org, "Traditional Japanese Games," Nipponia 26, 15 September 2003, <http://web-japan.org/nipponia/nipponia26/en/topic/>

Chapter 4 Assessment

1. Japan's population has relatively large populations of Chinese, Koreans, and Russians.

FALSE

Japan's population is 98.5% Japanese. Migrant populations from early centuries and indigenous people have largely been assimilated into the Japanese population.

2. The Japanese language varies little throughout the country.

FALSE

Many dialects of Japanese exist, aided largely by the geographic isolation and mountainous topography of the islands. Some dialects are completely unintelligible to others.

3. Many Japanese follow both Shinto and Buddhist beliefs.

TRUE

The two faiths are not seen as mutually exclusive. Of the population, 84% follow Shinto beliefs and 71% believe in Buddhism.

4. Japanese curry rice is a spicy dish similar to the Indian variety.

FALSE

Kare raisu, curried rice, is often served with potatoes carrots, onions, and some kind of meat. Unlike the familiar Indian curry sauces, Japanese curry is generally thicker and sweeter.

5. Kyudo is a Japanese martial art involving bamboo swords.

FALSE

Kyudo refers to Japanese archery. Today's version is virtually unchanged from the historical brand developed during the feudal era. Kendo is Japanese fencing conducted with bamboo swords.



Koban security
© hyperspace328 / flickr.com

Chapter 5 Security

Introduction

Japan was under American occupation after World War II, and emerged from the conflict a different nation. In accordance with a new constitution ratified in 1947, the once-politically powerful military was reduced to a small force dedicated only to defense. Accordingly, the United States agreed to a protective partnership with Japan to ensure the success of Japan's new defense structure and to gain an important foothold in the region.¹

The Yoshida doctrine provided the framework for Japan's foreign policy. This doctrine calls for Japan to maintain a low profile, rely on the U.S.-Japan alliance, maintain a defensive security policy, and focus on economic growth.^{2,3} Nevertheless, in recent years, the Japanese government has taken a more active role in international affairs. However, problems with key international powers, such as Russia and China, have hampered those efforts to some extent.⁴

After his election in 2012, Japanese Prime Minister, Shinzo Abe, embarked on an ambitious foreign policy agenda. In his first 19 months in office, Abe has visited at least 47 countries. His mission is to change the world's image of Japan and to develop strategic alliances.^{5,6} Abe is determined to bolster the Japanese economy. His efforts include liberalization of trade policies and opening new markets.^{7,8,9}

The current government views the national security risks to be serious enough to advocate a broader role for Japan in its own defense. Citing concerns that the current security arrangements with the United States are insufficient to guarantee national security, the constitution was amended in July 2014 to allow Japanese troops to fight abroad for the first time since World War II.^{10,11,12} The government is also building security relationships with Southeast Asian partners including Australia, The Philippines, and Vietnam.^{13,14}



Delivering supplies in Japan
© Dylan McCord

Relations with the U.S.

Relations between the two are strong.¹⁵ Japan's relations with the United States are rooted in the bilateral Security Treaty. Although tensions periodically emerge, the treaty has provided Japan with preferential trade agreements, along with an obligation to protect the nation.¹⁶

The United States provides protection to Japan in exchange for military bases. The U.S. military presence is especially important in the face of growing Chinese military modernization and continuing threats from North Korea.¹⁷ ¹⁸ The United States currently maintains 23 military bases on Japanese soil: 3 Air Force, 3 Army, 13 Marine, and 4 Naval bases.¹⁹ In 2013, approximately 50,000 active-duty U.S. military were stationed in Japan.²⁰ Following years of discussion, the U.S. agreed to move its military base at Okinawa to reduce tensions that have arisen because of the proximity of the base to the civilian population.^{21, 22, 23} The United States has also agreed to relocate approximately 9,000 marines from Okinawa to Guam.^{24, 25}

Although the relative importance of each economy to the other has diminished in recent years, bilateral ties remain important for both nations.²⁶ Approximately USD 400 billion in trade occurs annually between the two nations.²⁷ The balance in trade favors Japan. In 2013, the United States exported more than USD 65 billion worth of goods to Japan, while importing more than USD 138.5 billion.²⁸ Major exports from the United States to Japan include computers and components, gas turbines, office machinery parts, electrical machinery, optical and medical equipment, as well as agricultural products such as wheat and meat.²⁹ Japanese exports to the United States include automobiles, electronics, machinery, optical and medical instruments, and organic chemicals.³⁰

In addition to trade, both nations provide significant amounts of Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) to each other. In 2012, the United States FDI to Japan amounted to USD 134 billion. Japanese FDI to the United States was USD 308 billion. Many of the Japanese investments are related to Japanese auto manufacturers, which now have a greater share of the U.S. auto market than domestic manufacturers.³¹ The Japanese also hold USD 11.111 trillion of U.S. Treasury securities.³²



Chinese ships
© Times Asi

Relations with Neighboring Countries

Japan's export-oriented economy connects the country to its neighbors. China and South Korea are major trading partners and Russia is a source of natural resources. However, economic cooperation is not the only driving force behind regional relations. For many nations of the region, the memories of Japan's imperialistic tide before World War II and the war itself have not faded.

In addition, territorial disputes continue to bedevil Japan's bilateral relations with some of its neighbors.^{33, 34, 35}

China

The sea boundary between Japan and China is not mutually agreed upon and is the source of territorial disputes. The islands are located in major shipping lanes and have potential gas and oil reserves both countries seek.³⁶ In September of 2010, the Japanese Coast Guard arrested the crew of a Chinese fishing vessel in Japanese-administered water near the Senkaku Islands.^{37, 38} Japan unilaterally nationalized the islands in 2012, setting off another round of disputes.^{39, 40} In 2013, China declared an air defense identification zone around the islands, further inflaming tensions.⁴¹ This latest dispute inflamed nationalist sentiments in both countries, which have made it unlikely that any resolution will be reached in the short term.⁴² Both nations restarted talks on their maritime disputes in September 2014. No substantial results came out of the meetings, but both sides have agreed to meet again in early 2015.⁴³

In 2002, China became Japan's largest source for imports. By 2007, China had become Japan's chief trading partner, supplanting the United States. In 2009, China became the chief destination for Japan's exports.⁴⁴ For the next several years, however, trade between the two countries stagnated. Disputes over the Senkaku Islands has disrupted trade and strained bilateral economic relations. In 2014, bilateral trade showed signs of strengthening. In the first half of 2014, Japanese exports to China reached USD 78 billion, still far below 2012 levels.^{45, 46, 47} As both countries work to shore up their flagging economies, high level trade talks were held in 2014. Both countries hope that enhancing trade relations will help reduce tensions over the Senkaku Islands.^{48, 49, 50}

Japanese Prime Minister Abe has sought meetings with China's President Xi, but the Chinese have rejected Abe's overtures. Both parties took part in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Beijing in October 2014.⁵¹

North Korea

Relations between Japan and North Korea are also strained. In 2002, North Korea officially admitted that it had abducted Japanese citizens in the 1970s and 1980s. Although they apologized for their actions, the admission triggered a huge negative reaction in Japan. The backlash by family members and support groups in the country stalled Japan's normalization efforts and elevated the issue to a high-risk national security issue. The stalemate over progress on the issue remains an obstacle in bilateral relations.^{52, 53, 54} Another source of tension is Japan's occupation of the Korean Peninsula in the 20th century. North Korea hopes to receive an official apology and reparations from Japan for its imperial colonization.⁵⁵

Japan views North Korea as a security threat, in part because of the nation's development of nuclear weapons. North Korea's firing of its long-range missile in 2012 and its test of a nuclear device in 2013 raised tensions.⁵⁶ In spite of North Korea's provocations, Prime Minister Abe has taken a more moderate stance to the North Koreans. He is trying to resume talks and normalize relations. In 2013, Abe sent a senior advisor to the North Korean capital of Pyongyang. North Korea agreed to form a committee to investigate its kidnappings of Japanese citizens. This prompted the Japanese to lift economic sanctions and agree to allow humanitarian aid to Pyongyang. Japan also lifted a ban on visits by North Korean officials.^{57, 58} By late October 2014, the North Koreans had failed to deliver its promised report on abductees saying that the investigation is still in its early stages.⁵⁹



Sarychev Peak Eruption
© Gray Lensman QX!

Russia

Japan and Russia have long regarded each other with suspicion and enmity. Today, their relations are cordial, but tense.⁶⁰ Japan and Russia never signed a peace treaty formally ending World War II. This fact remains a major obstacle to the normalization of relations. The key issue hindering reconciliation is the contested territory of the Kuril Islands.^{61, 62} Russia conducted military exercises on the islands in August 2014, further escalating tensions and halting reconciliation progress.⁶³ Although originally settled by the Russians in the 17th and 18th centuries, the island

chain was seized by Japan in the latter half of the 19th century. In 1945, Russia occupied the islands and was awarded sovereignty of the chain in the Yalta agreements. Japan, however, continues to claim the four southernmost islands.^{64, 65}

Russia and Japan are important trading partners. Bilateral trade in 2013 reached USD 34.8 billion.⁶⁶ Japan imports crude oil and liquefied natural gas (LNG) from Russia. Since the Fukushima disaster, Japan's reliance on Russian LNG imports has increased dramatically.^{67, 68} In 2014, Russia proposed building a natural gas pipeline with Japan. The pipeline would be built between Sakhalin in Russia and Hokkaido in Japan.⁶⁹ Japan has also invested heavily in Russian oil and gas projects in Sakhalin.⁷⁰

Russia's main Japanese imports include cars, machines, rubber, electronic equipment, iron and steel products, and medical and technical equipment.⁷¹ Russia is considering banning Japanese auto imports.⁷² In addition to oil and gas, Russia's main exports to Japan include aluminum, gems and precious metals, and wood.⁷³

Prime Minister Abe has worked to improve relations with Russia. Abe is the first Japanese prime minister in 10 years to visit Russia. During his visits, Abe forged a strong personal relationship with Russian president, Vladimir Putin.⁷⁴ Relations have frayed since Russia's involvement in the Crimea. Japan, siding with its G-7 partners, imposed sanctions on Russia. Japan canceled a visit by its foreign minister to Russia, as well as a visit by Putin in October.^{75, 76} However, Putin and Abe did meet briefly during the October APEC meetings in China.⁷⁷



Yasukuni Shrine, Tokyo
© Miki Yoshihito

South Korea

Sino-South Korean relations have often been tense. Japan's occupation of the Korean Peninsula continues to color South Korean attitudes toward Japan.⁷⁸ Japan's persistent denial of the brutality of these events has been a source of frustration for South Koreans. Japanese history textbooks remain a sensitive issue for South Koreans, who believe textbooks often gloss over the harsh realities of life under the Japanese occupiers.^{79, 80, 81}

South Koreans view Japanese official visits to the Yasukuni Shrine as another symbol Japan is ignoring brutal aspects of its past. The Yasukuni Shrine, dedicated to Japan's wartime dead,

includes the bodies of war criminals. Japan's prime minister visited the shrine six times between 2001 and 2006, angering the South Koreans. Abe visited the shrine in 2013.^{82, 83, 84}

South Korea has territorial disputes with Japan. Chief among them is the question of sovereignty over a group of tiny uninhabited islands known as the Liancourt Rocks (called Takeshima in Japan and Tokto in South Korea). Fishing waters and hydrocarbon reserves make the rocks desirable to both nations.^{85, 86} South Korea also objects to the name "Sea of Japan," preferring "East Sea" for the body of water between the Korean Peninsula and Japan.^{87, 88}

In 2012, Seoul cancelled the signing of a military intelligence-sharing agreement with Tokyo after loud protests by South Korean citizens. In 2013 and 2014, relations soured even further.⁸⁹ Prime Minister Abe's recent denials of Japan's aggression against South Korea have angered South Korean President Park Geun Hye who has refused to meet with Abe.⁹⁰ In the second half of 2014, tensions between the two nations began to diminish. Both countries are working together on security and economic issues. Talks between the two defense ministers are scheduled for late October 2014, and will focus on regional security. Chief among the concerns will be Japan's constitutional provision allowing its forces to fight abroad and the continuing nuclear threat from North Korea.⁹¹ Tensions continue over the case of a Japanese journalist on trial in Seoul for allegedly defaming South Korean president, Park Geun Hye. Abe's declared intent to revisit the Kono statement has also inflamed the South Koreans.^{92, 93, 94}

Taiwan

From 1895 to 1945, Taiwan was a colony of Japan. Taiwan provided goods to Japan and was essentially a rice basket for the imperial power.⁹⁵ Japan maintained diplomatic relations with Chiang Kai-shek's government after he was driven off mainland China in 1949, settled in Taiwan, and declared that the Taiwanese government was the government of China. When Japan made a strategic choice in 1972 to recognize the Communist mainland Chinese government, it was forced to cut its diplomatic relationship with Taiwan by closing its embassy there and leaving behind an unofficial office.⁹⁶

Nevertheless, some have characterized Taiwan as the most Japan-friendly nation in the region.⁹⁷ Some members of Japan's Liberal Democratic Party want to create a law that would formalize the current unofficial ties between the two nations.⁹⁸ Taiwanese attitude towards and perception of Japan are overwhelmingly favorable. In a recent poll, 65% of Taiwanese feel "close" or "really close" to Japan.⁹⁹ In 2013, the two countries agreed to a compromise agreement, allowing Taiwanese fishing boats access to fishing waters near the disputed Senkaku Islands.¹⁰⁰

Japan is Taiwan's second largest trading partner.¹⁰¹ Taiwan is the fifth-biggest market for Japanese goods.^{102, 103} Total trade figures between the two countries totaled more than USD 144 billion in 2011. The trade balance favors Japan, which exports more than twice as much as it imports from Taiwan. Taiwan imports more goods from Japan than from any other country.¹⁰⁴ Tourism is also important. In 2012, approximately 1.5 million Taiwanese visited Japan, while more than 1.4 million Japanese traveled to Taiwan.^{105, 106}

There are other reasons why Japan and Taiwan enjoy friendly relations, despite the absence of diplomatic ties. Many older Taiwanese, who remain wary of China, found Japanese colonial rule preferable to martial law under the Chiang government. Many young Taiwanese appreciate Japan because of its cultural exports.^{107, 108} Taiwan and Japan are both close partners with the United States (although Taiwan is an unofficial ally).^{109,}

110



Police outside the Yasukuni Shrine
© semisara / flickr.com

Police Force

The Japanese police system is highly uniform. The 293,100 officers in the National Police Agency oversee the police in all 47 prefectures of the country by setting standards and policies.^{111, 112}

In addition to regular NPA officers, special units, such as riot police, are charged with protecting the palace and other public facilities against civil unrest. These units also escort the royal family and other visiting dignitaries.¹¹³

The Japanese police force emphasizes the importance of officers working among the community. Police officers may visit households

or businesses simply to inquire about crime or vandalism in the neighborhood. Officers also stand outside small police stations to respond to requests from passersby. In large cities, giving directions is often the major task for a police officer. (One of Tokyo's busiest police outposts receives up to 2,000 street-direction inquiries a day.)^{114, 115, 116} In smaller towns and villages, officers may devote more time to visits, and become acquainted with everyone in their jurisdiction. While friendliness and helpfulness are important values for the police, officers rotate to new assignments every few years to avoid vulnerability to corruption.¹¹⁷

The emphasis on community visibility and widespread presence in towns and cities is facilitated by Japan's police box system. Mini police stations, known as *koban*, dot Japan's major cities. A *koban* is the workplace for several officers. Some will perform administrative duties inside, one or two may stand outside ready to assist those nearby, and one or two will be out on patrol.^{118, 119} Although *koban* are often translated as "police boxes" in English, they differ from popular police boxes in the United Kingdom, which may be little more than police phone booths. Police boxes in Japan are a center for local police business and may be little more than a kiosk, or as big as a medium-sized building. Tokyo has roughly 1,200 *koban*.^{120, 121, 122} By comparison, *chuzaisho* are police boxes in rural areas. The *chuzaisho* serve small towns and villages and often provide space for just one officer. They also are a residence for the officer and the officer's family.^{123, 124}



*Japanese soldiers during training exercise
U.S. Army*

Military

Article 9 of Japan's Constitution, often referred to as the "Peace Clause," demilitarized Japan and prohibits the nation from engaging in war. Although Japan initially kept no fighting forces after World War II, the government interpreted the 1947 constitution to allow a defensive force in 1954. In 2014, a new law allowed the Japanese Self-Defense Forces (SDF) to fight abroad.^{125, 126}

Japan's SDF currently has 240,000 personnel.^{127, 128} The forces have 3 aircraft carriers, 40+ destroyers, 300 first-line fighters, and anti-ballistic missile capabilities.¹²⁹ The SDF is divided into three

branches, essentially an army, a navy, and an air force (known as the Ground SDF, Maritime SDF, and Air SDF, respectively). In 2007, the Defense Agency rose to the level of a ministry, the Ministry of Defense, thereby becoming a cabinet-level agency with a larger role in the government.^{130, 131, 132}

Despite Article 9, the role of the SDF has grown since the end of the 20th century. From its creation until the end of the Cold War, the primary purpose of the SDF was to protect Japan from invasion. The fall of the Soviet Union pushed Japan to reevaluate its defense posture and to consider other regional actors, including North Korea and China, as threats.¹³³ Japanese military forces assumed a role in international peacekeeping operations. Beginning in the 1990s, Japan assisted UN peacekeeping missions by providing medical and refugee aid, transportation, logistics, and limited policing.¹³⁴ Japan's involvement in the Iraq War further broadened the role of the SDF. The counterterrorism objective in Iraq was new to the SDF, which was deployed under a U.S. mission for the first time, rather than a UN mission.¹³⁵

Less than 1% of the GDP is devoted to military expenditures, ranking the country 103rd in the world for the percentage of GDP spent on the military.¹³⁶ As a comparison, the United States devotes more than 4% of GDP to the military.¹³⁷ The Japanese defense budget increased in 2013 for the first time in over a decade. Total military expenditures were nearly USD 52 billion in 2013.¹³⁸



Tohoku earthquake and tsunami damage
© Douglas Sprott

Issues Affecting Stability

Japan faces risk from natural disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, and tsunamis. The 2011 earthquake that hit the northern region was the most costly in history, amounting to more than USD 300 billion and the loss of life and property.¹³⁹ Tokyo, Osaka, and Nagoya are particularly at risk of natural disasters. There are 30 million people in the Tokyo-Yokohama metropolitan region, making it the most at-risk region in the world for earthquakes. Tokyo-Yokohama is also faces dangerous risk from storms and flooding. The Osaka-Kobe region ranks as the fourth most at-risk community. Tokyo and Nagoya are especially

vulnerable to tsunamis.¹⁴⁰

Japan is susceptible to freshwater shortages about once every decade. Such shortages can disrupt rice production, as well as industry and domestic consumption.^{141, 142}

Northeastern Honshu is especially affected by acidic rain that renders water useless for irrigation.¹⁴³ Japan also faces consequences from China's environmental practices because winds carry greenhouse gases and pollutants into Japan, worsening its acid rain problem.^{144, 145}

Japan will likely be hard-hit by the demands of its aging population. The country has a declining population growth rate. Some estimates put the population at less than 100 million by 2050. Japan has the fastest growing elderly population in the world. In 2011, nearly 25% of the population was over 65. Economic social security benefits and healthcare costs could slow economic growth as the government is forced to shift its fiscal priorities.^{146, 147} The costs associated with an aging population and fewer available workers could produce future economic troubles. A full 40% of the population is likely to be older than 65 by 2050.^{148, 149, 150, 151}



*Yongbyon nuclear facility
DoD image*

Outlook

Japan has little risk of major political instability.¹⁵² There are, however, some indicators that should be watched. Between 2006 and 2011, Japan had six different prime ministers. Although this may indicate political instability, it is not likely to be a real national security threat. Once in office, Japanese governments seem to fall out of favor with its citizens. As a result, voters tend to vote against the sitting government.¹⁵³ However, the 2012 election offered a chance for more government stability. The Liberal Democratic Party led by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has introduced reforms that have restarted the flagging economy. Abe is also busy reformulating foreign policy and expanding Japan's international role.^{154, 155, 156, 157} Like his predecessors, Abe has seen his favorability ratings fall during his term in office. Abe rode into office with a 70% approval rating, but by September 2014 those numbers had slipped to 47%.^{158, 159} The departure of two female ministers has also undermined Abe and threatens his current economic reforms.¹⁶⁰

In Tokyo's view, Japan is in an increasingly unstable security environment. Ongoing territorial disputes have the potential to escalate. Concerns over North Korea and its nuclear programs are a source of ongoing concern. China's perceived aggression in the East and South China Seas worry the Japanese.¹⁶¹ Although actual threats to Japan by other countries are unlikely, the Japanese are intent on militarizing. The Japanese efforts have alarmed some in the region who believe Japan's policies could upset the regional balance of power. Tokyo's actions could heighten tensions in the region and raise the probability of unintentional armed conflict.^{162, 163}

Endnotes

- 1 Global Security, "US Forces, Japan (USFJ)," 12 March 2013, <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/agency/dod/usfj.htm>
- 2 Monika Chansoria, "Relevance of the Yoshida Doctrine in Current U.S.-Japan Ties," Japan Today, 13 May 2014, <http://www.japantoday.com/category/opinions/view/relevance-of-the-yoshida-doctrine-in-current-u-s-japan-ties>
- 3 David M. Potter, "Evolution of Japan's Postwar Foreign Policy," (paper, n.d.), http://office.nanzan-u.ac.jp/cie/gaiyo/kiyo/pdf_09/kenkyu_03.pdf
- 4 Jane's Sentinel Security Assessment—China and Northeast Asia, "External Affairs, Japan," 19 September 2014.
- 5 Andy Sharp, "Abe Becomes Biggest Globetrotter in Japan-Is-Back Campaign," Bloomberg, 28 July 2014, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-07-28/abe-becomes-biggest-globetrotter-in-japan-is-back-campaign.html>
- 6 "Globetrotting Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe Seeks to Outdo Chinese Diplomacy," South China Morning Post, 29 July 2014, <http://www.scmp.com/news/asia/article/1562104/globetrotting-japanese-prime-minister-shinzo-abe-seeks-outdo-chinese>
- 7 "Slings and Arrows," Economist, 13 September 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/finance-and-economics/21617031-harmful-tax-hike-and-reticent-employers-take-their-toll-slings-and-arrows?zid=306&ah=1b164dbd43b0cb27ba0d4c3b12a5e227>
- 8 Clint Richards, "Security or Investment: Balancing Japan's Long-term Foreign Policy," The Diplomat, 27 August 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/08/security-or-investment-balancing-japans-long-term-foreign-policy/>
- 9 Institute for Security and Development Policy, "The Transformation of Japan's Foreign Policy," n.d., <http://www.isdp.eu/component/content/article/308-projects/598-the-transformation-of-japans-foreign-policy.html>
- 10 Bill Powell, "Japan Rethinks Its Pacifist Constitution, Alarming Its Neighbors," Newsweek, 9 July 2014, <http://www.newsweek.com/2014/07/18/japan-rethinks-its-pacifist-constitution-alarming-its-neighbors-257704.html>
- 11 David Letts and Hitoshi Nasu, "Japanese Constitutional Re-interpretation: Much Ado about Nothing?" Sydney Morning Herald, 4 July 2014, <http://www.smh.com.au/comment/japanese-constitutional-reinterpretation-much-ado-about-nothing-20140704-zsw7j.html>
- 12 Jonathan Pollack, "The Foreign Policy Essay: Where is Japan Headed?" Lawfare, 17 July 2014, <http://www.lawfareblog.com/2014/08/the-foreign-policy-essay-where-is-japan-headed/>
- 13 Clint Richards, "Security or Investment: Balancing Japan's Long-term Foreign Policy," The Diplomat, 27 August 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/08/security-or-investment-balancing-japans-long-term-foreign-policy/>
- 14 Agence France-Presse, "Australian Purchase of Submarines on Agenda of Ministerial Talks in Tokyo," South China Morning Post, 9 June 2014, <http://www.scmp.com/news/asia/article/1528118/australian-purchase-submarines-agenda-ministerial-talks-tokyo>
- 15 William H. Cooper, "U.S.-Japan Economic Relations: Significance, Prospects, and Policy Options," (paper, Congressional Research Service, 18 February 2014), 1, <http://fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL32649.pdf>
- 16 Jane's Sentinel Security Assessment—China and Northeast Asia, "External Affairs, Japan," 19 September 2014.
- 17 Masami Ito, "Top Marine Says Okinawa Bases are Vital," Japan Times Online, 18 February 2010, <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nn20100218a3.html>
- 18 Emma Chanlett-Avery et al., "Japan-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress," (paper, Congressional Research Service, 20 February 2014), 18-19, <http://mansfieldfdn.org/mfdn2011/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/USJ.Feb14.RL33436.pdf>
- 19 Military Bases, "Military Bases in Japan," n.d., <http://militarybases.com/overseas/japan/>
- 20 Associated Press, "US Reportedly Footing More of the Bill for Overseas Bases Despite Cuts to Military," 17 April 2013, <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2013/04/17/us-reportedly-footing-more-bill-for-overseas-bases-despite-cuts-to-military/>
- 21 Isabel Reynolds and Takashi Hirokawa, "Okinawa

- Approves U.S. Base Move after 17 Years of Talks,” Bloomberg, 27 December 2013, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-12-27/okinawa-governor-approves-site-for-new-u-s-base-asahi-reports.html>
- 22 Eric Talmadge, “Plan to Move Base Highlights U.S. Problem on Okinawa,” Marine Times, 20 February 2014, <http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/article/20140220/NEWS08/302200004/Plan-move-base-highlights-U-S-problem-Okinawa>
- 23 Emma Chanlett-Avery et al., “Japan-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress,” (paper, Congressional Research Service, 20 February 2014), 18-19, <http://mansfieldfdn.org/mfdn2011/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/USJ.Feb14.RL33436.pdf>
- 24 Patrick Cronin, “Transfer of U.S. Okinawa Troops a Doubly Good Move,” CNN, 1 May 2012, <http://www.cnn.com/2012/05/01/opinion/cronin-okinawa/>
- 25 Emma Chanlett-Avery et al., “Japan-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress,” (paper, Congressional Research Service, 20 February 2014), 19-20, <http://mansfieldfdn.org/mfdn2011/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/USJ.Feb14.RL33436.pdf>
- 26 William H. Cooper, “U.S.-Japan Economic Relations: Significance, Prospects, and Policy Options,” (paper, Congressional Research Service, 18 February 2014), 1, 4, <http://fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL32649.pdf>
- 27 David A Parker, “A New Type of US-Japan Trade Relationship,” The Diplomat, 21 October 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/10/a-new-type-of-us-japan-trade-relationship/>
- 28 William H. Cooper, “U.S.-Japan Economic Relations: Significance, Prospects, and Policy Options,” (paper, Congressional Research Service, 18 February 2014), 4, <http://fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL32649.pdf>
- 29 William H. Cooper, “U.S.-Japan Economic Relations: Significance, Prospects, and Policy Options,” (paper, Congressional Research Service, 18 February 2014), 4, <http://fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL32649.pdf>
- 30 Office of the United States Trade Representative, “Japan,” 29 April 2014, <http://www.ustr.gov/countries-regions/japan-korea-apec/japan>
- 31 William H. Cooper, “U.S.-Japan Economic Relations: Significance, Prospects, and Policy Options,” (paper, Congressional Research Service, 18 February 2014), 6-7, <http://fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL32649.pdf>
- 32 William H. Cooper, “U.S.-Japan Economic Relations: Significance, Prospects, and Policy Options,” (paper, Congressional Research Service, 18 February 2014), 8, <http://fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL32649.pdf>
- 33 Central Intelligence Agency, “Japan: Transnational Issues,” in The World Factbook, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 34 Emma Chanlett-Avery et al., “Japan-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress,” (paper, Congressional Research Service, 20 February 2014), 1-5, 11, <http://mansfieldfdn.org/mfdn2011/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/USJ.Feb14.RL33436.pdf>
- 35 Jane’s Sentinel Security Assessment—China and Northeast Asia, “External Affairs, Japan,” 19 September 2014.
- 36 BBC News, “How Uninhabited Islands Soured China-Japan Ties,” 24 April 2014, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-pacific-11341139>
- 37 Dean Cheng, “China-Japan Confrontation at Sea: Senkaku Islands Issue Won’t Go Away,” The Heritage Foundation, 24 September 2010, <http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/2010/09/china-japan-confrontation-at-sea-senkaku-islands-issue-wont-go-away>
- 38 Martin Fackler and Ian Johnson, “Arrest in disputed Seas Riles China and Japan,” New York Times, 19 September 2010, http://www.nytimes.com/2010/09/20/world/asia/20chinajapan.html?_r=0
- 39 Agence France-Presse, “Japan on High Alert Year after Senkaku Nationalization,” Japan Times, 11 September 2013, <https://www.google.com/search?q=japan+nationalized+senkakus&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8&aq=t&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&client=firefox-a&channel=sb>
- 40 Jane Perlez, “China Accuses Japan of Stealing after Purchase of Group of Disputed Islands,” New York Times, 11 September 2012, <http://www.nytimes.com>

com/2012/09/12/world/asia/china-accuses-japan-of-stealing-disputed-islands.html

41 BBC News, “How Uninhabited Islands Soured China-Japan Ties,” 24 April 2014, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-pacific-11341139>

42 BBC News, “How Uninhabited Islands Soured China-Japan Ties,” 24 April 2014, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-pacific-11341139>

43 Shannon Tiezzi, “The Latest Sign of a China-Japan Thaw,” *The Diplomat*, 25 September 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/09/the-latest-sign-of-a-china-japan-thaw/>

44 Hisane Masaki, “China Replaces U.S. as Japan’s Top Export Market,” *Journal of Commerce Online*, 27 January 2010, <http://www.joc.com/logistics-economy/china-replaces-us-japans-top-export-market>

45 Mitsuru Obe, “Japan-China Trade Set to Grow First Time in 3 Years,” *Wall Street Journal*, 19 August 2014, <http://online.wsj.com/articles/japan-china-trade-set-to-grow-first-time-in-3-years-1408448464>

46 Michael Schuman, “China and Japan May Not Like Each Other, but They Need Each Other,” *Time*, 1 December 2013, <http://world.time.com/2013/12/01/china-and-japan-may-not-like-each-other-but-they-need-each-other/>

47 Gordon G. Chang, “The Chinese and Japanese Economies are Delinking: Prelude to Conflict?” *Forbes* 16 February 2014, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/gordonchang/2014/02/16/the-chinese-and-japanese-economies-are-delinking-prelude-to-conflict/>

48 Mitsuru Obe, “Japan-China Trade Set to Grow First Time in 3 Years,” *Wall Street Journal*, 19 August 2014, <http://online.wsj.com/articles/japan-china-trade-set-to-grow-first-time-in-3-years-1408448464>

49 Michael Schuman, “China and Japan May Not Like Each Other, but They Need Each Other,” *Time*, 1 December 2013, <http://world.time.com/2013/12/01/china-and-japan-may-not-like-each-other-but-they-need-each-other/>

50 Clifford Coonan, “China and Japan Seek Closer Trade Links to Help Ease Political Tensions,” *Irish Times*, 10 June 2014,

<http://www.irishtimes.com/business/economy/china-and-japan-seek-closer-trade-links-to-help-ease-political-tensions-1.1825909>

51 “A Test of Political Mettle for Xi and Abe,” *South China Morning Post*, 15 October 2014, <http://www.scmp.com/comment/insight-opinion/article/1608452/test-political-mettle-xi-and-abe>

52 Sebastian Maslow, “An End to the ‘Lost Decade’ in Japan-North Korea Relations?” *The Diplomat*, 7 May 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/05/an-end-to-the-lost-decade-in-japan-north-korea-relations/>

53 Andrei Lankov, “Will North Korea Release Kidnapped Japanese Citizens?” *Al Jazeera Center for Studies*, 31 May 2014, <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2014/05/north-korea-japan-kidnappings-201453184812437343.html>

54 Samee Siddiqui, “Contemporary Japanese-North Korean Relations: A History,” *Al Jazeera*, 14 July 2014, <http://studies.aljazeera.net/en/reports/2014/07/201471463636626619.htm>

55 Brendan I. Koerner, “Why North Koreans Were Kidnappers,” *Slate*, 27 August 2003, <http://www.slate.com/id/2087627/>

56 Sebastian Maslow, “An End to the ‘Lost Decade’ in Japan-North Korea Relations?” *The Diplomat*, 7 May 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/05/an-end-to-the-lost-decade-in-japan-north-korea-relations/>

57 Reiji Yoshida, “Economic Sanctions Against North Korea Partially Lifted,” *Japan Times*, 4 July 2014, <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2014/07/04/national/politics-diplomacy/sanctions-loosened-against-north-korea/#.VEfUDxa0fe4>

58 Sebastian Maslow, “An End to the ‘Lost Decade’ in Japan-North Korea Relations?” *The Diplomat*, 7 May 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/05/an-end-to-the-lost-decade-in-japan-north-korea-relations/>

59 “Abduction Mission to North Korea May Leave Monday,” *Japan Times*, 21 October 2014, <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2014/10/21/national/abduction-mission-n-korea-may-leave-monday/#.VEfWqxa0fe4>

60 Jane’s Sentinel Security Assessment—China and Northeast Asia, “External Affairs, Japan,” 19 September 2014.

61 James Brooke, “Russia, Japan Trade Insults Over

- Islands,” Voice of America News, 11 February 2011, <http://www.voanews.com/english/news/europe/Talks-between-Russia-Japan-Fail-to-Resolve-Islands-Dispute-115903564.html>
- 62 Jane’s Sentinel Security Assessment—China and Northeast Asia, “External Affairs, Japan,” 19 September 2014.
- 63 Ankit Panda, “Kuril Islands Dispute: Back to Gridlock?” *The Diplomat*, 14 August 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/08/kuril-islands-dispute-back-to-gridlock/>
- 64 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Kuril Islands,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/325284/Kuril-Islands>
- 65 Stephen Bierman and Lyubov Pronina, “Russia, Japan Should Boost Trade Ties, Medvedev Says, (Update 1)” *Bloomberg*, 17 February 2009, <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&sid=a1D6s0YanQd8>
- 66 Isabel Reynolds and Maiko Takahashi, “Cold War Return Leaves Abe’s Russia Strategy in Tatters,” *Bloomberg*, 21 May 2014, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-05-21/abe-s-overtures-to-putin-in-jeopardy-as-russia-bonds-with-china.html>
- 67 Reuters, “Russia Proposes Building Natural Gas Pipeline to Japan-Nikkei,” 14 October 2014, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/15/russia-japan-pipeline-idUSL3N0SA0ZE20141015>
- 68 Mari Wata, “Energy Needs Put Japan in Difficult Position over Ukraine,” *Wall Street Journal*, 25 March 2014, <http://blogs.wsj.com/japanrealtime/2014/03/25/energy-needs-put-japan-in-difficult-position-over-ukraine/>
- 69 Reuters, “Russia Proposes Building Natural Gas Pipeline to Japan-Nikkei,” 14 October 2014, <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/15/russia-japan-pipeline-idUSL3N0SA0ZE20141015>
- 70 Jane’s Sentinel Security Assessment—China and Northeast Asia, “External Affairs, Japan,” 19 September 2014.
- 71 World’s Richest Countries, “Top 10 Japanese Exports to Russia,” n.d., http://www.worldsrichestcountries.com/top_japan_exports.html
- 72 Eugene Gerden, “Russia Weighing Ban on Car Imports from U.S., EU, Japan,” *Wards Auto*, 10 September 2014, wardsauto.com/politics/russia-weighing-ban-car-imports-us-eu-japan
- 73 World’s Richest Countries, “Top 10 Japanese Imports from Russia,” n.d., http://www.worldsrichestcountries.com/top_japan_imports.html
- 74 Isabel Reynolds and Maiko Takahashi, “Cold War Return Leaves Abe’s Russia Strategy in Tatters,” *Bloomberg*, 21 May 2014, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-05-21/abe-s-overtures-to-putin-in-jeopardy-as-russia-bonds-with-china.html>
- 75 Isabel Reynolds and Maiko Takahashi, “Cold War Return Leaves Abe’s Russia Strategy in Tatters,” *Bloomberg*, 21 May 2014, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-05-21/abe-s-overtures-to-putin-in-jeopardy-as-russia-bonds-with-china.html>
- 76 ITV, “Japan Cancels Visit of Vladimir Putin,” 22 October 2014, <http://1tv.ge/news-view/78683?lang=en>
- 77 Isabel Reynolds, “Abe, Putin Agree to Summit Even as Sanctions Hurt Ties,” *Bloomberg*, 7 October 2014, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-10-07/abe-putin-agree-to-summit-even-as-sanctions-hurt-ties.html>
- 78 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Korea: The End of Japanese Rule,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/693609/Korea/35024/The-end-of-Japanese-rule>
- 79 David Powers, “Japan and South Korea’s Troubled Relations,” *BBC News*, 9 April 2001, <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/1268800.stm>
- 80 Ted Osius, *The U.S.-Japan Security Alliance: Why It Matters and How to Strengthen It* (Westport, CT: Praeger, 2002), 2–3.
- 81 Emma Chanlett-Avery et al., “Japan-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress,” (paper, Congressional Research Service, 20 February 2014), 11, <http://mansfieldfdn.org/mfdn2011/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/USJ.Feb14.RL33436.pdf>
- 82 *BBC News*, “Japan’s Controversial Shrine,” 15 August 2006, <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/1330223.stm>
- 83 Ed Payne and Yoko Wakatsuki, “Japanese Prime Minister Abe Visits Controversial Yasukuni War Shrine,” *CNN*, 28 December 2013, <http://www.cnn.com/2013/12/25/world/asia/japan-pm-war-shrine/>

- 84 Emma Chanlett-Avery et al., “Japan-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress,” (paper, Congressional Research Service, 20 February 2014), 6, <http://mansfieldfdn.org/mfdn2011/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/USJ.Feb14.RL33436.pdf>
- 85 Global Security, “Liancourt Rocks/Takeshima/Dokdo/Tokdo,” 8 November 2012, <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/war/liancourt.htm>
- 86 Emma Chanlett-Avery et al., “Japan-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress,” (paper, Congressional Research Service, 20 February 2014), 11, <http://mansfieldfdn.org/mfdn2011/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/USJ.Feb14.RL33436.pdf>
- 87 Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, “Sea of Japan: The One and Only Name Familiar to the International Community,” February 2009, <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/maritime/japan/pamph0903.pdf>
- 88 Emma Chanlett-Avery et al., “Japan-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress,” (paper, Congressional Research Service, 20 February 2014), 8, <http://mansfieldfdn.org/mfdn2011/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/USJ.Feb14.RL33436.pdf>
- 89 Emma Chanlett-Avery et al., “Japan-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress,” (paper, Congressional Research Service, 20 February 2014), 11, <http://mansfieldfdn.org/mfdn2011/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/USJ.Feb14.RL33436.pdf>
- 90 Emma Chanlett-Avery et al., “Japan-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress,” (paper, Congressional Research Service, 20 February 2014), 11, <http://mansfieldfdn.org/mfdn2011/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/USJ.Feb14.RL33436.pdf>
- 91 Clint Richards, “Stumbling Blocks to Japan-South Korea Ties,” *The Diplomat*, 15 October 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/10/stumbling-blocks-to-japan-south-korea-ties/>
- 92 Clint Richards, “Stumbling Blocks to Japan-South Korea Ties,” *The Diplomat*, 15 October 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/10/stumbling-blocks-to-japan-south-korea-ties/>
- 93 Foster Klug, “Japanese Paper: Reporter Indicted in South Korea,” *Associated Press*, 8 October 2014, http://hosted2.ap.org/APDEFAULT/347875155d53465d95cec892aeb06419/Article_2014-10-08-AS--SKorea-Japan-Reporter%20Indicted/id-e246ab1363b34e99bcb228740c38bbd4
- 94 The Kono statement is a 1993 apology issued by then Chief Cabinet Secretary Kono for the forced recruitment of Korean women to serve as prostitutes (comfort women) for Japanese troops during World War II. For more information on this topic see Shannon Tiezzi, “Japanese Report on the Kono Statement Draws Ire from Seoul, Beijing,” *The Diplomat*, 24 June 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/06/japanese-report-on-the-kono-statement-draws-ire-from-seoul-beijing/>
- 95 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Taiwan: History,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/580902/Taiwan/30027/Cultural-life#toc214552>
- 96 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, “Japan,” 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 97 Michal Thim and Misato Masuoka, “The Odd Couple: Japan and Taiwan’s Unlikely Friendship,” *The Diplomat*, 15 May 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/05/the-odd-couple-japan-taiwans-unlikely-friendship/>
- 98 Shannon Tiezzi, “To Counter Beijing, Japan Moves Closer to Taiwan,” *The Diplomat*, 20 February 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/02/to-counter-beijing-japan-moves-closer-to-taiwan/>
- 99 Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, “Recent Japan-Taiwan Relations and the Taiwan Situation,” (report, July 2013), 1, http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/taiwan/pdfs/japan-taiwan_relations.pdf
- 100 Shannon Tiezzi, “To Counter Beijing, Japan Moves Closer to Taiwan,” *The Diplomat*, 20 February 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/02/to-counter-beijing-japan-moves-closer-to-taiwan/>
- 101 Michal Thim and Misato Masuoka, “The Odd Couple: Japan and Taiwan’s Unlikely Friendship,” *The Diplomat*, 15 May 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/05/the-odd-couple-japan-taiwans-unlikely-friendship/>
- 102 Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, “Recent Japan-Taiwan Relations and the Taiwan Situation,” (report, July 2013), 2, http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/taiwan/pdfs/japan-taiwan_relations.pdf
- 103 Michal Thim and Misato Masuoka, “The Odd Couple: Japan and Taiwan’s Unlikely Friendship,” *The Diplomat*, 15 May 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/05/the-odd-couple-japan-taiwans-unlikely-friendship/>

taiwans-unlikely-friendship/

104 Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, “Recent Japan-Taiwan Relations and the Taiwan Situation,” (report, July 2013), 2, http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/taiwan/pdfs/japan-taiwan_relations.pdf

105 Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, “Recent Japan-Taiwan Relations and the Taiwan Situation,” (report, July 2013), 1, http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/taiwan/pdfs/japan-taiwan_relations.pdf

106 Baatar, “Toward a New Japan-Taiwan Business Alliance (1),” The Tokyo Foundation, 8 July 2014, <http://www.tokyofoundation.org/en/articles/2014/japan-taiwan-business-alliance-1>

107 Jing Sun, “Japan-Taiwan Relations: Unofficial in Name Only,” *Asian Survey* 47, no. 5 (September/October 2007): 791–793.

108 Lorand C. Laskai, “History and the Possibility of Taiwan-Japan Relations,” *The Diplomat*, 12 September 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/09/history-and-the-possibility-of-taiwan-japan-relations/>

109 Jing Sun, “Japan-Taiwan Relations: Unofficial in Name Only,” *Asian Survey* 47, no. 5 (September/October 2007): 802.

110 Michal Thim and Misato Masuoka, “The Odd Couple: Japan and Taiwan’s Unlikely Friendship,” *The Diplomat*, 15 May 2014, <http://thediplomat.com/2014/05/the-odd-couple-japan-taiwans-unlikely-friendship/>

111 L. Craig Parker, Jr., *The Japanese Police System Today* (Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, Inc., 2001), 4–5.

112 Jane’s Sentinel Security Assessment—china and Northeast Asia, “Security and Foreign Forces, Japan,” 23 July 2014.

113 Jane’s Sentinel Security Assessment—China and Northeast Asia, “Security and Foreign Forces, Japan,” 23 July 2014.

114 L. Craig Parker, Jr., *The Japanese Police System Today* (Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, Inc., 2001), 49.

115 Edan Corkill, “Masters of All They Survey,” *Japan Times Online*, 28 October 2007, <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/fl20071028x1.html>

116 National Police Agency, “Japanese Community Police and Police Box System,” (paper, n.d.), 1, <https://www.npa.go.jp/english/seisaku1/JapaneseCommunityPolice.pdf>

117 L. Craig Parker, Jr., *The Japanese Police System Today* (Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, Inc., 2001), 95–96.

118 L. Craig Parker, Jr., *The Japanese Police System Today* (Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, Inc., 2001), 25.

119 Japan National Tourism Organization, “The Police Box (“Koban”) System,” n.d., <http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/arrange/essential/emergency/koban.html>

120 Edan Corkill, “Masters of All They Survey,” *Japan Times Online*, 28 October 2007, <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/fl20071028x1.html>

121 Japan National Tourism Organization, “The Police Box (“Koban”) System,” n.d., <http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/arrange/essential/emergency/koban.html>

122 National Police Agency, “Japanese Community Police and Police Box System,” (paper, n.d.), 1, 3, <https://www.npa.go.jp/english/seisaku1/JapaneseCommunityPolice.pdf>

123 L. Craig Parker, Jr., *The Japanese Police System Today* (Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, Inc., 2001), 21.

124 National Police Agency, “Japanese Community Police and Police Box System,” (paper, n.d.), 1, <https://www.npa.go.jp/english/seisaku1/JapaneseCommunityPolice.pdf>

125 Daniel M. Kliman, *Japan’s Security Strategy in the Post-9/11 World* (Westport, CT: Praeger, 2006), 27.

126 Michelle FlorCruz, “Japan Overturns Ban on Military Fighting Overseas, and the Chinese aren’t Happy,” *International Business Times*, 1 July 2014, <http://www.ibtimes.com/japan-overturns-ban-military-fighting-overseas-chinese-arent-happy-1616730>

127 Global Security, “Japan: Ministry of Defense,” 7 November 2011, <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/japan/jda.htm>

128 Kyle Mizokami, “Japan’s Military is Back—and Open for Business,” *The Week*, 29 May 2014, <http://theweek.com/article/index/262286/japans-military-is-back-mdash-and-open-for-business>

- 129 Kyle Mizokami, "Japan's Military is Back—and Open for Business," *The Week*, 29 May 2014, <http://theweek.com/article/index/262286/japans-military-is-back-mdash-and-open-for-business>
- 130 Global Security, "Japan: Defense Budget," 16 January 2014, <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/japan/budget.htm>
- 131 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: Military," in *The World Factbook*, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 132 Ministry of Defense, "About Ministry," n.d., <http://www.mod.go.jp/e/about/index.html>
- 133 Daniel M. Kliman, *Japan's Security Strategy in the Post-9/11 World* (Westport, CT: Praeger, 2006), 25.
- 134 Global Security, "Japan: Defense Budget," 16 January 2014, <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/japan/budget.htm>
- 135 Daniel M. Kliman, *Japan's Security Strategy in the Post-9/11 World* (Westport, CT: Praeger, 2006), 25–26.
- 136 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: Military," in *The World Factbook*, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 137 Central Intelligence Agency, "Country Comparison: Military Expenditures," in *The World Factbook*, 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/rankorder/2034rank.html>
- 138 Isabel Reynolds, "Japan Defense Budget to Increase for First Time in 11 Years," *Bloomberg*, 30 January 2013, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-01-29/japan-s-defense-spending-to-increase-for-first-time-in-11-years.html>
- 139 Swiss Reinsurance Company, "Mind the Risk: A Global Ranking of cities under Threat from Natural Disasters," (report, n.d.), 5, http://media.swissre.com/documents/Swiss_Re_Mind_the_risk.pdf
- 140 Swiss Reinsurance Company, "Mind the Risk: A Global Ranking of cities under Threat from Natural Disasters," (report, n.d.), 11-12, 14, http://media.swissre.com/documents/Swiss_Re_Mind_the_risk.pdf
- 141 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan: Drainage and Soils," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 142 Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, "Water Resources in Japan: Current State of Water Resources in Japan," 2008, http://www.mlit.go.jp/tochimizushigen/mizsei/water_resources/contents/current_state2.html
- 143 Encyclopædia Britannica Online, "Japan: Drainage and Soils," 2014, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/300531/Japan>
- 144 Ted Osius, *The U.S.-Japan Security Alliance: Why It Matters and How to Strengthen It* (Westport, CT: Praeger, 2002), 37.
- 145 Mark Schreiber, "No Clearing the Air over Neighbor's Pollution," *Japan Times*, 10 March 2013, <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2013/03/10/national/media-national/no-clearing-the-air-over-neighbors-pollution/#.VEgyBBa0fe4>
- 146 Derek Anderson, Dennis Botman, and Ben Hunt, "Is Japan's Population Aging Deflationary?" (working paper, International Monetary Fund, August 2014), 3-4, <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2014/wp14139.pdf>
- 147 Central Intelligence Agency, "Japan: People and Society," in *The World Factbook*, 20 June 2014, <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>
- 148 Derek Anderson, Dennis Botman, and Ben Hunt, "Is Japan's Population Aging Deflationary?" (working paper, International Monetary Fund, August 2014), 3-8, <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2014/wp14139.pdf>
- 149 Kato Hisakazu, "The Japanese Economy amid Aging and Declining Population and Fiscal Deficits," *Economy*, 9 (30 January 2012), <http://www.japanpolicyforum.jp/en/archives/economy/pt20120130124136.html>
- 150 Hugh Pym, "Japan: Debt, Demographics and Deflation," *BBC News*, 30 November 2010, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-11867257>
- 151 "The Old and the Older," *Economist*, 19 November 2010, http://www.economist.com/blogs/dailychart/2010/11/japans_population

- 152 Maplecroft, “Political Risk (Dynamic) Index 2014,” 2014, <http://maplecroft.com/portfolio/new-analysis/2013/12/12/instability-and-conflict-mena-and-east-africa-drive-global-rise-political-risk-maplecroft-bpolitical-risk-atlas-2014b/>
- 153 J.A.A. Stockwin, “Stability and Instability in Japanese Politics: Explaining Prime Ministerial Turnover,” Fondation France-Japon de l’EHESS, n.d, <http://ffj.ehess.fr/index/article/280/j-a-a-stockwin.html>
- 154 Chico Harlan, “Japan Election could Bring Political Stability,” Washington Post, 19 July 2013, http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/japan-election-could-bring-political-stability/2013/07/19/02bfd012-ef91-11e2-bb32-725c8351a69e_story.html
- 155 “Globetrotting Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe Seeks to Outdo Chinese Diplomacy,” South China Morning Post, 29 July 2014, <http://www.scmp.com/news/asia/article/1562104/globetrotting-japanese-prime-minister-shinzo-abe-seeks-outdo-chinese>
- 156 “Slings and Arrows,” Economist, 13 September 2014, <http://www.economist.com/news/finance-and-economics/21617031-harmful-tax-hike-and-reticent-employers-take-their-toll-slings-and-arrows?zid=306&ah=1b164dbd43b0cb27ba0d4c3b12a5e227>
- 157 Institute for Security and Development Policy, “The Transformation of Japan’s Foreign Policy,” n.d., <http://www.isdp.eu/component/content/article/308-projects/598-the-transformation-of-japans-foreign-policy.html>
- 158 Chico Harlan, “Japan Election Could Bring Political Stability,” Washington Post, 19 July 2013, http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/japan-election-could-bring-political-stability/2013/07/19/02bfd012-ef91-11e2-bb32-725c8351a69e_story.html
- 159 “Putting More Women in his Cabinet Boosts Abe’s Approval Rating,” Asahi Shimbun, 8 September 2014, http://ajw.asahi.com/article/behind_news/politics/AJ201409080047
- 160 Anna Fifield, “In Japan, Two Female Ministers Quit, Dealing a Blow to Abe and ‘Womenomics,’” Washington Post, 20 October 2014, http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/japans-trade-minister-resigns-amid-scandal-a-blow-to-prime-minister-abe/2014/10/19/8752722a-57f6-11e4-b812-38518ae74c67_story.html
- 161 Ministry of Defense, Government of Japan, “Defense of Japan 2014,” (annual white paper, 2014), 2-5, http://www.mod.go.jp/e/publ/w_paper/2014.html
- 162 “Betting on a Rearmed Japan,” Manila Times, 30 June 2014, <http://www.manilatimes.net/betting-on-a-rearmed-japan/108034/>
- 163 Jeffrey Bader, Kenneth Lieberthal, and Michael McDevitt, “Keeping the South China Sea in Perspective,” The Foreign Policy Brief, (paper, Brookings Institution, August 2014), 2-3, <http://www.brookings.edu/~media/research/files/papers/2014/08/south%20china%20sea%20perspective%20bader%20lieberthal%20mcdevitt/south%20china%20sea%20perspective%20bader%20lieberthal%20mcdevitt.pdf>

Chapter 5 Assessment

1. The Yoshida doctrine calls on Japan to maintain a defensive security policy.

TRUE

The Yoshida doctrine has provided the framework for Japan's foreign policy. This doctrine calls for Japan to maintain a low profile, rely on the U.S.-Japan alliance, maintain a defensive security policy, and focus on economic growth..

2. The trade balance between the United States and Japan favors the United States.

FALSE

The balance in trade favors Japan. In 2013, the United States exported more than USD 65 billion worth of goods to Japan while importing more than USD 138.5 billion.

3. Russia and Japan have suspended diplomatic relations because of the Kuril Islands dispute.

FALSE

Today, the relations are cordial, but tense. Russia and Japan are important trading partners. Bilateral trade in 2013 reached USD 34.8 billion.

4. Japanese history textbooks are often the spark that ignites anti-Japanese sentiment in South Korea.

TRUE

South Koreans and other regional neighbors are frustrated by what they perceive as Japan's denial of its dark imperial eras and World War II history.

5. Japan and Taiwan have strained relations due to Japan's historical colonization of Taiwan.

FALSE

Taiwan is the most Japan-friendly nation in the region. Taiwanese attitude towards and perception of Japan are overwhelmingly favorable. Both nations are Top 5 trading partners.

Final Assessment

1. The Tokugawa Shogunate is known for its many diplomatic envoys to other countries and its interest in international politics.

True or False?

2. The Meiji Restoration ended Japan's feudal system and began a process of modernization.

True or False?

3. Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor was preceded by 50 years of isolationist policies.

True or False?

4. Post-war land reform contributed significantly to Japan's economic growth and development.

True or False?

5. Japan's constitution prohibits its military forces from fighting outside of Japan.

True or False?

6. Japan's many rivers are known for being long and slow-flowing.

True or False?

7. Acid rain, especially in the north of Japan, damages infrastructure, wildlife, and water supplies.

True or False?

8. Tokyo is the nation's most ethnically diverse city.

True or False?

9. Country officials expect a massive earthquake off Honshu's southeast shore in the coming years.

True or False?

10. Nagoya was unaffected by allied bombing raids during the Second World War.
True or False?
11. Japan has one of largest economies in the world.
True or False?
12. One of the most significant threats to future economic growth is Japan's aging population.
True or False?
13. Poverty is not a major problem in Japan.
True or False?
14. Most tourists who visit Japan come from Asia.
True or False?
15. The Tokyo Stock exchange is among the world's smallest exchanges.
True or False?
16. Japanese society continues to be male-dominated society which values traditional roles for men and women.
True or False?
17. Kabuki theater tends to be more high-spirited than the simpler Noh theater.
True or False?
18. The kimono is a comparatively new fashion development that started during the Meiji restoration.
True or False?
19. Baseball first became popular in Japan during the American occupation following World War II.
True or False?
20. Christianity remains illegal in Japan.
True or False?

21. Japan's police force is marked by its use of many mini-stations throughout its cities and towns.

True or False?

22. Japan demilitarized after World War II and relies solely on the United States for its defense. It has no military force of its own.

True or False?

23. Bilateral relations between China and Japan have grown increasingly tense in recent years.

True or False?

24. The status of several Japanese citizens kidnapped by North Korea remains an obstacle to normalized relations.

True or False?

25. Japan's population is likely to continue to grow, putting severe strain on the already over-populated island nation.

True or False?

Further Reading

Bix, Herbert P. *Hirohito and the Making of Modern Japan*. New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2000.

Bremmer, Ian. “Is the China-Japan Relationship at its Worst?” Reuters, 11 February 2014. <http://blogs.reuters.com/ian-bremmer/2014/02/11/is-the-china-japan-relationship-at-its-worst/>

Chen, Yo-jung. “U.S.-Japan Relations: Not so Sweet Caroline.” *The Diplomat*, 2 April 2014. <http://thediplomat.com/2014/04/u-s-japan-relations-not-so-sweet-caroline/>

Chitaia, Nina. “Rebalancing Japan and South Korea.” *U.S. News*, 29 August 2014. <http://www.usnews.com/opinion/blogs/world-report/2014/08/29/how-the-us-can-better-relations-between-japan-and-south-korea>

“Creation of Tough and Resilient Japan Ground Self-Defense Force—Toward Dynamic Joint Defense Force.” YouTube Video, 14:52. Japan Self Defense Forces. Posted 25 March 2014. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yXpeXQTojjk>

Cook, Haruko Taya and Theodore F. Cook. *Japan at War: An Oral History*. London: Phoenix, 2000.

Flamm, Patrick. “Dokdo and South Korean National Identity.” *The Diplomat*, 26 August 2014. <http://thediplomat.com/2014/08/dokdo-and-south-korean-national-identity/>

Gordon, Andrew. *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2003.

“Japan: History of Japan’s Ancient and Modern Empire,” YouTube, BBC Documentary Video, 2:45:50. Directed by Lyn Goldfarb and Deborah Ann DeSnoo. Posted on 24 July 2014. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9GaLB_5e9JE

Kim, Patty and Chris Sheridan. *Abduction: The Megumi Yokota Story*. DVD. Directed by Patty Kim and Chris Sheridan. Pennsauken, NJ: Safari Media, 2006.

Lear, Paul J. "Promise and Potential Peril: Japan's Military Normalization." *The Diplomat*, 4 September 2014. <http://thediplomat.com/2014/09/promise-and-potential-peril-japans-military-normalization/>

Miller, J. Berkshire. "Northeast Asia Diplomacy: A Trilateral Way Forward?" *The Diplomat*, 6 October 2014. <http://thediplomat.com/2014/10/northeast-asia-diplomacy-a-trilateral-way-forward/>

Pesek, William. *Japanization: What the World Can Learn from Japan's Lost Decades*. Singapore: John Wiley and Sons, 2014.

"The Rape of Nanking." YouTube, History Channel Documentary Video, 44:27. Lou Reda, executive producer. Sammy Jackson, editor. Posted by Kim Angel. 23 April 2013. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQnBvs3LTZw>

Simms, Marc. "Opportunity and Risk in Japan's Military Normalisation," *Security and Defence* 3, no. 3 (10 July 2014). <http://www.hscentre.org/asia-and-pacific/opportunity-risk-japans-military-normalisation/>

Turnbull, Stephen. *Samurai: The World of the Warrior*. Oxford: Osprey, 2006.

Tiezzi, Shannon. "Japan and its Neighbors: Shinzo Abe's Northeast Asia Diplomacy." 17 October. <http://thediplomat.com/2014/10/japan-and-its-neighbors-shinzo-abes-northeast-asia-diplomacy/>

Traphagan, John W. "Japan's Demographic disaster." *The Diplomat*, 3 February 2013. <http://thediplomat.com/2013/02/japans-demographic-disaster/>