Bell Ringer(s)

• What were the Opium Wars?
The Climax of disputes over trade & diplomatic relations between China under the Qing dynasty & the British Empire. Mostly fought at sea.

• Who were they fought between?
China & Great Britain

• How did the first opium war end? (which treaty?)
Treaty of Nanking – between Queen Victoria & Daoguang Emperor

• What were the terms of the treaty?
Britain got control of Hong Kong and China had to open 4 “treaty ports”. The Qing government also had to pay reparations. The treaty was unequal because Britain had no obligations in return.
Imperialism: Meiji Japan and British India
Tokugawa Era: 1600 - 1868

- During this period, also known as the Edo Period, Japan experienced peace and relative prosperity.
- Edo (Tokyo) was Japan’s de facto capital even if Kyoto was still Japan’s official capital.
- The Tokugawa Shogunate, essentially a military dictatorship, pursued a policy of isolationism.
- Japan decided to avoid contact with foreigners and thereby protect itself against foreign interference in Japanese affairs.
- Japanese were not allowed to travel overseas and only one small port (Deshima) in Nagasaki harbor remained open to a limited number of foreign (mostly Dutch) traders.

Could Japan remain isolationist forever?

- In 1853 American Commodore Matthew Perry sailed into Edo (Tokyo) harbor with four steam-powered warships.
- He asked to meet with representatives of the Japanese government in order to negotiate a trading treaty between Japan and the U.S.
- The Japanese resisted at first but were unable to muster forces modern enough to challenge the U.S. “black ships.”
The Japanese and Americans negotiated the Treaty of Kanagawa in 1854. The Japanese agreed to open two ports where American ships could refuel with coal and take on other supplies. The Japanese also agreed to let the U.S. establish an embassy in Japan.

By 1860 other western powers were able to negotiate favorable treaties with Japan. Most of these treaties granted these western states some trading privileges as well as extraterritorial rights.

**Gunboat Diplomacy**

the pursuit of foreign policy objectives with the aid of conspicuous displays of naval power—implying or constituting a direct threat of warfare, should terms not be agreeable to the superior force.
Many Japanese felt humiliated by the Treaty of Kanagawa:

- This treaty was clearly unequal.
- Many Japanese felt that the shogun and his government had let them down.
- Increasingly there was a clamor for the government to respond more forcefully to the barbarian threat.
- Some, the so-called Sat-Cho reformers, demanded that the shogun relinquish his power and that the shogunate, perceived by many as a feudal relic, come to an end.
- Those in favor of change also believed that Japan needed to learn from other countries, particularly western nations, so as to modernize their country.

The Japanese sent a trade mission to Europe in 1862, with Shibata Sadataro as its leader; Yukichi Fukuzawa (implemented educational reforms in Japan based on Western models) accompanied the mission as a translator. Over the next 25 years, French, British, German and American political models were intensively studied by Japanese reformers.
Still unhappy with the shogun’s response to the foreigners, in 1867 the Japanese rallied around the new 15-year-old emperor, Mutsuhito.

-For centuries the Japanese emperor had largely been a figurehead ruler; real power had been wielded by the shogun.
-But because of the shogun’s perceived weakness, the young emperor Mutsuhito and his supporters will now be in a position to do away with the shogunate and rule the country instead.
-Leading samurai will rally around the emperor’s banner whereas others will cling to the Tokugawa shogunate and tradition.

Japan is now at an important turning point in its history. What were Japan’s options?
1) Cling to tradition OR 2) Accept Western ways/abandon tradition OR 3) A mixture of option one and two.

What do they decide to do?
Start of the Meiji Era

- Many Japanese hope that by modernizing their country, they could resist foreign domination
- The last shogun resigned in 1868 and Mutsuhito, as Japan’s sole ruler, chose Meiji, or “enlightened rule,” as the new name for his reign
- His divine status was emphasized and Shinto worship again became important
- The emperor Meiji encouraged his people to borrow and adopt western ways; what he and many other Japanese leaders wanted, was for Japan to learn from western nations and perhaps even beat them at their own game. (“If you can’t beat em, join em”)
- Germany was often held up as a role model
- In 1890, Japan adopted a conservative constitution that resembled Germany’s and developed a strong central government, with power in the hands of an oligarchy of elders (or genro); theoretically the emperor was in charge but in reality others (like Prince Ito Hirobumi) ruled in his name.
- Japan also adopted the American system of universal public education
Some of the changes were happening too quickly for some traditionalists. Some of these samurai had initially supported the emperor but now believed that some reforms went too far. Chief among these samurai was Saigo Takamori, a man renowned for his bravery and incorruptibility. By 1877, Saigo and others were in open rebellion against the emperor’s troops, esp. in the south of Japan; but the rebellion would fail and Saigo would die in the fighting.
Japan would industrialize greatly during the Meiji Era

- Japan’s effort to industrialize was immensely successful
- By the turn of the century, Japan had developed itself into one of the most modern economies in the world
- Railroads were built throughout the country
- Factories produced steel and many other modern goods; production of silk and tea was also significant
- Japan’s army and navy also expanded, in part with the assistance of foreign advisors
- By 1894 Japan was strong enough to get western powers to give up their extraterritorial rights

NOT everyone benefited during this time of economic prosperity.
Suffrage was limited and women did not have many rights. Dangerous working conditions, especially in mines. Zaibatsu (large conglomerates (multi-industry company) often formed with government backing) dominated the economy. Government is hardly democratic.
The Sino-Japanese War (1894-5)

-As Japan’s strength grew, it developed imperial ambitions much like those of the western nations that it sought to emulate.
-By 1894, its ambitions clashed with those of China, which had long had a tributary relationship with Korea.
-When the Korean king asked the Chinese to send in troops to put down a rebellion, Japan felt threatened and sent in its troops to fight the Chinese.
-Within a few months, Japan drove the Chinese out of Korea, took over land in Manchuria, and received Taiwan and the Pescadores Islands in a peace Treaty of Shimonoseki signed with China at the end of the war.
The Russo-Japanese War (1904-5)

- As a result of the Sino-Japanese War, Japan emerged as a major power in East Asia.
- China was perceived to be weak and unable to defend its interests, particularly in Manchuria.
- Like Japan, Russia wished to expand into Manchuria. It also wanted to gain power in Korea. Eventually Russia was drawn into a war with Japan over these lands.
- Many Westerners expected the Russians to triumph easily over the Japanese.

- In 1904 Japan launched a surprise attack against the Russian navy, which was anchored off of Manchuria.
- Soon Japanese forces were also fighting Russian troops on land.
In 1905 the Japanese demolished the Russian fleet at the battle of Tsushima.

As the battle demonstrated, the Japanese not only had more advanced cannons and ships than the Russians but also their naval leadership was better. Russia’s Pacific and Baltic fleets were significantly weakened and Japan eventually won on land as well.
Results of the Russo-Japanese War

- Japan and Russia signed a peace treaty, the Treaty of Portsmouth, in 1905. U.S. president Theodore Roosevelt helped broker this agreement.
- As a result of this treaty, Russian forces had to leave Manchuria and agree to stay out of Korea.
- Japan first established a protectorate in Korea, and then, in 1910, annexed that country.
- Korea became part of the Japanese empire as Japan brutally repressed Korean nationalists and imposed its culture on the Koreans.
- Japan’s victory over the Russians in the Russo-Japanese War called into question the myth of western superiority over non-western peoples.
Japanese culture also flourished during the Meiji Period

- Many important writers, such as Natsume Soseki, Mori Ogai, and Ichiyo Higuchi, wrote numerous short stories and novels increasingly focused on the individual.
- Others like Ryunosuke Akutagawa experimented with unreliable narrators and changing points-of-view in their writings.
- These writers were strongly influenced by their exposure to western literature and culture.
- Other thinkers such as Yukichi Fukuzawa (see his photo to the right) emphasized the value of western thought, political and philosophical as well as scientific; not all Japanese agreed.
The emperor’s death in 1912 represented the end of the Meiji Era.
British expand their economic interest in India during the 17\textsuperscript{th} and 18\textsuperscript{th} centuries

- After Aurangzeb’s death, the Mughal Empire is unable to prevent European traders from establishing trading centers in India.
- Many smaller Indian states emerge while the Mughal ruler becomes increasingly a figurehead.
- In 1757 Col. Robert Clive led East Indian Company troops to victory over the army of the Nawab of Bengal and his French allies. After this victory the British East India Company expanded dramatically in power.
The **British East India Company**, in cooperation with the Indian rulers (or maharajahs) of these small states, controls much of India and Pakistan

- In theory the British government supervised the British East India Company but in reality the company acted almost completely independently of the British Crown up until the mid-19th century
- Many company officials (see William Fullerton in the 1760s) wielded great power in India in addition to leading lives of luxury as virtual nabobs
- Eventually the British imposed rules on local manufacturing and forced Indians to buy British textiles rather than locally made goods
In reaction, some Indians discuss reforming their society

- One of the best-known early reformers is **Ram Mohun Roy** (1772-1833), a Hindu brahmin from Bengal.
- Sometimes called the “**Father of Modern India**,” Roy called for an end to such traditional religious and social practices as **sati** (ritual suicides performed by widows on their husbands’ funeral pyres), child marriages, and strict caste separation.
- In Roy’s view, these practices caused foreigners to view Indian culture and religion as backward.
- Roy called for change so as to modernize Indian society and overcome domination by foreigners like the British.
The area the British eventually controlled, directly or indirectly, was vast.
The Sepoy Rebellion (1857)

- The British in India were vastly outnumbered by the natives. To maintain their power they had to rely on **Indian soldiers, called Sepoys** (from the Turkish word *sipahi*, for cavalryman or soldier).

- **The Sepoys rebelled in 1857-1858.** Many Sepoys were upset about European rule, particularly with regard to religion. The East India Company had great difficulty putting down the rebellion.

- As a result of the rebellion, the British government took over control of India. In the **British Empire India soon became the “jewel in the crown.”** Queen Victoria was now the ruler of India.
Why did the Sepoy Rebellion Fail?

- The **Indians failed to unite** against the British.
- Hindus and Muslims **split**.
- Some Indian groups stayed loyal to the British (e.g., Sikhs, Hindus and even some maharajahs who had earlier made deals with the British).
Long-term effects of the Sepoy Mutiny

- The British government exercised greater control over India; this rule continued up until 1947.
- The **British became more racist towards the Indians**, treating them increasingly as inferiors.
- There was **greater distrust between the British and the Indians**.
- Muslims and Hindus grew to dislike each other more.
Some Indians oppose the British Raj

-It seems as if it is the British who benefit most from British rule, not the Indians.

-In the late 19th century the British consolidate their control over India and use it to protect their interests in other parts of Asia and Africa (Sikhs from the Punjab and Nepalese Gurkhas were used to put down insurrections in other parts of the British Empire, e.g.)
The British make use of India to make tea, cotton, opium and other cash crops.

- The Indians resent British control of their economy.
- India increasingly functions in the world economy as a British dependency.
- British help develop India further by means of roads, bridges and railroads.
- Indian elites are used to help govern India.
Indian nationalist movements continue

- Jawaharlal Nehru (1st Prime Minister of India), Mahatma Gandhi and others lead efforts to end British imperialism in India by joining the Indian National Congress Party (aka the INC, founded in 1885)
- In 1908 the all-India Muslim League is formed in opposition to British rule
- In 1920-1922 and in 1930-1934 Gandhi led an Indian civil disobedience movement (a campaign based on satyagraha, or non-violent direct action)

GOALS – RID INDIA OF FOREIGN (British) RULE