

# 文明開化

*bunmei-kaika*

“Civilization & Enlightenment”

富国強兵

*Fukoku-kyôhei*

“Rich Nation, Strong Army”

# 立身出世

*Risshin-shusse*

“Make something of yourself”

# Unresolved Issues 1868

- Provincial Autonomy
- *Sonno-joi*
- Learn from the West

Who or What is  
Sovereign?

# Political Unification

- 1869 Daimyo surrender their lands to the emperor
- 1871 Abolition of the domains
- From 280 private domains to 72 public prefectures
- Elimination of the status system

# National Sovereignty

- External
- Internal
- Who or what is sovereign?

# The Emperor

- Moved from Kyoto to Edo taking shogun's castle
- Edo renamed Tokyo (“Eastern Capital”)
- Constructed as a modern monarch





Meiji Emperor 1873

# Unresolved Issues

- ~~Provincial Autonomy~~
- *Sonno-joi*
- Learn from the West (learn what?)
- Keep the Ishin going
  - Saigo's Rebellion 1877
  - Jiyu-minken undo 1874-84 (Ueki Emori)
- Satcho faction (government)
- Threat from the West (*Gaikan*)

# Meiji Opposition Movements

氏族反乱—自由民権運動

*shizoku hanran—jiyuminken undo*

# *Seikanron* 1873

- Dajokan debate over extending *Ishin* to Korea
- Iwakura members return and quash effort
- Itagaki Taisuke, Saigo Takamori, and others leave government, return to home prefectures
- Eto Shinpei starts *Saga no ran* 1874
- Call for National Assembly by Itagaki 1874

# Satsuma Rebellion Southwest War (西南戦争)

- Saigo Takamori
- Established private academies
- Hero of the Boshin War
- Huge, costly, violent contest: Civil War





# Battle of Kagoshima



Saigo statue in Ueno Park

# Fukuzawa Yukichi

Dutch Studies

Practical Studies

*fudai* daimyo origin

to West 1861, 67

Founder Keio University

*bunmei-kaika*





# Fukuzawa Yukichi, *Outline of a Theory of Civilization* (1875)



# *Outline of a Theory of Civilization (1875)*

“...the stage in which neither dwellings nor supplies of food are stable. Men form communal groups as temporary convenience demands...At this stage man is still unable to be master of his own situation... This is called the stage of primitive man. It is still far from civilization.”

# *Outline* (1875)

“...there is the stage of civilization wherein daily necessities are not lacking, since agriculture has been started on a large scale. Men build houses, form communities, and created the outward semblance of a state. But within this facade there remain very many defects. Though literature flourishes, there are few who devote themselves to practical studies.... This is called the semideveloped stage. It is not yet civilization in the full sense.”

# *Outline* (1875)

“Thirdly, there is the stage in which men subsume the things of the universe within a general structure, but the structure does not bind them. Their spirits enjoy free play and do not adhere to old customs blindly. They act autonomously and do not have to depend upon the arbitrary favors of others. They cultivate their own virtue and refine their own knowledge... This is what is meant by modern civilization. It has been a leap far beyond the primitive or semideveloped stages.”

# Outline (1875)

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# *Risshin-shusse*

「立身出世」

“Make Something of Yourself”

# *Outline* (1875)

- Japan is plagued by a sickness called “foreign relations”
- Modern power is organized by nation-states
- Modern power is exercised through trade and war

*Fukoku-kyohei*

「富国強兵」

Rich Nation, Strong Army



# *Outline* (1875)

- See how the master signifier “Civilization” organizes what could be a completely jumbled and chaotic plan.
- What is the relationship of Civilization to Westernization?

# Kato Hiroyuki

- Studied under Sakuma Shozan
- Worked at Bansho shirabesho
- Previous natural rights theorist
- Broke with natural rights in 1881 —> Jinken shinsetsu
- President of Tokyo Imperial University (Todai)



# Ueki Emori

- Retell the same history as Kato and Fukuzawa
- What standpoint? What concept does he use to tell the story of the Ishin? Of history in general?
- Ask this question for Kato next time and in discussion.
- Beware telling the history of Japan using the concept of Japan itself.

