

## **JAPAN MODERNIZES**

**Discontent in Tokugawa Japan** - since 1600s, Japan maintained policy of isolationism: feudal society, no foreigners, Japanese couldn't travel overseas - military leaders (shoguns) were no longer strong leaders, daimyo (nobles) suffered economic hardship (no foreign trade), peasants paid high taxes, merchants at bottom of the social ladder, many samurai were no longer fighters but bureaucrats - discontent all over Japan

### **Opening Up Japan**

**External Pressure and Internal Revolt** - 1853 - U.S. Commodore Matthew Perry sailed into Tokyo Bay, demanded that Japan trade with the U.S.

- Treaty of Kanagawa - 1854 - shogun agreed to open 2 Japanese ports to U.S. ships, but not for trade (U.S. soon won trading rights, Europeans demanded the same)

**Meiji Restoration** - 1868-1912 - *meiji* - Japanese for "enlightened rule" - Japan's govt. reformers wanted to strengthen Japan - began to study western ways, learned how to compete with westerners - 1871 - reformers traveled overseas to learn about western govts., economies, tech., customs - experts from western nations came to Japan, samurai sent to study abroad

### **Reforms Under the Meiji**

**Govt.** - Japan adopted the German model: emperor would rule with a two-house legislature (or diet), voting rights were limited - set up depts. of finance, army, navy, education - used western tech. to strengthen their military

**Economic Reforms** - Japan's business class adopted western methods - govt. set up banking system, built RRs, improved ports, set up telegraph/postal system - govt. built factories, sold them to business families (like the Kawasaki family) who became even wealthier

- by the 1890s, Japan had become an industrial powerhouse

### **Growing Military Strength**

**Japan Gains Power** - 1894 - competition between Japan/China led to the Sino-Japanese War - Japan won, took control of Chinese island Taiwan, gained access to Chinese ports

- **Russo-Japanese War** - 1904-1905 - Russia and Japan fought over control of Manchuria (region in northern China rich with natural resources) - Japan won, gained control of Korea and parts of Manchuria - for first time in modern history, an Asian power had defeated a European nation in war

**Japan Rules Korea** - under Japanese control for 35 years - Japan colonized, modernized Korea, exploited the land and its people

### **SOUTHEAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

#### **Europeans Colonize Southeast Asia**

**Dutch** - 1600s - Dutch East India Company gained control of the Spice Islands, then the rest of Indonesia

**British** - early 1800s - clashed with rulers of Burma (modern-day Myanmar) 1886 - Burma a British colony - gained control of Malaya, Singapore

**French** - early 1800s - French missionaries won converts in area that is modern-day Vietnam - region had long been influenced by Confucian traditions - Vietnamese officials tried to suppress Christianity by killing converts and missionary priests - French eventually controlled all of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia (French Indochina)

**Siam Survives** - modern-day Thailand - Chulalongkorn - Siamese leader who modernized his army, reformed govt., hired western experts to train Thais in new tech., abolished slavery - Britain and France saw Siam as a buffer between their colonies, guaranteed Siam its independence in the early 1900s

### **Imperial Powers in the Pacific**

Samoa - late 1800s - island archipelago became a triple protectorate of U.S., Germany, and Britain

Hawaii - 1893 - Queen Liliuokalani was overthrown by American sugar growers - they asked U.S. to annex Hawaii, which it did in 1898

**U.S. and the Philippines** - Spain had ruled Philippines as a colony since the 1500s  
- 1898 - Spanish-American War - U.S. destroyed Spanish fleet in Philippines - Filipinos expected to gain independence - in treaty with Spain, U.S. took control of Philippines  
- 1899-1901 - Emilio Aguinaldo - Filipino rebel leader who fought against U.S. - Americans crushed the rebellion - U.S. modernized Philippines (education, health care, economic reform, dams, roads, RRs, ports) - U.S. promised self-rule in the future (independence came in 1946)