

Chapter 27: 19th-century Russia and Japan



Ms. Sheets
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AP World History

Russia Before Reform

- ⦿ Napoleon's failed 1812 invasion created a new concern for defense.
- ⦿ 1815 Congress of Vienna: Tsar Alexander I promotes "Holy Alliance."
 - Russia, Prussia and Austria would combine in defense of Christianity and to halt revolution
- ⦿ Many Russian intellectuals and elites were fascinated with Westernization.
- ⦿ 1825 Decembrist Uprising: revolt of Western-oriented and liberal army officers against conservative Tsar Nicholas I
 - Caused Nicholas I to implement regulations to prevent the spread of liberalism
 - Third Section created: network of spies and informers
- ⦿ 1849: Russia intervened to help Austria suppress the Hungarian nationalist revolution.
- ⦿ Russia continued to expand into Poland and towards the Ottoman Empire.



Russian Expansion: 1815-1914



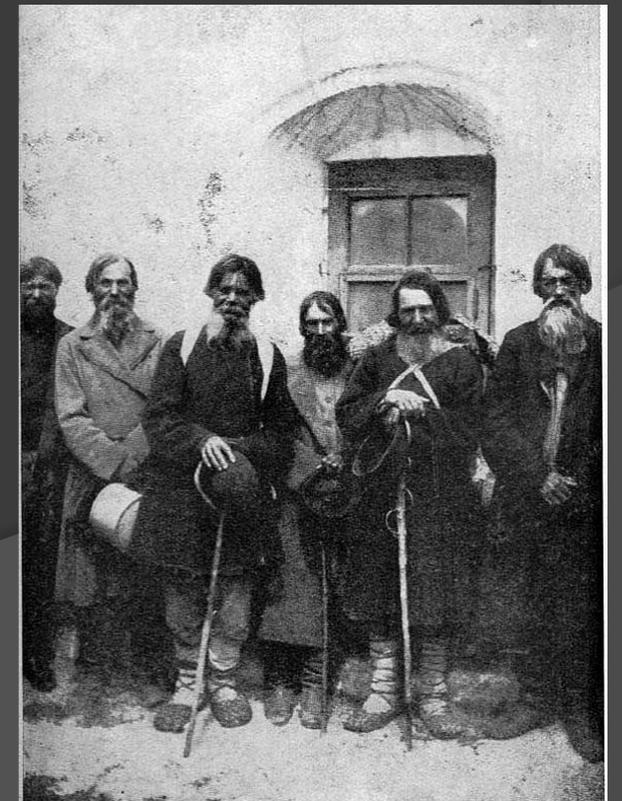
Crimean War (1854-1856)

- ◎ Russia fell behind the West in technology and trade; still profoundly agricultural.
 - Landlords raised output requirements for serfs.
- ◎ Crimean War was fought on the Black Sea after Russia provoked conflict with the Ottoman Empire regarding Holy Land.
 - Britain and France helped the Ottoman Empire.
 - Russia loses because of West's industrial advantages.
 - This convinced Tsar Alexander II to reform Russia in order to keep up with the West's military.



The Peasant Reform of 1861

- Huge population of unskilled, uneducated peasants (result of increased consumption of potato)
- 1861: Serfdom eradicated by Alexander II.
 - 23 million serfs made legally free of their landlords.
 - Ex-serfs allowed to own property; marry by choice; trade freely; sue in courts; vote in local elections
 - Redemption Payments: serfs had to buy land assigned to them from previous owners' estates
 - Zemstvoes (local governments): regulated roads, schools and policies for peasants.
- Emancipation of serfs aided in changing Russia from a predominantly agricultural to a slightly more industrialized society with a labor force.
- Did not lead to increased agricultural productivity → peasants were highly unskilled and used outdated agricultural methods.



Quick Review Question

1. What was the Decembrist Uprising? What did the rebels desire?
2. Describe the Emancipation of Serfs in 1861.

Beginnings of Industrialization

- Government support for industry
- Russians export grain to Western Europe in exchange for machinery.
- 1870s-1880s: Trans-Siberian railroad connected European Russia with the Pacific.
- 1892-1903: Sergei Witte, Russian minister of finance, supervised economic industrialization in Russia.
 - Late 19th: Factories sprung up in Russian cities (Moscow and St. Petersburg).
 - Improved banking
 - High tariffs to protect Russian industries
 - Steel production booms.
- Negatives of early industrialization:
 - Labor force is untrained
 - Agricultural methods still backwards
 - No middle class has developed
- State-sponsored education: Literacy increased.



Increasing Tensions and the Assassination of Alexander II

- Social protest increases.
 - Pogroms (mass persecutions) of Jews → Jewish emigrants.
 - Frustrated peasants
 - Business and professional people, as well as intelligentsia became active in demanding liberal reforms.
 - Many Russian radicals were anarchists (abolish all formal governments).
- Late 1870s: Alexander II began reversing his interest in reform.
- Alexander II was assassinated in 1881 by a member of the People's Will (left-wing terrorist group); Alexander III and Nicholas II opposed political reform.



Russo-Japanese War (1904)

- Russia continued territorial expansion into Middle East and Manchuria.
- Spurred on by desire for traditional Russian expansionism and need for a distraction from internal unrest
- 1904: Russo-Japanese War
 - Japan became concerned about Russian power extending into Korea.
 - Japan won unexpectedly and moved into Korea.
 - Russian feel too slow; military too cumbersome



Marxism-Leninism

- ◎ Vladimir Lenin introduced alterations to Marxist theory to make it “work” for Russia.
 1. Marxism: urban workers (proletariat) will unite against bourgeoisie . . . The problem is that Russia has not industrialized enough to have a proletariat. Instead, they have millions of peasants; the industrial proletariat was a small minority of Russia. Yet, Lenin claims Russia can have a proletarian revolution without a proletariat.
 2. Marx also claimed the proletariat must self-emancipate; Lenin claims revolutionaries can seize power *for* the working class
- ◎ Lenin’s ideas introduced a group of Russian Marxists called the Bolsheviks (“majority”).



1905 Russian Revolution

- As cities grew, there was more working class unrest.
- Emancipation of serfs had not led to economic success in agriculture.
- Defeat in Russo-Japanese War unleashed massive protests.
- Mass political unrest, terrorism, worker strikes, peasant unrest, and military mutinies.
- Bloody Sunday: Massacre of peaceful protests by tsar's armies
- Reforms:
 - Tsarist regime creates *Duma* (national parliament) to appeal to liberal demands.
 - Stolypin Reforms (1906-1917) introduced
 - Peasants were granted greater freedom from redemption payments and could buy and sell land more freely.
 - Reforms failed

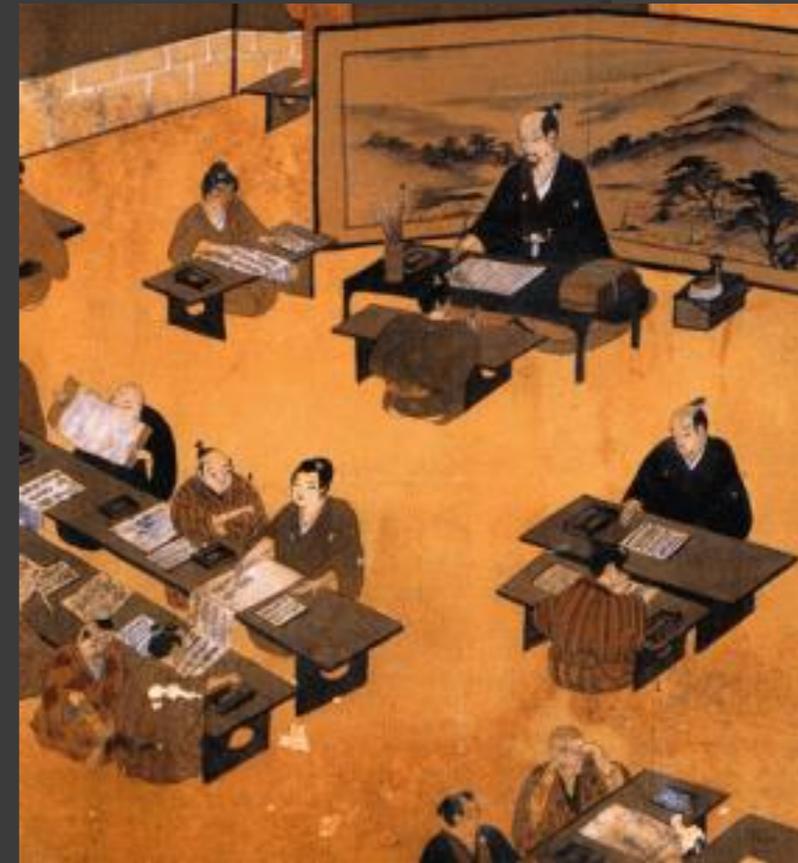


Quick Review Question

1. Describe Russian industrialization.
2. What are Lenin's two "alterations" to Marxism?

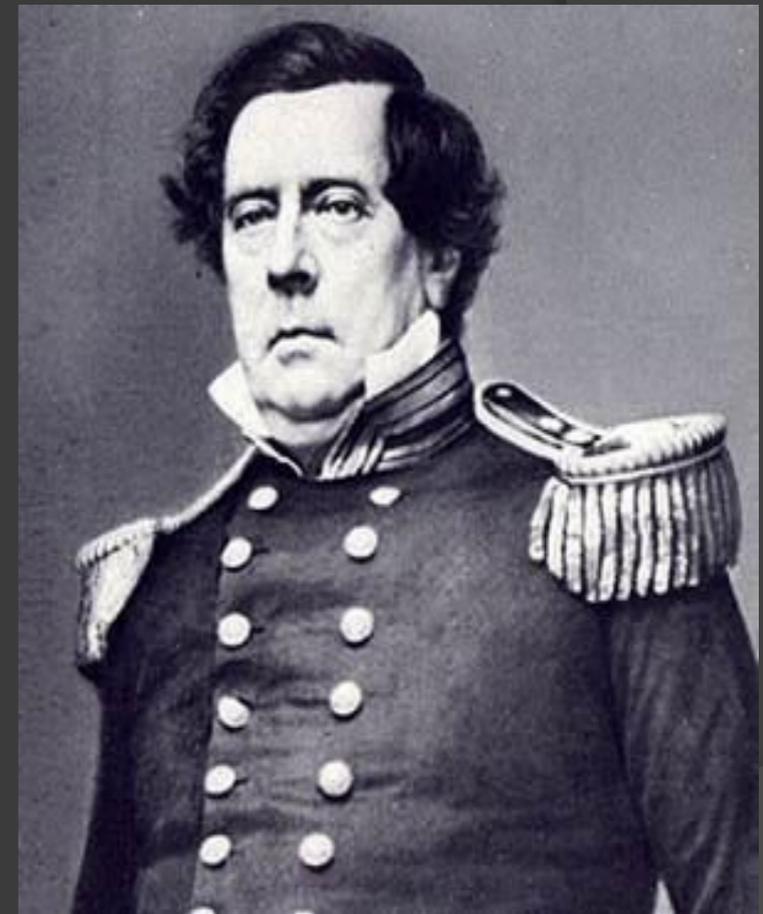
Decline of Tokugawa Shogunate (1603-1868)

- ⦿ During the first half of the 19th century, the Shogunate continued to combine a central bureaucracy with semi-feudal alliances.
- ⦿ The Shogunate ran into many financial problems.
 - ⦿ Taxes were based on agriculture and land, despite growing commercialization of Japan.
- ⦿ Japan gradually became more secular.
 - ⦿ Schools and academies expanded; “Dutch Studies” programs; Confucianism still taught.
- ⦿ Commerce and manufacturing expanded slowly, but in general the Shogunate was technologically behind the West and Japan had not industrialized.



Challenges to Japanese Isolation

- 1854: American Commodore Matthew Perry arrived in Edo Bay and threatened bombardment if Americans were not allowed to trade there.
 - 1856: Japan opened two ports for Americans; British, Dutch, and Russians gained similar ports.
 - Shogunate bureaucrats saw no alternative but to open Japan to the outside world, given West's power.
- 1868-69: Boshin War
 - Imperial samurai vs. Shogunate troops
 - Samurai interested in Westernization
 - Shogunate want to cling to tradition
 - Abdication of Tokugawa shogunate to Emperor Meiji
 - Imperial rule left supreme → Meiji Restoration



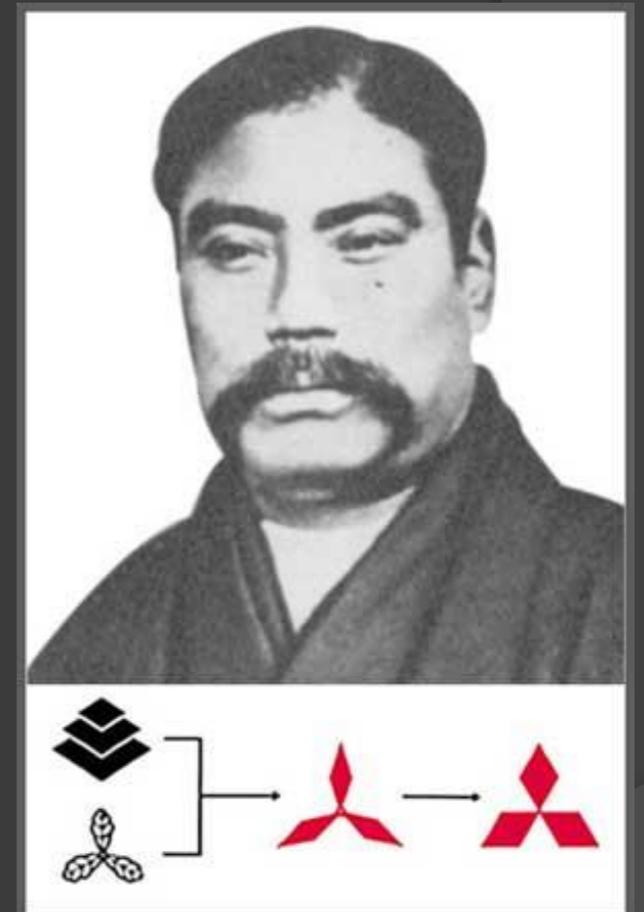
The Meiji Restoration (1868-1912)

- 1868: Emperor “Meiji” restored as imperial ruler.
- 1871: The Meiji government ended feudalism by replacing *daimyos* with prefects; centralizes government.
- Samurai officers were sent to Western Europe and the U.S. to study Western economic, politics, and technology.
- Conscription Law of 1873: every able-bodied male Japanese citizen, regardless of class, must serve 5 years (disliked by peasants and samurai)
 - Samurai resentful of Western-style military
 - Effectively abolished the samurai class
 - 1877: Satsuma Rebellion (samurai uprising occurred)
- 1880s: Japan created a bicameral parliament (Diet)
 - Bureaucracy was reorganized; civil service exam
 - Parliament advised government but did not control it.



Japan's Industrial Revolution

- ◎ Meiji Government funded rapid industrialization.
 - Goal: prepare for any Western invasion
 - Meiji established Ministry of the Interior (supervised economic policies)
 - Strong government support enabled successful industrialization.
 - National banks established.
 - Provided technological training
 - Japanese army and navy westernized.
 - Factories, railroads, steamships.
- ◎ Problems:
 - Japan still remained a resource-poor country (iron and coal)
 - Remains dependent on West for these goods
 - High taxes to promote industry.



Meiji Colonial Expansion

- 1894-1895: Sino-Japanese War
 - Japan needs new raw materials
 - Japan defeats China for influence and territory in Korea.
- 1902: Allies with Britain
- 1904: Russo-Japanese War
 - Japan beat Russia for territory in Manchuria.
- 1910: Japan annexed Korea



The Strain of Modernization on Meiji Japan

- Meiji government introduced public primary education: science and Japanese values taught.
- Population boom: improvements in medical care and nutrition.
- Disputes between generations
 - Old cling to traditions, young interested in West
 - Japan adopted many Western aspects
 - Japanese family life remained traditional.
- National loyalty and devotion to the Meiji emperor encouraged.
 - Political parties in Diet clashed with the emperor's ministers over policy.
- The way Japan industrialized, without real revolution, was unlike most nations in the world.

Quick Review Question

1. Who was Matthew Perry? What does he do?
2. Describe the Boshin War; what greater problem in Japan does this war reveal?
3. Describe the Meiji Restoration; what are some changes made during this period?