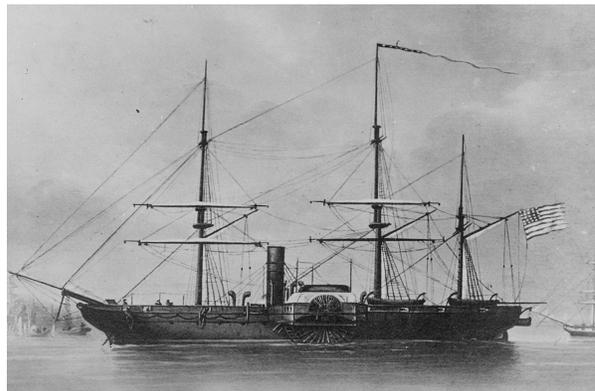


J. Involuntary Globalization (1853-4)

1. How did the isolated island nation of the Yamato dynasty become the imperial culture of Japan in World War II?
2. The answer lies in the fact that Japan was forced to open itself to the world around the same time China was being forced to do so.
3. In Japan's case, it was the arrival of an **American expedition under the command of Commodore Perry in 1853** that broke Japan's isolation.
4. Perry was charged by the American president of that time, Millard Fillmore, with establishing diplomatic contact with Japan and securing the right to use Japanese ports to resupply American ships who were trading primarily with China.
5. American ships need coal for fuel, as well as food and water after crossing the Pacific Ocean.
6. Americans were sometimes shipwrecked while navigating around Japan as well, and the United States wished to insure the humane treatment of its sailors in those circumstances. (Normally, the laws of Japan would lead to the execution of foreigners without any formal or legal process.)
7. The Japanese did not want this form of contact, but Perry's appearance in his infamous "black ships" with powerful steam engines and advanced weapons were a clear indication that American would not take "no" for an answer. (This aggressive posture is known as "gunboat diplomacy," in which powerful countries like those of Europe and America often behaved in an overbearing manner to obtain concessions or impose certain rules of international trade and law on others.)
8. Perry sailed to China, and returned the next year with an even larger fleet. The Japanese could not see a way to deny the American demands. They agreed to the **Treaty of Kanagawa of 1854**, which allowed American ships to use two ports that had never been opened to foreigners before.



A Japanese depiction (left) of the monstrous "black ships" of Commodore Perry, belching black smoke, shows how the Japanese felt about the kinds of powerful new ships (like the USS Powhatan, right) that were used in "gunboat diplomacy" to force Japan into having more contact with the world.

K. Reactionary Imperialism

1. Once Japan was forced to open itself to the world, it responded by a rapid process of industrialization and militarization.
2. Seeking to copy the world's great powers in order to achieve the same degree of control over the world for itself, Japan also began to build an empire.
3. It used its newly powerful navy in "gunboat diplomacy" with Korea in the same way that the United States had used its power on Japan. A Japanese expedition to the coast of Korea was fired upon by Korea, which practiced its own form of "sakoku," and the Japanese used this violence as an excuse to show off the power of their new military and force Korea to accept a "treaty of friendship" with Japan in **1876**.
4. From that point on, Japanese officials would have a permanent place in Korea's government and influence its monarchy's policies. This presence clashed with the long-lived role of Chinese diplomats in Korea, who had been there for centuries guiding Korea as representatives of the "Middle Kingdom."
5. The ambition of Japan and the resentment of Japanese influence in Korea resulted in the **Sino-Japanese War (1894-5)** as we already saw in Chinese history. Japan defeated China, and was able to control Korea after that. It was also temporarily in possession of Taiwan.
6. The Japanese were frustrated, however, when Russia, Germany, and France combined forces to prevent Japan from taking over the Liaodong peninsula just north of Korea. Japan was not strong enough to challenge three great powers yet.
7. The partnership of Russia, Germany, and France did not last. Germany was planning to conquer Europe and soon Russia had to fend for itself in East Asia. Japan took advantage of the situation to launch a sneak attack on Russian forces at Liaodong in the **Russo-Japanese War (1904-5)**.
8. Having defeated Russia, Japan's leaders decided to take complete control of Korea in order to expand their empire into Asia. Japanese rule of Korea began in **1910** and continued all the way until **1945**, when Japan was defeated by the United States.
9. Japanese rule of Korea was a deliberate attempt to erase its neighboring culture, with all newspapers and education in Korea switched to Japanese, Korean religious artifacts taken to Japan, and Koreans even forced to adopt Japanese names. Had Japan not made the mistake of attacking the United States, Korea would almost certainly not exist today.
10. As we have already seen, however, **World War II** brought Japan's imperial phase to an end.