

Dominant Narratives Of Colonial Hokkaido And Imperial Japan

Imperial Japan and Defeat in the Second World WarThe Japanese EmpireThe Rise and Fall of Imperial JapanImperial Japan's World War TwoImperial Japan and National Identities in Asia, 1895-1945DownfallImperial JapanImperial Japan at Its ZenithIn the Service of the EmperorPlacing EmpireNazi Germany and Imperial JapanImperial JapanDominant Narratives of Colonial Hokkaido and Imperial JapanImperial JapanImperial Japan, 1926-1938Soldiers of the SunImperial Japan at Its ZenithJapanese Historical Memoirs: Samurai Culture and Imperial Japan TransformationsEmpires of SpymastersCurse on This Country Peter Wetzler S. C. M. Paine Stephen Wynn Werner Gruhl Li Narangoa Richard B. Frank A Young Kenneth J. Ruoff Edward J. Drea Kate McDonald Johanna Menzel Meskill George William Knox M. Mason George William Knox Arthur Morgan Young Meirion Harries Kenneth J. Ruoff Isaac Watson Panagiotis Dimitrakis Danny Orbach

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informed western understanding of imperial japan still often conjures up images of militarism blind devotion to leaders and fanatical pride in the country but as imperial japan and defeat in the second world war reveals western imagination is often reductive in its explanation of the japanese empire and its collapse in his analysis of the emperor imperial japanese army and navy during the second world war peter wetzler examines the disconnect between nation and state during wartime japan and in doing so offers a much needed nuanced and sensitive corrective to existing western scholarship rooted in the perspective of the japanese wetzler makes available to readers vital primary and secondary japanese archival sources most notably this book provides the first english assessment of the recently released actual record of the showa emperor this book is an important advance in english language studies of the second world war in asia and is thus essential reading for all those wishing to understand this crucial period in japanese history

an accessible analytical survey of the rise and fall of imperial japan in the context of its grand strategy to transform itself into a great power

the question is how did a once great nation that built an empire lose it all from the meiji restoration in 1868 restoring imperial rule under emperor meiji until japan s surrender at the end

of the second world war in 1945 the dream lasted a comparatively short period of time seventy seven years from beginning to end under emperor meiji s rule imperial japan began a period of rapid industrialization and militarization leading to its emergence as a world power and the establishment of a colonial empire economic and political turmoil in the early 1920s led japan down the path of militarism culminating in her conquest of large parts of the asian and pacific region the beginning of this path can be traced back to the paris peace conference in 1919 when japan s proposal for racial equality was supported and approved by the other members but overruled by the american president woodrow wilson was this rebuttal by the west and in particular the united states the moment that changed the course of history during the empire s existence japan was involved in some sixteen conflicts resulting in the occupation of numerous countries and islands throughout asia and the pacific regions thousands were under the emperor s control not all of whom were treated as they should have been the book culminates with the atomic bombs dropped on hiroshima and nagasaki which finally brought about japan s surrender and the end of the war in asia and the pacific

gruhl s narrative makes clear why japan s world war ii aggression still touches deep emotions with east asians and western ex prisoners of war and why there is justifiable sensitivity to the way modern japan has dealt with this legacy knowledge of the enormity of japan s total war is also necessary to assess the united states and her allies policies toward japan and their reactions to its actions extending from manchuria in 1931 to hiroshima in 1945 gruhl takes the view that world war ii started in 1931 when japan crowded and poor in raw materials but with a sense of military invincibility saw empire as her salvation and invaded china japan s imperial regime had volatile ambitions but limited resources thus encouraging them to unleash a particularly brutal offensive against the peoples of asia and surrounding ocean islands their 1931 to 1945 invasions and policies further added to asia s pre war woes particularly in china by badly disrupting marginal economies leading to famines and epidemics altogether the victims of japan s world war two aggression took many forms and were massive in number gruhl offers a survey and synthesis of the historical literature and documentation statistical data as well as personal interviews and first hand accounts to provide a comprehensive overview analysis the sequence of diplomatic and military events leading to pearl harbor as well as those leading to the u s decision to drop the atom bomb are explored here as well as japan s war crimes and postwar revisionist apologist views regarding them this book will be of intense interest to asian specialists and those concerned with human rights issues in a historical context

the volume includes chapters on the japanese imperial campaign in india tibet siberia mongolia korea manchukuo china taiwan vietnam thailand the philippines and indonesia

the publication of richard frank s long awaited downfall is an event of great importance not only to historians but to the general public no aspect of world war ii is more controversial today than the use of atomic bombs against japan in 1945 some have argued that this act was cruel and unnecessary since japan was on the verge of surrender but by means of exhaustive research and the employment of previously neglected and recently declassified sources frank proves in this definitive book that neither the emperor nor the japa nese armed forces were anywhere close to surrendering in august 1945 in a stunning tour de force frank re creates the end of the war not as it seemed to people writing much later but as it appeared to american and japanese decision makers at the time though the bomb was often seen as the worst possible means of ending the pacific war frank establishes that its use was superior to all existing alternatives and saved not only allied lives but japa nese lives as well masterly in conception brilliantly reasoned superbly researched downfall is all but impossible to put down anyone concerned with the moral military and political issues surrounding the end of the pacific war must read this book william l o neill author of a democracy at war downfall opens with a vivid portrayal of the catastrophic fire raid on tokyo in march 1945 which was to be followed by the utter destruction of almost every major japanese city and ends with the anguished vigil of american and japanese leaders waiting to learn if japan s armed forces would obey the emperor s order to surrender america s use of the atom bomb has generated more heated controversy

than any other event of the whole war did nuclear weapons save the lives of hundreds of thousands of americans poised to invade japan did u s leaders know that japan was urgently seeking peace and needed only assurance about the emperor s safety to end the war swiftly was the bomb really used to intimidate the russians why wasn t the devastating power of the weapon demonstrated first before being unleashed on a city richard b frank has brought to life these critical times working from primary documents reports diaries and newly declassified records these pages present the untold story of how american leaders learned in the summer of 1945 that their compromise strategy to end the war by blockade and bombardment followed by invasion had been shattered radio intelligence had unmasked a massive japanese buildup on kyushu designed to turn the initial invasion into a bloody shambles meanwhile the text and analysis of diplomatic intercepts depicted sterile prospects for negotiation before a final clash of arms here also for the first time is a full and balanced account of how japan s leaders risked annihilation by gambling on a military strategy aimed at securing political bargaining leverage to preserve the old order in japan downfall replaces the myths that now surround the end of the war and the use of the bomb with the stark realities of this great historical controversy

a journalist on the japan chronicle for eleven years the author collected in this volume the most significant current events for discussion they include the financial crisis of 1927 hostilities with china and in particular manchuria japan s booming manufacturing industry japanese nationalism japan s new empire and its place within the far east and east asia written from a western perspective the volume nonetheless presents a balanced view of japan and its behaviour which only close observation and dealings with the japanese people could make possible

in 1940 japan was into its third year of war with china and relations with the united states were deteriorating but in that year the japanese also commemorated the 2 600th anniversary of the founding of the empire of japan

japan s war in asia and the pacific from 1937 to 1945 continues to be a subject of great interest yet the wartime japanese army remains little understood outside japan most published accounts rely on english language works written in the 1950s and 1960s the japanese language sources have remained relatively inaccessible to western scholars in part because of the difficulty of the language a difficulty that edward j drea who reads japanese surmounts in a series of searching examinations of the structure ethos and goals of the japanese military establishment drea offers new material on its tactics operations doctrine and leadership based on original military documents official histories court diaries and emperor hirohito s own words these twelve essays introduce western readers to fifty years of japanese scholarship about the war and japan s military institutions in addition drea uses recently declassified allied intelligence documents related to japan to challenge existing views and conventional wisdom about the war

seeing like the nation the new territories boundary narratives local color speaking japanese

alliances between sovereign states are among the least stable political associations despite professions of fidelity and common purpose most are effective for only short periods and only as long as it suits their interests the german japanese alliance of world war ii was not so much a marriage of convenience as a long and uneasy engagement it was maintained because breaking the engagement would have reduced the prestige of each nation state germany and japan each found the existence and policies of the other convenient from 1933 1945 both powers challenged the international order other than this nothing else united germany and japan even while they shared some of the same opponents german and japanese antagonism toward the

allies involved different objects of contention and questions of timing consequently coordination of german and japanese policies did not follow johanna menzel meskill argues that the german japanese alliance failed not only because each power failed separately to attain its goals but because as allies the powers failed to take advantage of their association the failure resulted to a large extent from the discordance between their political goals and the means necessary to attain them this work in diplomatic history is a careful analysis of presuming identities in a world of diplomatic differences in a new introduction to the book thomas nowotny looks back on the alliance from a historical perspective he concludes that both parties overestimated the potency and effectiveness of their military power like many before and some after they more generally subscribed to the offensive use of military power and effectiveness that the history of the twentieth century has proven unwarranted

recasts the commonly dismissed colonial project pursued in hokkaido during the meiji era 1868 1912 as a major force in the production of modern japan s national identity imperial ideology and empire

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traces the origins of the imperial army back to its samurai roots in nineteenth century japan to tell its rise and fall

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embark on a captivating journey through the rich tapestry of japanese history exploring the rise and fall of the samurai and the transformations of imperial japan japanese historical memoirs samurai culture and imperial japan transformations offers a unique perspective through personal accounts historical records and insightful analysis delve into the origins of the samurai their revered code of bushido and their pivotal role in shaping feudal japan witness the splendor of the edo period where samurai culture flourished and the dramatic events of the meiji restoration which propelled japan into the modern world experience the tumultuous years of imperial japan s expansionism and the devastating consequences of world war ii explore the challenges and triumphs of post war japan its remarkable economic resurgence and the enduring legacy of the samurai ideal this captivating book is a must read for anyone interested in japanese history samurai culture and the complexities of modern japan gain a deeper understanding of the nation s past present and future through the voices of those who lived and shaped these momentous times

this fascinating book reveals the security relationships between Britain and Japan in the four decades leading up to the outbreak of war in December 1941

Imperial Japanese soldiers were notorious for blindly following orders and their enemies in the Pacific War derided them as cattle to the slaughter but in fact the Japanese army had a long history as one of the most disobedient armies in the world. Officers repeatedly staged coups d'états, violent insurrections, and political assassinations. Their associates defied orders given by both the government and the general staff, launched independent military operations against other countries, and in two notorious cases conspired to assassinate foreign leaders despite direct orders to the contrary. In *Curse on This Country*, Danny Orbach explains the culture of rebellion in the Japanese armed forces. It was a culture created by a series of seemingly innocent decisions, each reasonable in its own right, which led to a gradual weakening of Japanese government control over its army and navy. The consequences were dire as the armed forces dragged the government into more and more of China across the 1930s, a culture of rebellion that made the Pacific War possible. Orbach argues that brazen defiance rather than blind obedience was the motive force of modern Japanese history. *Curse on This Country* follows a series of dramatic events: assassinations in the dark corners of Tokyo, the famous rebellion of Saigō Takamori, the accidental invasion of Taiwan, the Japanese ambassador's plot to murder the Queen of Korea, and the military political crisis in which the Japanese prime minister changed colors. Finally, through the sinister plots of the clandestine Cherry Blossom Society, we follow the deterioration of Japan into chaos, fascism, and World War.

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