

The Japanese Colonial Empire

- Describe the main characters
- What was the relation between the two main characters?

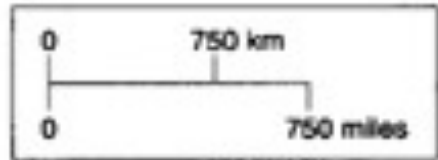
Two important points

- Don't generalize about relations between colonizer and colonized.
- Assimilation policies in Korea did not work.



-  Japanese possessions before 1880
-  Japanese acquisitions 1880-1900
-  Japanese acquisitions 1900-1912

JAPAN Empire/state
KOREA Conquered state/province with date of acquisition
 — International border



Japanese Empire



- Mainland Japan
- Colonies: Taiwan & Korea
- Concession: Liaodung peninsula (1905-)
- + Troops stationed in China (1901-)

Motives for colonization

- Strategic motives:
 - search for strategic security (Korean peninsula)
- Economic motives:
 - But, until very late, difficulties of persuading big business to invest in colonies
- International motives (national prestige)
- Idealism: bringing modernization to Asia

Important points about colonialism:

- → Colonialism not always deliberate and pre-meditated; often a result of a mix of motives, situations, and ad-hoc policymaking
- → Colonial experience different depending on region (Taiwan / Korea), class (winners and losers in colonies *and* homeland).
- → Colonialism not always a product of capitalism (Marxist interpretation)

TAIWAN

How do you govern a colony?

- Acquisition of Taiwan not planned, plans to sell it
- Initially no plan for governance of colonies,

Two models :

- 1) British in India: colony a separate political entity, indirect rule,
- 2) French in Algeria: colony a part of France

→ Both seen as not applicable to Taiwan



Goto Shimpei



- Goto's solution: making a Japanese model:
- "Gradual Assimilation"
- Goto's "100-Year Plan"
- "You cant turn a flounder into sea bream overnight"
- Goal: achieve self-sufficiency for Taiwan → investment in railroads, education, eradicating malaria,...

Ideology of Assimilation

- “Same script, same race”
 - stressing the cultural and racial similarities between Japan and the colonies (Taiwan, Korea)
- “impartiality and equal favor”: colonial subjects and Japanese equal under the Emperor
 - But granting similar rights dependent on development
- « Similar historical patterns »:
 - Japan: assimilation of Chinese culture – later assimilation of Western culture and modernity

But in everyday language:

Naichi/gaichi--inner lands/outer lands

«Scientific colonialism »

- Taiwan as laboratory
- Public health projects
 - eradication of malaria
 - creation of a medical school for Taiwanese doctors
- Infrastructure
- Bank of Taiwan
- Schools: essential for assimilation project
- Anthropological studies

2 Kusshaku savages of Taiyaru tribe, Formosa. (臺灣) タイヤル族屈尺蕃
臺北に最も近い處に住む蕃人、順從に勤勉に働いて居ます



Colonial Architecture/Colonial Modernity





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Taihoku Imperial University (1928)





Bank of Taiwan (1897)





Limits of Assimilation: Educational Policy

- Initially two track system
- 1915: first middle school created
- 1918: secondary schools created & technical schools
- 1922: integration policy (All schools equally open to Japanese and Taiwanese, provided Japanese knowledge)
- 1928: Taihoku Imperial University
- Assimilation policy in education:
 - Teaching Confucian classics, together with Japanese
 - 1922: Chinese optional
 - 1927: Chinese phased out

Natural resources: Camphor

- Medicinal use
- Celluloid
- Smokeless gunpowder

- Other resources: sugar & rice export to Japan



KOREA

Korea

- Problems with applying the Taiwan model: Korea had an elaborate education system, strong sense of identity, rising Korean nationalism

Rise of Korean Nationalism, March 1 Movement (1919)



- Korean students in Japan demand self-rule
- Trigger: death and funeral procession of late Korean king
- Suppressed by Japanese police and Army
- Backlash at home & calls for better policy

1920's Change of Policy

- Allowing Korean print, newspapers, journals
- Young Koreans reject Confucianism, rush to modern ideas & science
- Korean political parties (communists, nationalists, liberalists)
 - Korean Communist Party (1925)
- This changes to more repression during the war years (1937-1945)



Developing Korea 1930's

- State capitalism, integration of Korea into North East Asian Economy
- Promoting Heavy Industry (Steel) & chemical industry
- Infrastructure:
 - Railways, roads, ports
 - Integration of Korea in North-East Asian Economy
- Results:
 - 1) both development and uneven underdevelopment as result of Japanese colonial policy
 - 2) lasting impact on Korean political economy: “chaebol” (Korean version of the *zaibatsu*)

Oriental Development Company



Seoul



KARAFUTO

Karafuto (Sakhalin)

- Occupied during Russo-Japanese War
- Southern half part of Japanese Empire (1905-1945)
- External territory of Japan, but integrated into Japan proper in 1943
- Peak: around 400,000 Japanese (and Koreans) in 1945 (+ minority of white Russians, and Ainu)
- Source for coal, oil, fish,...

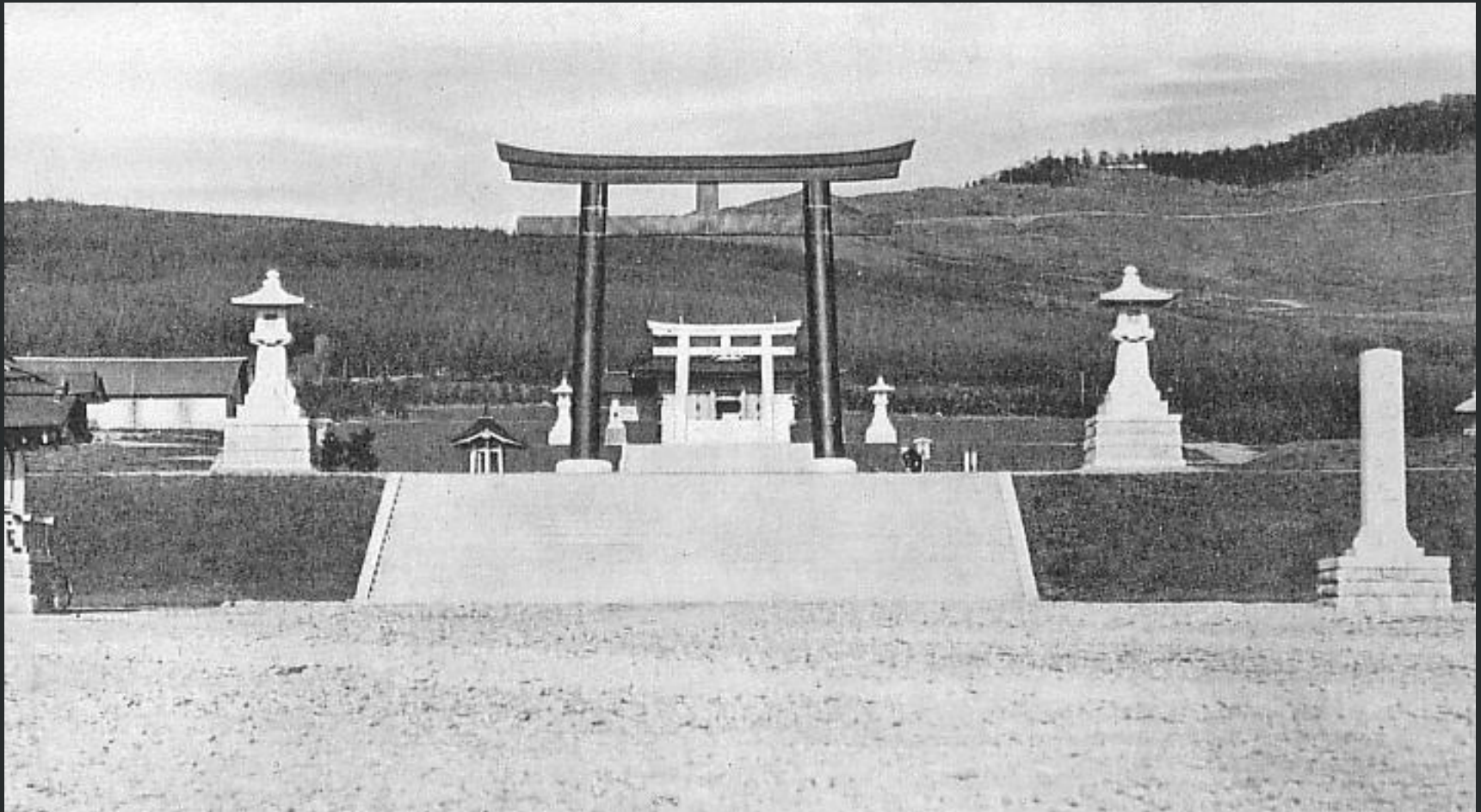




(Toyohara)

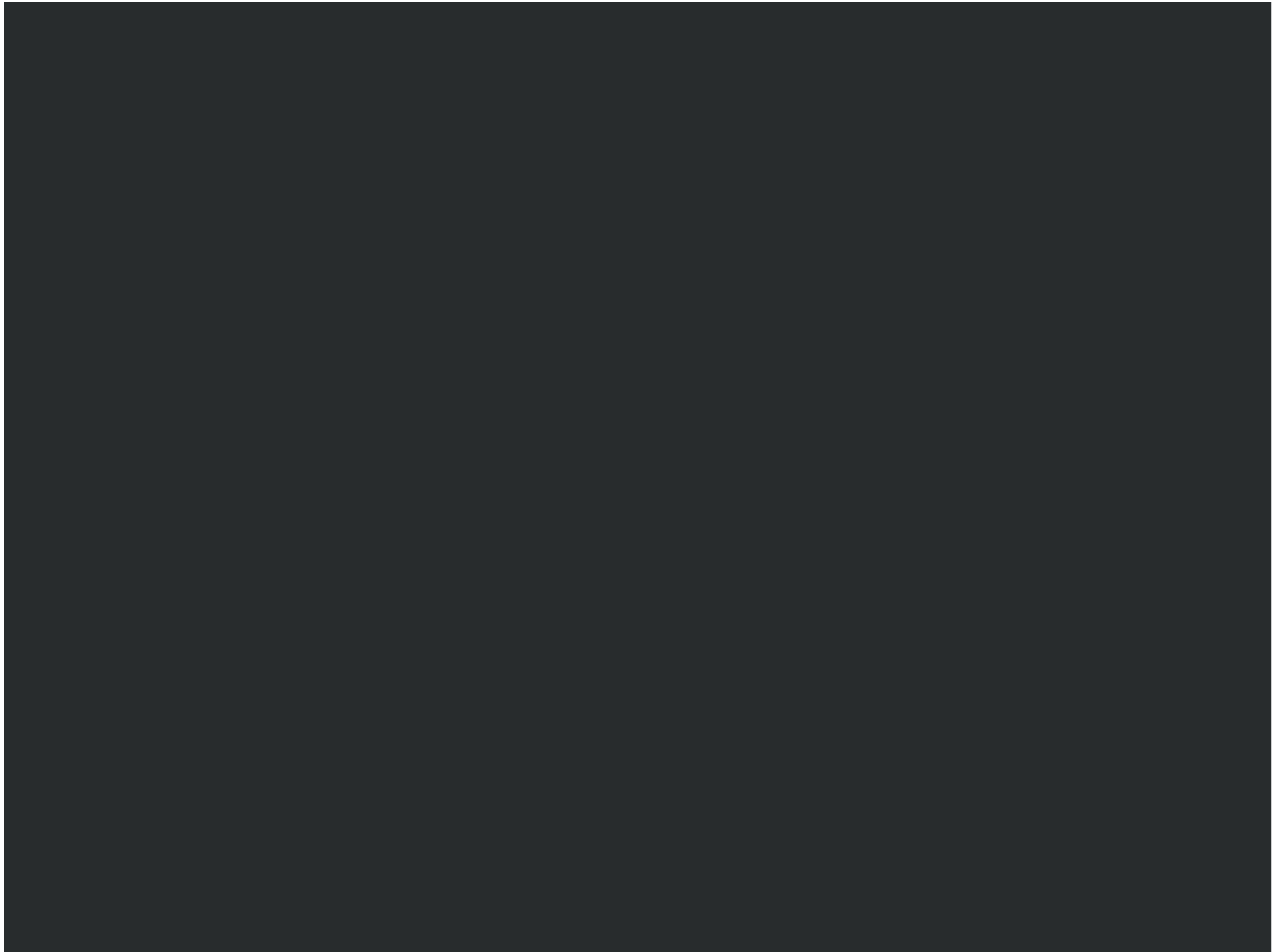






Japanese Colonial Empire in Comparison

- 1) Japanese Empire came relatively late (similar to Germany)
- 2) Contiguous Empire, proximity to the homeland (hence more comparable to Ireland & Algeria, rather than Congo or India)
- 4) The only colonial power that promoted heavy industry in the colonies (1930-1945)
- 5) Very large presence of Japanese bureaucrats, managers, business leaders





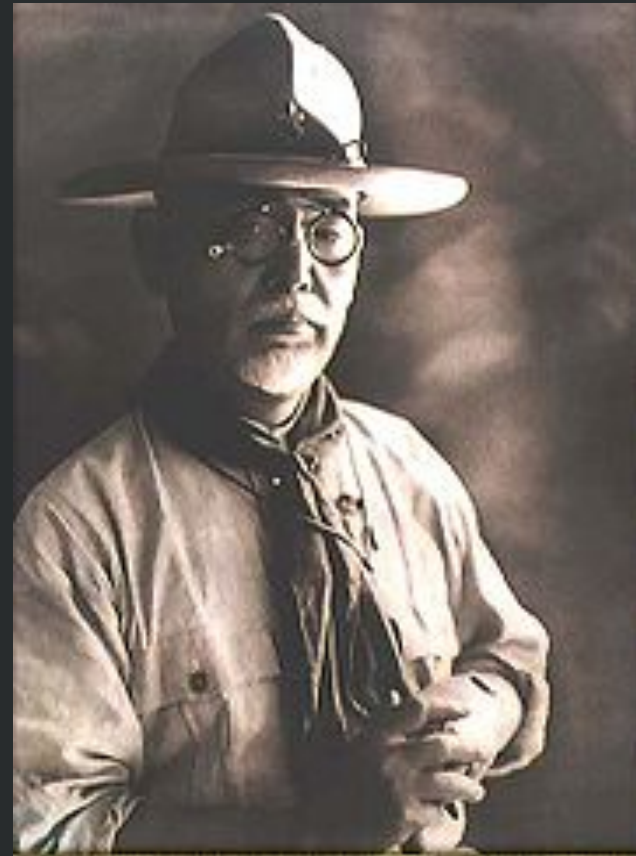
Two Bodies of Law

- Metropolitan law
- Colonial Law

-->retained the idea that colonies were separate territories with their own cultures, policies had to negotiate them

-->theoretical ideal of integration

Gotō Shimpei 後藤新平 (1857-1927)



'Gradual Assimilation'

- Goto's '100-Year Plan'
- 'You can't turn a flounder into sea bream overnight'

Discourse on Assimilation

- 'Same script, same race'
- 'impartiality and equal favor'

BUT also,

Naichi/gaichi--inner lands/outer lands

Science and Colonialism

- Biological metaphors
- Ideal of « scientific colonialism »
- Taiwan as laboratory for Japanese colonialism
- Science as control

Camphor

- Medicinal use
- Celluloid
- Smokeless gunpowder



Colonial Architecture/Colonial Modernity



Human Zoo







Economics of colonial rule

- Failure of settlement model
- Main value until 1930 is as supplier of agricultural goods
- After 1930, development of heavy industry
- Market for Japanese goods
- Close proximity to the homeland: lower transportation costs, rapid communication > allowed for closer integration