What were the origins of Japanese Imperialism?

Throwing Off Asia – MIT

**Go to the following website:** <https://ocw.mit.edu/ans7870/21f/21f.027/throwing_off_asia_01/toa_essay01.html>

*Westernization*

Summarize the information provided in the “essay” titled *Westernization* into a mind-map or brainstorm or spidergram.

*Civilization and Enlightenment*

Briefly – 1 to 2 sentences – describe the events leading to the **Meiji Restoration**.

Explain what Westernization meant to the Japanese during the **Meiji period**.

Based on what you’ve read and what you’ve seen in the woodblock images, how successful was Japanese Westernization? (provide specific examples)

*Wealth and Power*

Provide an OPCVL of the Japanese popular song from 1880.

What is the origin?

What is the purpose?

What is the content?

What are the values to historians based on the O, on the P, on the C?

What are the limitation to historian based on the O, on the P, on the C?

What does “**the strong eat up the weak**” mean for Japanese modernization?

What does “**Throwing off Asia**” mean?

How do the “**Imperial Rescript (Precepts) to Soldiers and Sailors**,” the phrase “**Duty is weightier than a mountain, while death is lighter than a feather**,” and the images demonstrate the movement towards nationalism and militarism?

**Now go here:** [**http://asianhistory.about.com/od/governmentandlaw/fl/Unequal-Treaties.htm**](http://asianhistory.about.com/od/governmentandlaw/fl/Unequal-Treaties.htm)

*Unequal (Humiliating) Treaties*

Do some extra research and read a bit more about the **Treaty of Kanagawa**, **the Harris Treaty of 1858**, and **the Japan-Korea Treaty of 1876**. What were the goals of the treaties? What were the outcomes of the treaties as they relate to the Japanese (think modernization, expansionism, nationalism, militarism)?

***Washington Naval Treaty* (Aka Five Power Treaty – including Four Power Treaty and Nine Power Treaty)**

<https://history.state.gov/milestones/1921-1936/naval-conference>

Use the above link to read about the Washington Naval Treaty. What was the end goal of the treaty? How would the end goal be accomplished using tonnage and ratios? What impact does the treaty have on Japanese society at the time (think modernization, expansionism, nationalism, militarism…)?