

Great powers in Middle East & caused by Russian demands to exercise protection over orthodox subjects

Florence Nightingale

1. Crimean War, (October 1853–February 1856), war fought mainly on the Crimean Peninsula between the Russians and the British, French, and Ottoman Turkish, with support from January 1855 by the army of Sardinia-Piedmont. The war arose from the conflict of great powers in the Middle East and was more directly caused by Russian demands to exercise protection over the Orthodox subjects of the Ottoman sultan. Another major factor was the dispute between Russia and France over the privileges of the Russian Orthodox and Roman Catholic churches in the holy places in Palestine.

result - Russia lost alliance w/ Ottoman empire

Released the Serfs

SERFS

2. In 1861 serfdom, the system which tied the Russian peasants irrevocably to their landlords, was abolished at the Tsar's imperial command. Four years later, slavery in the USA was similarly declared unlawful by presidential order. Tsar Alexander II (1855-81) shared with his father, Nicholas I, a conviction that American slavery was inhumane. This is not as hypocritical as it might first appear. The serfdom that had operated in Russia since the middle of the seventeenth century was technically not slavery. The landowner did not own the serf. This contrasted with the system in the USA where the negro slaves were chattels; that is, they were regarded in law as the disposable property of their masters. In Russia the traditional relationship between lord and serf was based on land. It was because he lived on his land that the serf was bound to the lord.

serfdom vs Chattel slavery

3. The Russian system dated back to 1649 and the introduction of a legal code which had granted total authority to the landowner to control the life and work of the peasant serfs who lived on his land. Since this included the power to deny the serf the right to move elsewhere, the difference between slavery and serfdom in practice was so fine as to be indistinguishable. The purpose behind the granting of such powers to the Russian dvorians (nobility of landowners) in 1649 had been to make the nobles dependent on, and therefore loyal to, the tsar. They were to express that loyalty in practical form by serving the tsar as military officers or public officials. In this way the Romanov emperors built up Russia's civil bureaucracy and the armed services as bodies of public servants who had a vested interest in maintaining the tsarist state.

1649

4. The serfs made up just over a third of the population and formed half of the peasantry. They were most heavily concentrated in the central and western provinces of Russia.

over 1/3 of population

5. The impetus for the Trans-Siberian came mostly from the economic problems associated with Russia's size, but, as the project developed, it became the focus of national pride. Despite these worthy motivations, the great railroad was a long time in planning, and it was constructed even more slowly.

6. Already in the middle of the nineteenth century the building of a railroad to the outskirts of Siberia was proposed, but that was only the beginning of the story. Foreign companies were among those proposing different kinds of railway projects in the nineteenth century, but the Russian Tsars didn't really want foreign influence in Siberia and the Far East. So, finally, it was decided to build the road using funds from Russia's treasury.

Foreign interest had called for railways

+6,000

Emperor Alexander III

7. In 1886, 25 years after the railway was first proposed, Emperor Alexander the III finally admitted that he had already heard enough ideas on the project - it was finally time to start doing something about it. Thus in 1887 three research expeditions were formed and sent to explore the lands where the Trans-Siberian was meant to run. Continuing with the nationalist bent demonstrated in the rejection of foreign funds, it was declared that "Siberian Railroad is a major people's affair and it has to be done by Russian people and from Russian materials". Construction began In February 1891, starting simultaneously from Chelyabinsk and Vladivostok.

Безвѣстѣ Коллежскіи 1891. --Grand Chemin de la Sibirie. No 45. France 1891.



8. The Starting Point - Vladivostok

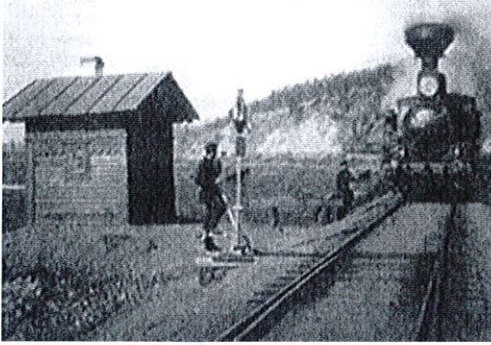
9. Alexander III, enamored with the idea of the Trans-Siberian, instructed his son to start the building of the great railroad through Siberia "in order to unite the rich yields of Siberian nature with the network of Russian railways". Young Nikolay Alexandrovich accomplished his father's order, and put the first rock and the silver plate into the ground himself. On May 31 1891 the project's initiation was marked with a special church service, and construction began.

1891 Start

10. An Arduous Task

11. The whole project was hampered by harsh climactic conditions. Almost the entire length of the railroad was built through thinly-populated areas in the impassable taiga. The huge Russian taiga included additional challenges in the form of the many large rivers that run through Siberia, many lakes, and districts that were either extremely waterlogged or filled with permafrost. The most exceptional difficulties the builders experienced were in the Baikal region, where it was necessary to blow up mountains for the construction of railway tunnels as well as construct railway bridges to traverse the canyons of the many mountain rivers that flow into Lake Baikal.

- Hampered by harsh climate  
- crossing large rivers



Cost of Construction  
- Workers were  
exiled prisoners  
& soldiers

12. The unforgiving terrain was not the only difficulty encountered. The cost of construction was enormous, and the supply of man power problematic. The central cities supplied many of the specialists required for the project, while the many thousands of common workers who took part in the construction came from the ranks of exiled prisoners and soldiers.

13. Despite these challenges, up to 600 km of railway road were laid every year. The incredibly fast pace of the construction - it was completed in a mere 12 years - amazed the world. With the help of 7.5 thousand kilometers of railroad, Europe was finally connected to the Pacific Ocean.

12 years

Shoguns → military dictators run govt while emperor stays in remote place

## 1. A history of Isolation

- a. Early brushes with Portuguese and Dutch traders and Christian missionaries made Japan withdraw into isolation
- b. in 1614, the shogun, a country's supreme military leader, became uneasy with the increased number of Japanese Christians
- c. After two centuries of self-imposed isolation, the islands of Japan yielded to American pressure in the form of a naval squad led by Commodore Matthew Perry in 1853
  - i. From the outside it looked as if Perry had opened Japan to the West
    1. in reality, Japan opened itself to Western technology while simultaneously avoiding the kinds of interference that the Chinese and the Ottomans were experiencing from the Europeans
    2. Japan modernized intentionally maintained social customs, including the traditional family structure

2 Centuries of self-imposed isolation

Japan opened itself up  
Japan

## 2. Collapse of the Shogunate

- a. The Daimyo, or lord of a far western province had his samurai, warriors under his command, kill two Englishmen for violating a point of Japanese etiquette
- b. Another lord of a province fired on English ships
  - i. Undermining the power of shogun
- c. The lords adopted the Western military and forced the resignation of the shogun who was unpopular for signing treaties with the west

Supreme military leader

## 3. Meiji Japan

- a. 1868-1912
- b. During the shogunate, it had been customary for the shoguns, military dictators, to run the government while the emperors stayed in remote palaces
- c. The new emperor was young and energetic
- d. Emperor Mutsuhito was interested in abolishing feudalism and reorganizing Japan into prefectures
  - i. districts administered by the central government rather than provinces ruled by the daimyos
  - ii. He was supported by young energetic oligarchy
  - iii. willing to meet with foreign envoys
  - iv. Reforms
    1. Charter Oath- statement of policy
    2. equality before the law, abolition of cruel and unusual punishments
    3. based on Prussian model in which the emperor exercised political power and oversaw foreign policy
    4. built navy and instituted conscription
    5. postal
    6. reform that soon resulted in higher literacy rates
    7. both Japanese and foreign investors
    8. employed British engineers in 1869

## 4. Industrialization

Lords resistance of Shogunate

Emperor Mutsuhito

1868-1912

- a. Industrialization, much of it paid for by careful government financing, created new jobs
- b. The government provided massive subsidies for training new workers in the key industries of tea, silk, weaponry, shipbuilding, and a rice wine called sake
- c. Collected Taxes
- d. New industry called Zaibatsu, family business organizations like the conglomerates in the US
  - i. A carpenter founded a company in 1906 called Toyoda Loom Works that made an automatic loom
  - ii. The company prospered and grew into today's Toyota Motor Company

5. Russo Japanese War

- a. 1905
- b. The first victory of an Asian nation over Europeans in the Modern Era
- c. The treaty of Portsmouth gave Japan a preferred position in Manchuria, an area where Russia had been able to lease an area for its railroad
  - i. Theodore Roosevelt had negotiated this treaty
  - ii. The defeat and resulting economic hardships at home plunged Russia into a Revolution of 1905

6. Spread to new places

- a. Partially to relieve population pressures in rural areas and partially to gain knowledge of foreign places, the government began to encourage agricultural workers to take contract or seasonal work in Hawaii, Guam
- b. Through a Colonization Society established in 1893, leaders began plans to establish colonies in Mexico and Latin America
- c. By the early 1900s Japan was looking to China, Korea and Russia as areas where it could enlarge its holding and influence

7.

8.





