#34—Crash Course World History Video Notes

Samurai, Daimyo, Matthew Perry, and Nationalism

1. So, if you’re into European history, you’re probably somewhat familiar with nationalism and the names and countries associated with it. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Germany, Mazzini and Garibaldi in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and Mustafa Kemal (aka Ataturk) in Turkey.
2. But nationalism was a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ phenomenon, and it included a lot of people you may not associate with it, like Muhammad Ali in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Nationalism was seen in the British Dominions, as Canada, Australia and New Zealand became federated states between ­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I would say independent states instead of federated states, but you guys still have a queen.
4. It’s also seen in the Balkans, where Greece gained its independence in 1832 and Christian principalities fought a war against the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in 1878, in India where a political party, the Indian National Congress, was founded in 1885, and even in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, where nationalism ran up against the dynastic system that had lasted more than 2000 years.
5. Let’s define the modern nation state. A nation state involves a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ government that can claim and exercise authority over a distinctive territory. That’s the state part. It also involves a certain degree of linguistic and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ homogeneity. That’s the nation part.
6. So how do you become a nation? Well, some argue it’s an organic process involving \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ similar people wanting to formalize their connections. Others argue that nationalism is constructed by governments, building a sense of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ through compulsory military service and statues of national heroes. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_is often seen as part of this nationalizing project. Still other historians argue that nationalism was an outgrowth of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
7. So emerging nations had a lot of conflicts, including: The Napoleonic wars, which helped the French become the French. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Sepoy) Rebellion of 1857, which helped Indians to identify themselves as a homogeneous people. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Civil War. I mean, before the Civil War, many Americans thought of themselves not as Americans but as Virginians or New Yorkers or Pennsylvanians or Georgians. I mean, our antebellum nation was usually called “these united states,” after it became “the United States.”
8. Often, nationalism was a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ force for multi-ethnic land-based empires. This was especially the case in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Empire, which started falling apart in the 19th century as first the Greeks, then the Serbs, Romanians and Bulgarians, all predominantly Christian people, began clamoring for and, in some cases, winning independence.
9. Egypt is another good example of nationalism serving both to create a new state and to weaken an empire. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_and his ruling family encouraged the Egyptian people to imagine themselves as a separate nationality.
10. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ had been fragmented and feudal until the late 16th century, when a series of warrior landowners managed to consolidate power. Eventually power came to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ family who created a military government or bakufu.
11. The first Tokugawa to take power was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, who took over after the death of one of the main unifiers of Japan, Tyotomi Hideyoshi.
12. In 1603 Ieyasu convinced the emperor, who was something of a figurehead, to grant him the title of “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.” And for the next 260 years or so, the Tokugawa bakufu was the main government of Japan.
13. The Tokugawa bakufu wasn’t much for centralization, as power was mainly in the hands of local lords called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
14. One odd feature of the Tokugawa era was the presence of a class of warriors who by the 19th century had become mostly bureaucrats. You may have heard of them, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
15. As with kings and lesser nobles anywhere, the central bakufu had trouble controlling the more powerful daimyo, who were able to build up their own strength because of their control over local \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. This poor control also made it really difficult to collect \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; so the Tokugawa were already a bit on the ropes when two foreign events rocked Japan.
16. First was China’s humiliating defeat in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Wars, after which Western nations forced China to give Europeans special \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ privileges. But even worse for the Tokugawa was the arrival of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
17. The Tokugawa are somewhat famous for their not-so-friendly policy toward foreigners—especially western, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ones—for whom the penalty for stepping foot on Japanese soil was death.
18. So the American naval commodore arrived in Japan in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with a flotilla of ships and a determination to open Japan’s markets. Just the threat of American \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-powered warships was enough to convince the bakufu to sign some humiliating trade treaties that weren’t unlike the ones that China had signed after losing the Opium Wars.
19. So what does have to do with nationalism? First off, the perceived threat provided an impetus for Japanese to start thinking about itself differently. It also resulted in the Japanese being convinced that if they wanted to maintain their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, they would have to re-constitute their country as a modern nation state.
20. The Tokugawa didn’t give up without a fight, but the civil war between the stronger daimyo and the bakufu eventually led to the end of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. In 1868, the rebels got the newly enthroned Emperor Meiji to abolish the bakufu and proclaim a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the imperial throne.
21. Now, the Emperor didn’t have much real power, but he became a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, a representative of a mythical past around whom modernizers could build a sense of national pride. In place of bakufu, Japan created one of the most modern nation states in the world.
22. After some trial and error, the Meiji leaders created a European style \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ system of government with a prime minister and, in 1889, promulgated a constitution that even contained a deliberative assembly, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, although the cabinet ministers weren’t responsible to it. Samurai were incorporated into this system as bureaucrats and their stipends were gradually taken away.
23. Japan also created a new conscript \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that eventually created a patriotic spirit and a loyalty to the Japanese emperor.
24. The Meiji leaders also instituted compulsory \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in 1872.
25. In Japan, nationalism meant \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, largely inspired by and in competition with the West. So the Meiji government established a functioning \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, they built public infrastructure like harbors and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ lines, invested heavily in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and created a uniform national currency. But the dark side of nationalism began to appear early on. They became imperialistic by taking over neighboring islands.