

Lecture 09
Shaping a Modern State
or
“So we restored the emperor—now what?”

0. Intro

- The question of “restoration” and “modernization”
- Forming a new social space
- Nation-building 101

1. The Meaning of the Meiji Restoration (Meiji Ishin)

- a. What the restorationists thought
- b. What the historians think
- c. Things for you to think about

2. Imagining a New Society

- a. Dealing with differences in the social body
- b. Defining collective interests: **fukoku-kyôhei**

3. Consolidating the Meiji State

- a. Money: dissolving samurai stipends; land tax reform
- b. Power: from *han* to *ken*; conscript army
- c. Sex Appeal: symbols of authority; the Meiji Emperor

Documents:

- a. Imperial Oath on the Five Principles, March 1868 (Charter Oath, April 1868)
- b. Kido Kôin's Recollection of Return of Feudal Domains, 1868
- c. Land Tax Reform Regulations, 1873
- d. Conscription System and Regulations, 1873
- e. Ôkubo Toshimichi's Opinion on Encouragement of Industries, 1874
- f. An Opinion on Education, 1872