

JK

K.W.HO – 歷史集

日本 Japan

K.W.HO

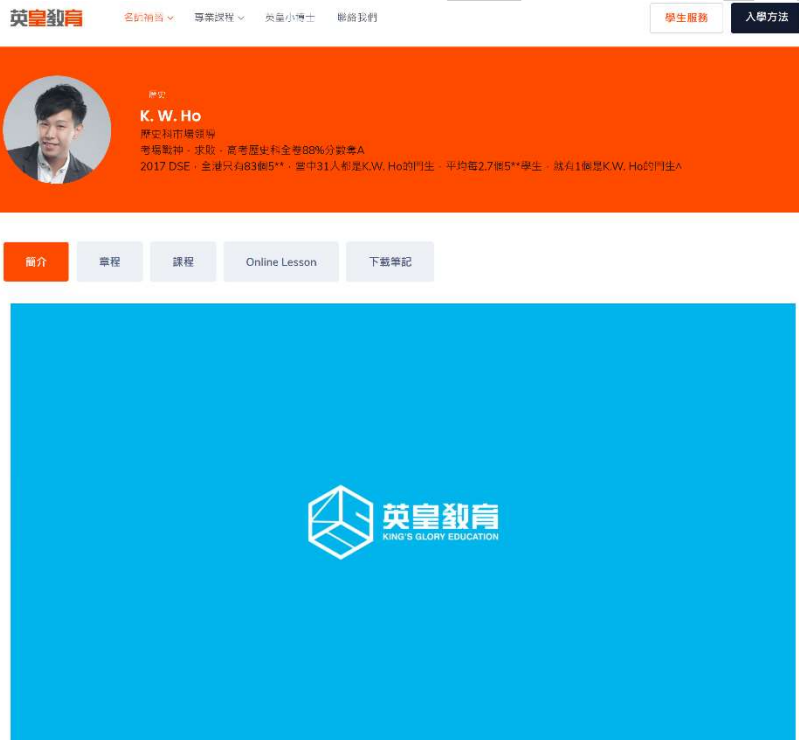
◆ 神級資歷 · 5**狀元之選 從此改變歷史 ◆

HISTORY

史實部分，同學可以登入英皇教育網站，
觀看網上補課之講解。

30-60 分鐘時間，
我會同你 **KO** 每個課題所需之史實認知，
掌握清楚歷史脈絡，
洞悉考試重點！

網上補課登入步驟：



1. 登入 www.kge.hk -> 名師補習 -> 名師介紹及章程 -> 歷史 -> K.W.Ho
2. 於“學生服務”填上
 - ★ 學生編號 (收據上的學生編號)
 - ★ 您的入學登記手機號碼(2020年8月31日或之前入學之同學，預設密碼為身份證號碼中的6個數目字[括號除外])
3. 收看課堂教材：
按入“Online Lesson”再點選所報讀的課程教材收看便可
4. 下載電子版筆記
按入“下載筆記”同學請自行安排筆記上堂

有幾千頁 Unbeatable Notes， 點解仲需要補習？

1. 時間較金錢重要

每人的溫習時間均十分有限，但 KW Unbeatable Notes 多達數千頁，假設熟讀及領悟一頁的平均時間為 1 小時，**要完整讀畢 KW Unbeatable Notes 就需要數千小時**。在缺乏 KW 的課堂指導下，除非你本身已經是「人才」，甚至乎是「天才」的級別，否則**要在投入少於一千小時的情況底下掌握 KW Unbeatable Notes 是過於天真的想法**。

只需「小課」（每堂\$75 的超乎價錢），就可以為你**節省大量溫習時間，教你每個課題的重點及如何應考歷史科**。經濟條件較差的同學亦可以選擇「**無課爆肝**」，**以肝代課**，投入更多時間、心機去研習 KW Unbeatable Notes。

2. 水漲船高的原理

我希望利用我的思維去提升大部分學生的能力，但我無意也不可能提高大部分學生的成績。因為**考試制度是汰弱留強**，等級是採取拉 curve 形式而得出，而非固定分數就獲得固定等級。換言之，每個等級的人數比例是可預期的，不同年份間的比例不會因學生能力變化而一下子出現懸殊的差距，例如歷史科每年 Level 5+ 的比例是約 15%，一般不會有個別年份的 Level 5+ 比例跳升至 30% 或縮減至 5%。

在 KW Unbeatable Notes 大規模流傳的情況底下，**最先被淘汰的就是使用傳統非考試主導的教科書之學生**，接著就是使用 KW Unbeatable Notes 的學生的競賽。因此，**競爭一直都存在，想要突圍而出，就需要更加深入理解筆記內容及技巧，故補習的需求一直都存在**。

3. 避免走錯路

KW Unbeatable Notes 是 KW 補習課程的筆記，筆記設計是讓學生上堂的時候使用，因此有**部分內容是預設為錯誤處或 tricky 位**，在課堂上更正及教授。因此，**若同學單單溫習筆記而缺乏課堂指導，中伏者自行負責。**

4. 針對每年考試再作更新

免費的 Unbeatable Notes 是不同課題的課文筆記及包含大量範文，此部分每年變化均不大，由 KW 在 2015 年加盟英皇教育後，課題筆記的主體部分均沒有太大改變。但是，**如果再想進一步針對最新年度的考試，可以考慮報讀 Super Advanced Course，會有每年的專題更新課程及奪星課程，令同學能夠掌握最新考試資訊。**

K.W 的忠告：

用 KW Unbeatable Notes 就不要補其他歷史科補習導師，補其他導師就不必使用 KW Unbeatable Notes。

單單是 KW Unbeatable Notes 就已經多達數千頁，完完全全足夠應考 DSE 歷史科，甚至成為 5** 中的最強存在。KW Unbeatable Notes 的內容及用法是完全配合 KW 的答題思維及技巧，獨樹一幟，**與其他補習導師有著許多的差異，甚至乎是矛盾**。除非願意以 3 年時間只讀一科，並且自身有著極高的理解及領悟能力，目標是成為「神」的存在。否則要在**1-2 年內熟讀及領悟 KW Unbeatable Notes，並且揉合、平衡其他導師的思維與技巧的差異，是不切實際、不必要的做法。**

Background & Development of History – MAJOR EXAMPLES

1. **Anglo-Japanese Alliance 英日同盟(1902)**

A. Background & Reasons of signing Anglo-Japanese Alliance:

After the *Sino-Japanese War* 甲午戰爭(1894-95), Japan had more interests in Northeastern China. However, Russia invaded Northeastern China and refused to disarm after *Eight-Power Allied Forces* 八國聯軍(1900), leading to worsening relationship between Russia and Japan due to the crisis in Northeastern China. With the long-existed discontent between the democratic Britain and dictatorship-rule Russia, the crisis helped building allied relationship between Japan and Britain. Japan and Britain both feared Russian invasion in Near East and Far East. With consideration of both countries' interests, Anglo-Japanese Alliance was signed on 30th January 1902 to protect both nations' interests in Japan and North Korea.

B. Content of Anglo-Japanese Alliance:

- Require declaration of neutrality if either signed country was involved in war with one nation;
- Promise of support if either signed country was involved in war with more than one nation(s).

C. Significance of Anglo-Japanese Alliance:

- The Alliance signified the end of British *Splendid Isolation policy* 光榮孤立政策 with increasing tendency to seek diplomatic support in confrontation of colonial expansion by countries like Germany and Russia.
- Japan became the first Asian country to have alliance with a Western country in modern history on an equal basis which increased Japan's international status to become a strong nation in the World.

2. **Russian-Japanese War 日俄戰爭(1904-05)**

A. Background & Reasons of outbreak of Russian-Japanese War:

Intention of expanding territory existed in both Japan and Russia. As Japan should be awarded Manchuria as stated in *Treaty of Shimonoseki 馬關條約*, yet Japan was forced to return Liaodong Peninsula by Russia, France and Germany, leading to Japan being deprived of most interest gained as victorious power. On the other hand, as Russia refused to disarm after Eight-Power Allied Forces (1900) under the claim of protecting its citizens in Northeastern China, this induced rivalry between Russia and Japan. Thus, Japan attacked Russian Far East Fleet at *Lu Shun 旅順* and *Dalian 大連* that caused the outbreak of Russian-Japanese War in February 1904.

B. Development of Russian-Japanese War:

- Russia was defeated after the 1.5-year war and signed the *Treaty of Portsmouth 樸茨茅斯條約* in September 1905.
- Treaty required Russia's admittance of Japanese interest in North Korea and Russia's return of most Manchuria's interest back to Japan.

C. Significance of Russian-Japanese War

- The defeat in war induced Russia to focus on Near East rather than Far East, aggravating Near East crises after Russian-Japanese War.
- The defeat in war greatly reduced the British vigilance over Russia in Far East, paving for *Anglo-Russian Entente* in 1907.

3. **Abolishment of Military Ministers to be Active-Duty Officers Law** 軍部大臣現役武官制(1913)

A. **Background and Reasons for the abolishment of the Law:**

Military Ministers to be Active-Duty Officers Law was established in 1900, requiring that Secretaries of Navy and Army of the Cabinet were to be taken up by General Officer or Lieutenant General. Cabinet was not allowed to be formed if the military refused to take up the aforementioned posts.

However, when *First Constitution Protection Movement* 第一次護憲運動 or known as *Taisho Crisis* 大正政變 occurred in Japan in 1913, Association of Political Friendship and Japanese elites were dissatisfied with the political monopoly by *Genro* 元老 such as *Satsuma* 薩摩 and *Chōshū* 長州. Thus, they required the Prime Minister *Katsura Taro* 桂太郎, who was appointed by the Genro, to step down. Under such circumstance, Katsura requested Emperor Taisho for an edict to suppress opposing power. However, this triggered strong public dissatisfaction with public protests which turned out to be a riot occupying the Parliament. Katsura thus announced to resign.

As the prior Prime Minister *Saionji Kinmochi* 西園寺公望 was forced to resign due to the Military Ministers to be Active-Duty Officers Law, the subsequent Prime Minister *Yamamoto Gonnohyoe* 山本權兵衛 abolished the Law in 1913.

B. **Significance of the abolishment of the Law:**

- The cancellation of the Law was considered as a significant symbol of Japan embracing democracy in Taisho Period which restricted the Cabinet to be manipulated by the militarists.
- At a later stage, with the restoration of the Military Ministers to be Active-Duty Officers Law after *February 26 Incident* 二二六事件, this symbolized that the Cabinet was once again manipulated by the militarists with the ministers controlling Japanese politics.

4. Japan's Participation in World War I (1914-18)

A. Background and Reasons causing Japan's Participation in WWI:

World War I broke out in 1914 with confrontation between the Triple Alliance led by Germany and Austria-Hungary and the Triple Entente led by Britain, France and Russia. As *Anglo-Japanese Alliance* 英日同盟 was signed between Japan and Britain in 1902, as well as Japan's desire to obtain the *Shandong Peninsula* 山東半島 occupied by Germany, Japan declared war against Germany with the pretext of allying with Britain in 23rd August 1914. Japan occupied *Qingdao* 青島 in November 1914.

B. Significance of Japan's Participation in WWI:

- Japan's involvement in WWI enabled its acquisition of Germany's interest in Northeast China. *Treaty of Versailles* 凡爾賽條約 required Germany to submit all its colonies with the interest in Northeast China to be submitted to Japan.
- As the Great Powers of Europe and United States abandoned affairs in Far East during WWI, Japan took this opportunity to expand its interest in Far East by forcing China to sign *Twenty-One Demands* 廿一條 in 1915 to enlarge its interest in China.
- “*The war atmosphere* 戰爭景氣” promoted Japan's economic development. As Japan monopolized China's interest during WWI, with the Western powers purchasing war necessities from Japan during WWI, Japan's economy flourished during the war.
- In the long run, however, as the Great Powers returned to China's market, Japan's economy retreated.

5. **Rice Riots** 米騷動(1918)

A. **Background and Reasons causing Rice Riots:**

Despite the flourishing economy in Japan during WWI, the beneficiaries only fell upon zaibatsu and the capitalist class. The general population of farmers was still in a hard time with some of the farmers required to sell their farmland as they failed to pay the land taxes. At the same time, the workers in cities worked in a poor environment with long working hours, low wages and deprivation from social welfare and factories' entrepreneurs. In addition, the lower class successfully knocked down the capitalist class in "October Revolution 十月革命" in Russia in 1917, provoking the Japanese lower class to initiate riots.

As the price of rice elevated consistently in 1918, the general public could not afford the extremely expensive rice. More than 300 *Toyama* 富山縣 farmers encircled local rice stores to force these stores in selling rice at a low price. This eventually led to a nation-wide campaign of fighting for rice with over 2 million participants which lasted for almost 2 months.

B. **Significance of Rice Riots:**

- This reflected the poor situation in the society of Japan. It was simply on the surface to say Japan's economy was flourishing, yet livelihood of the lower class was extremely awful.
- This led to the stepping down of *Terauchi Cabinet* 寺內內閣, indirectly promoted Hara Kei as the Prime Minister.

6. First Grassroot Prime Minister *Hara Kei* 原敬(1918)

A. Background and Reasons causing the taking-over by Hara Kei:

The Cabinet led by *Terauchi* 寺內正毅 was heavily criticized due to issues related to *Rice Riots* 米騷動 and its decision to send troops to *Siberia* 西伯利亞 in 1918 and decided to step down. *Yamagato Aritomo* 山縣有朋, who was known as “*Prime Minister Maker* 首相製造者”, initially wished to invite the prior Prime Minister *Saionji Kinmochi* 西園寺公望 to take up the post. Yet, Kinmochi invited Hara Kei from the *Association of Political Friendship* 政友會 to take up the post and turned Yamagato down with his sickness as pretext. As the Association of Political Friendship compromised with Yamagato on various issues, Hara Kei took over the post of Prime Minister under Yamagato’s support and formed a cabinet with most of them being members of Association of Political Friendship.

B. Significance of the taking-over by Hara Kei:

- Hara Kei was the first Prime Minister sharing a political party background in Japan. He broke the tradition of Meiji oligarchy being Prime Minister. This symbolized that Japanese supported political parties to form cabinets and started the *period of party politics* 政黨政治時期 in Japan (1918-32) which was a symbol of Japanese politics stepping on democratization and modernization in Taisho Period.
- However, cabinets formed by political parties were not stable in Japanese politics. Political reshuffles occurred for 11 times during 1918-32.

7. Paris Peace Conference (1918)

A. Background and Reasons for calling Paris Peace Conference:

With the end of the First World War in November 1918, the Great Powers started to discuss post-war arrangements and punishing treaties for the defeated nations. Thus, *Paris Peace Conference* 巴黎和會 was held in January 1919 in *Palace Versailles* 凡爾賽宮.

B. Content of decisions made by Paris Peace Conference related to Japan:

- *Treaty of Versailles* 凡爾賽條約 required Germany to submit its colonies and Germany's occupation in Northeast China was given to Japan.

C. Significance of Paris Peace Conference:

- Though Paris Peace Conference was beneficial to Japan as Japan obtained interest in Northeast China that was initially belonged to Germany, *Washington Conference* 華盛頓會議 in 1921 indirectly forced Japan to submit its interest in China as United States feared that Japan's influence in China was too strong.

8. Washington Conference (1921-22)

A. Background and Reasons for calling Washington Conference:

United States called for Washington Conference in November 1921. United States adopted isolationism policy after WWI to prevent participation in international affairs. However, as Japanese naval strength grew rapidly in Pacific Ocean, together with Paris Peace Conference failing to solve interest issue of Manchuria well, United States called for conference with the participation by Britain, France, Italy, Belgium, Netherlands, Portugal, China and Japan. *Four-Power Treaty* 四國公約, *Five-Power Treaty* 五國公約, *Nine Power Agreement* 九國公約 were signed.

B. Content of Four-Power Treaty (United States, Britain, France, Japan):

- When two of the signed nations were in conflict in the Pacific, it should be solved with conference held amongst all signed nations.
- Mutually respect each signed nation's interest in the Pacific.

C. Content of Five-Power Treaty (United States, Britain, France, Japan, Italy):

- Agree to stop constructing *battleships* with 35,000 tons or more displacement.
- Restrict the five nations' *battleships'* 主力艦 tonnage: 5(US): 5(Britain) : 3(Japan) : 1.75(France) : 1.75(Italy)
- Restrict the five nations' *aircraft carriers'* 航空母艦 tonnage to be 135000 for US and Britain, 81000 for Japan and 60000 for both France and Italy.
- United States, Japan and Britain remained control of its own islands in the Pacific.

D. Content of Nine-Power Treaty (Signed by all participating nations):

- All nations were required to respect China's sovereignty and territorial unity.
- Equal business opportunities in China should be remained for each nation.
- Each nation was not allowed to harm another's interest in China in light of own profits.
- Each nation was not allowed to seek for patent in China or privileges in China.

E. Significance of Washington Conference:

- Four-Power Treaty broke Anglo-Japanese Entente, making Britain and Japan having distant relationship.
- Five-Power Treaty only restricted tonnage of *battleship* 主力艦 and *aircraft carrier* 航空母艦, yet did not pose any restrictions on land, air power or assistant cruisers under *small cruisers* 巡洋艦. This resulted in low effectiveness.
- Five-Power Treaty only restricted tonnage ratio of battleships yet did not establish any significant punishments. This resulted in simply zero effectiveness.
- Nine-Power Treaty infuriated Japan as it was forced to give up its interest in China.
- In general, Japan thought that Washington Conference was held to restrict its armaments and Far East Invasion, thus increasing its grudge against Western countries and paving the way for the rise of militarism in Japan.

9. **Great Kanto Earthquake 關東大地震(1923)** (also known as **Great Tokyo Earthquake 東京大地震**)

A. Occurrence of Great Kanto Earthquake:

A large-scale earthquake occurred in Kanto area in 1st September 1923 with a magnitude of 7.9. This caused over 100,000 deaths and 120,000 houses to collapse with an economic loss of USD30 billion (USD1 billion as current value).

B. Significance of Great Kanto Earthquake:

- Japan had already stepped into economic recession after the First World War, yet, Great Kanto Earthquake put Japan into an even worse economic situation. This led to Japan's strong economic predicament in 1920s.
- Party politics failed to resolve economic issues effectively. Japan's economy was in an even worse predicament after *Bank Crisis* 銀行危機(1927) and *Great Depression* 經濟大蕭條(1929), leading to Japanese more tend to support militarists.

10. *Immigration Act* 排外法案 of United States (1924)

A. Background and Reasons for establishing Immigration Act of 1924:

As there was a large amount of Asians migrating or sneaking into Europe or United States for work with these people depriving local job opportunities and resources, United States took the first step to ban Asians from migrating to United States given the spread of *Yellow Peril* 黃禍 theory in United States and Europe.

B. Content of Immigration Act of 1924:

- Asians were prohibited to become citizens of United States, marry white people and possess land in United States.

C. Significance of Immigration Act of 1924 to Japan:

- Japanese were greatly dissatisfied as they thought that this was a discrimination against Japanese. This increased hatred possessed by Japanese towards Western democratic states with more support shown towards militarists who advocated expansionist policy.

11. *General Election Law* 普通選舉法(1925)

A. Background and Reasons for promulgating General Election Law:

Genro recommended Secretary of Navy Kato Tomosaburo 加藤友三郎, Yamamoto Gonnohyoe 山本權兵衛 and Kiyoura Keig 清浦奎吾 to form cabinets in 1922-24 that stopped development of party politics. Thus, as political parties and Japan's citizens were dissatisfied with the act of genro and the military, *Association of Political Friendship* 政友會 and *Kenseikai* 憲政會 then initiated *Second Constitution Protection Movement* 第二次護憲運動 and forced *Kiyoura Cabinet* 清浦內閣 to step down. The subsequent Prime Minister Kato Takaaki successfully enabled the Parliament to pass *General Election Law* 普通選舉法.

B. Content of General Election Law:

- Voting rights were possessed by male aged 25 or above.

C. Significance of General Election Law:

- It served as a symbol of modernization and democratization of Japan's politics. As Japan's voting rights were given to male that paid a certain amount of tax in the past, the promulgation of General Election Law enabled all male aged 25 or above regardless of their financial status.
- *Peace Preservation Law* 治安維持法 was promulgated at the same time with General Election Law. "*Absolute Monarchy* 君主專制政體" and "*Privatization of Properties* 財產私有制" were considered as crime. This was initially aiming at suppressing Communism, however it became a tool for the government to suppress opposing voices.

12. **Bank Crisis** 銀行危機(1927)

A. **Background and Reasons for causing Bank Crisis:**

As “*improper loans* 不正貸款” were found in several banks of Tokyo and over 30 financial institutes in 1927, *credit crisis* 信用危機 and *bank runs* 擠提現象 occurred with a nation-wide crisis induced. The crisis also affected Taiwan which was ruled under Japan at that time.

B. **Process and Results of Bank Crisis:**

- *Wakatsuki Cabinet* 若槻內閣 requested promulgation of an emergency edict requesting non-regular loans to be provided to Taiwan banks from Japanese banks. It also required Japanese government to subsidize 200 million Japanese dollars to Japanese banks from national treasury.
- Yet, when the proposal was reviewed in *Privy Council* 樞密院, the military and Association of Political Friendship refused to pass the proposal. They criticized the proposal heavily as they thought that domestic policies of Wakatsuki Cabinet were far too weak in influence. This eventually led to stepping down of the Cabinet.
- At the end, the newly-established *Tanaka Cabinet* 田中內閣 and large banks drained 2.9 billion Japanese dollars and suspended cash withdrawal from all banks for 3 weeks to put a halt to the crisis.

C. **Significance of Bank Crisis:**

- More than 30 banks collapsed in the crisis. This also led to collapse of large amount of factories with unemployment of workers and aggravated the economic predicament of Japan. This then served as the economic factor for the rise of militarism.
- This reflected confrontation of *Kenseikai* 憲政會 and *Association of Political Friendship* 政友會. Wakatsuki Cabinet of Kenseikai was forced to step down under criticisms and attack by Association of Political Friendship.
- *Tanaka Giichi* 田中義一 of Kenseikai consolidated the mechanism of party politics – another political party could replace a stepping-down cabinet to form a new government.

13. *Far East Conference* 東京會議(1927)

A. Background and Results for calling Far East Conference:

- As the consistent expansion of influence of United States in China heavily affected interest of Japan, *Fengtian clique warlord* 奉系軍閥 in China (*Zhang Zuolin* 張作霖) tended to support United States instead of being manipulated by Japan as before. Under such circumstance, Japan knew that it was necessary to increase manipulation in China and drafted the new *Manchuria-Mongolia Policy* 滿蒙政策.
- Extreme militarist *Tanaki Giichi* 田中義一 called for Far East Conference in Tokyo in June 1927 after his term of office began in April to discuss expansionist policy to be implemented in China.

B. Content of Far East Conference:

- *China policy program* 對華政策綱領 in the Conference explicitly pointed out that it was necessary to split *Manchuria-Mongolia* 滿蒙 from China's territory.

C. Significance of Far East Conference:

- The Conference consolidated Japanese expansionist policy in China which served as the theoretical basis for Japan's invasion in China.
- It was claimed that Tanaka Giichi submitted *Tanaka Memorial* 田中奏摺 to the Emperor. Yet, it was found out that the Memorial was a fiction at a later stage.

14. **Great Depression 經濟大蕭條(1929)**

A. Background and Reasons for Great Depression:

United States replaced UK and became the most affluent nation in the world after WWI. People considered consumption as a kind of showing-off as Americans were confident with the economic development prospect. Thus, Americans invested largely in the stock market, and even borrowed loans for investments, leading to the disproportion between growth in stock market and actual economic growth.

Some Americans started to earn profits through selling off their stocks in October 1929, which was followed by large amount of Americans. Wall Street stock market drastically dropped. USD30 billion was lost in the stock market in two weeks, which was equivalent to United States' total expenditure in WWI. Drop in stock market led to depression in each field in United States, with closure of large amount of banks and large amount of jobless workers

B. Reasons of Great Depression triggering chain effects:

- United States made large amount of loans to Europe during WWI and after such as *Dawes Plan 道茲計劃* and *Young Plan 楊格計劃* to Germany. Hence, when United States took back loans from other nations during Great Depression as its economic status collapsed, chain effect affected nations that received US loans.
- In addition, trade protection policies with trade barriers were set up after Great Depression to protect domestic industries. Economic conditions became even worse with lowering trades.

C. Impact of Great Depression on Japan:

- Global economic recession led to decrease in Japanese export with a 50% reduction in total export in 1929-31. Also, as factories collapsed, heavy unemployment was induced with a population of 3 million.
- As Japan experienced 3 serious economic crises (*Great Kanto Earthquake 關東大地震* in 1923; *Bank Crisis* in 1927 and *Great Depression 經濟大蕭條* in 1929), support of expansionist policy increased and led to great public support generated by expansions and policies of militarists in 1930s.
- Party politics failed to solve economic issues effectively in the 3 serious economic crises. This led to the dissatisfaction from citizens towards democratic governance and favoured the emergence of militarism.

15. London Naval Conference 倫敦海軍會議 (1930)

A. Background and Reasons for calling London Naval Conference

Washington Conference only restricted tonnages of *battleship* 主力艦 and *aircraft carriers* 航空母艦. Different nations would like to extend the restriction in limiting ratio of *cruisers* 巡洋艦. *London Naval Conference* 倫敦海軍條約 was held in January 1930. United States, Britain, Japan, France and Italy participated in the Conference, yet France and Italy refused to sign *London Naval Treaty*.

B. Content of London Naval Treaty:

- Extending the prohibition of building *battleship* 主力艦 with 35,000 or above tonnage to 1936
- Ratio of *small cruisers* 小型巡洋艦 and *destroyers*: 10 (United States) : 10 (Britain) : 7 (Japan)
- Ratio of large cruisers 大型巡洋艦: 5 (United States) : 5 (Britain) : 3 (Japan)
- Additional condition: When a non-signed nation initiated military expansion, signed nations could start its military expansion as well

C. Significance of London Naval Treaty on Japan:

- Initially, the reduction in naval expenses after Great Depression may reduce Japan's military expenses and enable the implementation of a tax-reduction policy of 134 million Japanese dollars through disarmament. However, the Conference was greatly disappointing to Japanese.
- As the military had a higher expectation towards the Conference before it was officially held, for example attaining the goal of ratio among US : Britain : Japan as 10:10:7. However, the Cabinet accepted the proposal of 5:5:3 which made the military greatly dissatisfied. The general citizens also found the results unacceptable with the thought of the Cabinet putting a halt to Japanese naval development.
- The military and rightists expressed their dissatisfaction of the Conference towards the Cabinet government. During the same year, the Prime Minister *Osachi Hamaguchi* 濱口雄幸 was attacked by *Tomeo Sagoya* 佐郷屋留雄 of rightist organization *Aikoku-Sha* 愛國社 and was heavily injured. Hamaguchi died in the subsequent year due to bacterial infection.
- Japanese thought that the Conference was a prejudice to Japan and showed the desire to stop Japanese naval expansion. This led to worsening relationship between Japan and western nations.

16. **September 18 Incident** 九一八事變(1931)

A. Background and Reasons for causing September 18 Incident:

As the economic situation in Japan worsened greatly, together with the unfair international treatment shown towards Japan in 1920s, militarists shared a large desire to invade other nations in order to both resolve the economic predicament as well as strengthen Japan's strong national status. Thus, in early 1930s, Kwantung Army which was stationed in China started to initiate plans to invade China.

Japanese army stationing in Manchuria used "Chinese army destroyed *South Manchuria Railway* 南滿鐵路 constructed by Japan" as pretext to fire with Chinese army on 18th September 1931. Japan eventually invaded *Shenyang* 瀋陽.

B. Significance of September 18 Incident:

- This incident was initiated by Kwantung Army of Japan which started invading plans without notifying the Parliament. This reflected the low recognition of Japanese government.
- Poor economic environment led to severe domestic grumbles. This military-initiated invasion attracted general citizens' support towards the military and promoted the rise of militarism.
- This incident started Japanese invasion in China – "*January 28 Incident* 一二八事變" occurred in 1932 with full invasion started after "*July 7 Incident* 七七事變" in 1937.
- League of Nations proved that Japanese act was considered as invasion in September 18 Incident and posed sanction and condemnation on Japan. Yet, Japan withdrew from League of Nations in 1933.

17. **January 28 Incident** 一二八事變(1932)

A. **Background and Reasons for causing January 28 Incident:**

Japan decided to intensify invasion in China after *September 18 Incident* 九一八事變 and thus invaded Shanghai and nearby regions on 28th January 1932 with the pretext of protecting Japanese in China. Chinese soldiers fought with great efforts until 5th May when China and Japan signed *Shanghai Ceasefire Agreement* 上海停戰協定 under mediation of League of Nations and United States. Japan promised to retreat unconditionally and solved the crisis.

B. **Significance of January 28 Incident:**

- The great efforts shown by Chinese soldiers were partly effective in restraining Japan's invasion after January 28 Incident. Thus, Japan took a temporarily milder military approach in China.
- League of Nations was greatly pressurized in January 28 Incident as the Western Powers possessed great amount of interest in Shanghai, with the example of 80% and 90% capital of Britain and France respectively invested in Shanghai. Thus, the League found it necessary to stop Japan's invasion to protect its interest.
- Japan thought that the League was a hindrance to their invasion plan and thus it withdrew from the League in 1933.
- The Incident worsened Japanese-Soviet relations as Soviet Union was dissatisfied with Japan's invasion in both incidents. Conflict of interest in Manchuria became the catalyst of aggravating Japanese-Soviet relations.

18. **May 15 Incident** 五一五事件(1932)

A. **Background and Reasons for causing May 15 Incident:**

Kwantung Army in China wished to initiate invasions since late 1920s with attempts such as bombing the leader of Beiyang Army Zhang Zuolin in 1928, *September 18 Incident* 九一八事變 in 1931 and *January 28 Incident* 一二八事變 in 1932. Yet, the Japanese cabinet was greatly dissatisfied with Kwantong Army's non-permitted invasions operated as Japan's government feared that strong international pressure will be induced. Prime Minister *Inukai Tsuyoshi* 犬養毅 objected the establishment of *Manchukuo* 滿洲國.

Under such circumstance, young domestic soldiers and militarist organization *Brotherhood of Blood League* 血盟團 were greatly enraged with the passive act of Japan's government. These soldiers and the Brotherhood of Blood League initiated the political coup with attacks to the Prime Minister's residence, headquarters of Association of Political Friendship, Mitsubishi Bank and other places.

B. **Results of May 15 Incident:**

- During the incident, Prime Minister Inukai was assassinated.
- Though the culprit surrendered, there were 350,000 citizens pledging in blood to require lenient sentence to the culprit. Thus, a milder sentence of 15 years was made.
- After the incident, the Minister of Navy *Saito Makoto* 齋藤實 succeeded the Prime Minister.

C. **Significance of May 15 Incident:**

- It symbolized the end of party politics with the militarists taking over. Japan officially entered *The Dark Valley* 黑暗的幽谷.
- The Minister of Navy Saito Makoto succeeded the Prime Minister after May 15 Incident. Prime Minister was taken up by soldiers or militarists until 1945.
- Among the 15 cabinet members of the newly established cabinet, only 5 members had the background of political parties. Other members were high-ranking military officials or political officials. This marked the end of party politics.
- The Incident reflected Japanese support shown towards militarists as there were 350,000 citizens pledging in blood to require lenient sentence to the culprit.
- The culprit in the Incident gained Japanese support. As the culprit was given lenient sentence, it indirectly promoted *February 26 Incident* 二二六事件 in 1936.

19. Japan's withdrawal from League of Nations (1933)

A. Background and Reasons for Japan's withdrawal from League of Nations:

Japan started its invasion in China since *September 18 Incident* 九一八事變 in 1931. The League had completed a research for more than a year to prove that Japan's military action in China was considered as an invasion. Thus, the League condemned Japan and posed economic sanction on Japan. Moreover, militarists took rule since *May 15 Incident* 五一五事變 in 1932. Thus, Japan withdrew from the League.

B. Significance of Japan's withdrawal from League of Nations:

- Japan became more aggressive in its invasion. Though *Shanghai Ceasefire Agreement* 上海停戰協定 was signed in 1932 after *January 28 Incident* 一二八事變 under pressure exerted by United States and Britain, Japan continued its invasion in China and even fully invaded China in 1937.

20. February 26 Incident 二二六事件(1936)

A. Background and Reasons for causing February 26 Incident:

In early 1930s, the land forces of the military was divided into two factions: namely *Imperial Way Faction* 皇道派 supporting Emperor's rule and rural reforms as well as *Control Faction* 統制派 supporting Japan's transformation into a highly-militarized nation. As Imperial Way Faction wished to revive Emperor's rule and stabilized governance under deepening contradiction between both Factions, Imperial Way Faction initiated the political coup on 26th February 1936 with 1,400 soldiers encircling the Palace with attacks on places such as residence of Prime Minister and Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department.

B. Results of February 26 Incident:

- A large number of major ministers was assassinated such as the previous Prime Minister *Saito Makato* 齋藤實 and Finance Minister *Kato Takaaki* 高橋是清.
- *Emperor Hirohito* 裕仁天皇 condemned this Incident as a military riot and forced surrender by the rioters.
- Rioters surrendered with death penalty on 19 culprits.

C. Significance of February 26 Incident:

- The Incident reflected that party politics failed to control the military with decreasing influence of political parties' members in the Cabinet. The military almost fully controlled the Cabinet with only 1-2 members of political parties.
- Japan resumed *Military Ministers to be Active-Duty Officers Law* 軍部大臣現役武官制 in 1913 after the Incident. It was stated that a cabinet could not be formed unless the military agreed to take up posts of Ministers of Navy and Army.
- As Imperial Way Faction was eliminated, Control Faction controlled the Cabinet with Japan entering the stage of military dictatorship governance.
- As militarists shared stabilized political status in the government, it promoted its full invasion plan in China leading to *July 7 Incident* 七七事變 in 1937.

21. **Anti-Comintern Pact 反共產國際協定(1936)**

A. Background of forming Anti-Comintern Pact:

Germany and Japan were not close initially. Yet, with the ruling of *Hitler 希特拉* starting from 1933 and the rise of militarism in 1930s Japan, both nations shared similar ideologies and considered the communist Soviet Union as a great threat. As for Japan, Soviet Union had long been competitor with Japan in Manchuria, the spread of Communism made Japan to be afraid of it. Regarding Germany, *Treaty of Mutual Assistance 互助條約* between Soviet Union and France (1935) made Germany to be afraid of the re-emergence of Franco-Russian alliance, thus drawing Japan together in fighting against Soviet Union. *Anti-Comintern Pact 反共產國際協定* was signed in November 1936.

B. Content of Anti-Comintern Pact:

- The signed nations should exchange information about *Communist International*.
- The signed nations should provide preventive measures to countries that are under threat of Communism or invite them to join the Pact.
- When one signed nation faced attack or threat of Soviet Union, another nation should at least maintain neutrality.

C. Significance of Anti-Comintern Pact:

- Alliance was established between Germany and Japan that encouraged both nations' invasion plans.
- Basis of *Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Axis 柏林—羅馬—東京軸心* was formed as Germany made allies with Italy and Japan

22. July 7th Incident 七七事變 (1937)

A. Background and Reasons for causing July 7th Incident:

Militarists took great power in Japan during the 1930s that intensified Japan's invasion in China. Japanese army stationing in China used "finding missing Japanese soldiers" as pretext to request for entering areas that were controlled by China for investigation. China rejected, thus Japan initiated invasion to China in 8th July 1937

B. Significance of July 7th Incident:

- Official beginning of Sino-Japanese War that lasted for 8 years.
- Reflected the failure of League of Nations: Japan rejected League of Nations' request to temporarily return as a member state in discussing solution to the conflict after China's request for help, while Japan continued its invasion though Council requested member nations to make sanction against Japan.

23. National Mobilization Law 國家總動員法 (1938)

A. Background and Reasons for promulgating National Mobilization Law:

As Japan fully invaded China in 1937, the government promulgated *National Mobilization Law* 國家總動員法 on 1st April 1938 to cope with the needs of the military.

B. Content of National Mobilization Law:

- The government took the lead in organizing labour and materials to attain the purpose of gaining victory in wars.
- Japan's government announced 70% of its expenses in military during the year when National Mobilization Law was promulgated.
- Military expenses increased to take up 99% of financial budget in 1944.

C. Significance of National Mobilization Law:

- National Mobilization Law prioritized military interest in Japan's economic production. With major expenses spent on military development, it indirectly pulled Japan's economy into a pool of sluggish water.

24. *New Order in Greater East Asia* 大東亞新秩序(1938)

A. Background and Reasons for emergence of New Order in Greater East Asia:

The Prime Minister of Japan *Fumimaro Konoe* 近衛文麿 proposed New Order in Greater East Asia calling for relationships between Japan and Eastern and Southeastern Asian nations as “*co-existing and co-prospering* 共存共榮”. After this, *Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere* 大東亞共榮圈 was initiated in 1940 liberating East Asia and Southeast Asia. Japan, Manchukuo and Chinese governance led by Wang Jing-wei served as the economic community with the Southeastern Asian nations as resources’ suppliers.

B. Significance of New Order in Greater East Asia:

- New Order in Greater East Asia and Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere served to liberate East Asia and Southeast Asia on the surface, yet they were in fact imperial invasions of Japan.
- Japan wished to adopt the approach of *sustaining the war by means of war* 以戰養戰 – through obtaining resources from Southeast Asia as supplies to invade China further.
- The influence of “*Greater East Asia* 大東亞” ideology led to attack of Japan in different nations of Southeast Asia such as Vietnam, Cambodia and Indonesia.

25. *Imperial Rule Assistance Association (IRRA)* 大政翼贊會(1940)

A. Background and Reasons for establishing IRRA:

Militarists started manipulating the government since mid-1930s. Yet, in order to mimic a governance of one-party dictatorship as in places like Italy and Germany, Prime Minister *Fumimaro Konoe* 近衛文麿 initiated *New National Structure Movement* 新體制運動. This served to include other political parties under this movement with Japan becoming one-party Fascist-rule governance. This marked the official end of party politics. President of Imperial Rule Assistance Association was taken up by Prime Minister of Japan until Japan was defeated in 1945. All presidents were all militarists.

B. Significance of Imperial Rule Assistance Association:

- Though militarists succeeded in manipulating Japan’s politics after *February 26 Incident* 二二六事變, Japan was still a nation with various political parties. Yet, with the establishing of Imperial Rule Assistance Association, party politics in Japan ended officially with one-party rule governance established.

26. Japan's attack on Pearl Harbour 珍珠港(1941)

A. Background and Reasons for Japan's attack on Pearl Harbour:

United States did not join WWII initially that reserved its military strength - Yet, Japan's national strength was decreasing due to consistent wars with China - Japan wished to invade colonies of United States, Britain and Netherlands in Southeast Asia in gaining resources such as oil and rice. With worsening Japanese-US relationship, United States froze Japanese assets in United States in July 1941 and adopted oil embargo and economic sanction towards Japan. Japan thought that it was necessary to fight against United States given the similar reason as Germany assaulting Soviet Union, thus assaulted *Pearl Harbour* (naval base of United States in Hawaii), leading to outbreak of Pacific War.

B. Significance of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbour:

- Greatly contributed to the success of the Allies in 1945.
- Post-war issues led to great divergence between United States and Soviet Union, leading to the occurrence of Cold War.

27. Defeat of Japan in Second World War (1945)

A. Background for the defeat of Japan in Second World War:

Japan's attack on Pearl Harbour in 1941 served as a great destruction towards navy of United States in Pacific Ocean. Yet, in the long run, Japan's economy dried up as Japan faced strong threat with United States' participation in war and low effectiveness in defeating China. Thus, Japan was in a weaker status in Pacific War with United States gaining victory in major battles such as *Battle of Leyte Gulf 雷伊泰灣海戰* and *Battle of Iwo Jima 硫磺島戰役*. Japan lost gradually. At the end, United States threw two atomic bombs in *Hiroshima 廣島* and *Nagasaki 長崎* on 6th and 9th August 1945 respectively. Japan announced its unconditional surrender, marking the end of Second World War with Japan's surrender.

B. Significance of the defeat of Japan in Second World War:

- Japan was occupied by SCAP led by United States and manipulated by foreign states until *Treaty of San Francisco 三藩市條約* was signed in 1952.
- Japan transformed greatly in political, economic, social, military, diplomatic and other aspects. Please refer to Japan (Late 20th) notes.