### 1<sup>st</sup> and 2nd Sino-Japanese Wars







Beginning in August of 1894, The Sino-Japanese War was a war fought between The Qing Dynasty of China and Meiji Japan. Although there was smaller reasons the main cause of the Sino-Japanese War was over control of Korea.

The war lasted less than a year ending in April of 1895. Although the physical war had ended it was not but 40 years later that both countries were at war again in the Second Sino-Japanese War



#### MAIN CAUSE

The Tonghak Rebellion (1894-1895)

#### **Ancillary Causes**

- Japanese aggression toward Chinese in Korea
- Japanese desire for a unified, and modern Asia



#### The Tonghak Rebellion (1894-1895)

#### The Tonghak Rebellion

- A demonstration by 20,000 Tonghak (academic movement influenced by Chinese philosophy) in 1893, in front of the royal palace in Seoul gives the first clues to peasant disapproval of the Korean government, specifically the yangban's involvement with foreign powers.
- Korean government reacted to the action taken by the rebels in Kobu (dispersion of tax collected rice to peasants, seizure of weapons, and the taking of the county office).
- The Tonghaks released a call to arms among the peasantry of Korea. The rebellion achieved multiple early victories, and with each victory, their numbers increased.
- The Korean government quickly called for military aid from Yuan Shi-kai and the Chinese.



# Japanese Aggression

- When China informed Japan of her intention to aid in the suppression of the Tonghak Rebellion, the Meiji court offered Japanese assistance.
- China declined, and the Japanese decided to send their troops to the Korean peninsula anyway.
- The Japanese chose to attack Chinese forces without a formal declaration of war, thus starting the first Sino-Japanese War.

# The Japanese Agenda?

- The Japanese absolutely had ulterior motives in taking part in the first Sino-Japanese war.
  - As a recently modernized nation, they clearly desired to gain the respect of the western powers, however, the reputation of the East Asians was one of a weak and inferior people who presented no threat to the western powers.
  - Perhaps the Japanese took it upon themselves to civilize both China and Korea, through warfare, in an effort to unify a modern East Asia, similar to Europe.

# Tonghak

Tonghak, and indigenous Korean religion, emerged in the 1860's under the guidance of Ch'oe Che-u. Che-u's teachings were based on "the main religious or philosophical ideas of Confucianism, Buddhism, Taoism, and Korean spirit worship, plus some limited Christian aspects." These teachings were focused toward the fair treatment of peasant farmers.

# **Early Conflicts**



- The sinking of the Kowshing
  - The British-owned ship the Kowshing, transporting Chinese troops to Korea, was stopped on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 1894 by the Japanese ship Naniwa.
  - The captain of the Kowshing agreed to the capture, but the Chinese on board eventually mutinied rather than be captured.
  - The Naniwa opened fire and sunk the Kowshing.

# **Early Conflicts**

The battle of Seonghwan

Chinese took most of their forces to a location near Seonghwan, and fortified it heavily

July 29, the Japanese forces attack shortly after midnight to avoid being seen

- The Chinese retreated at 5:30 AM
- Casualties (according to the Japanese): Chinese had 500 killed or wounded, Japanese had 82 killed or wounded.

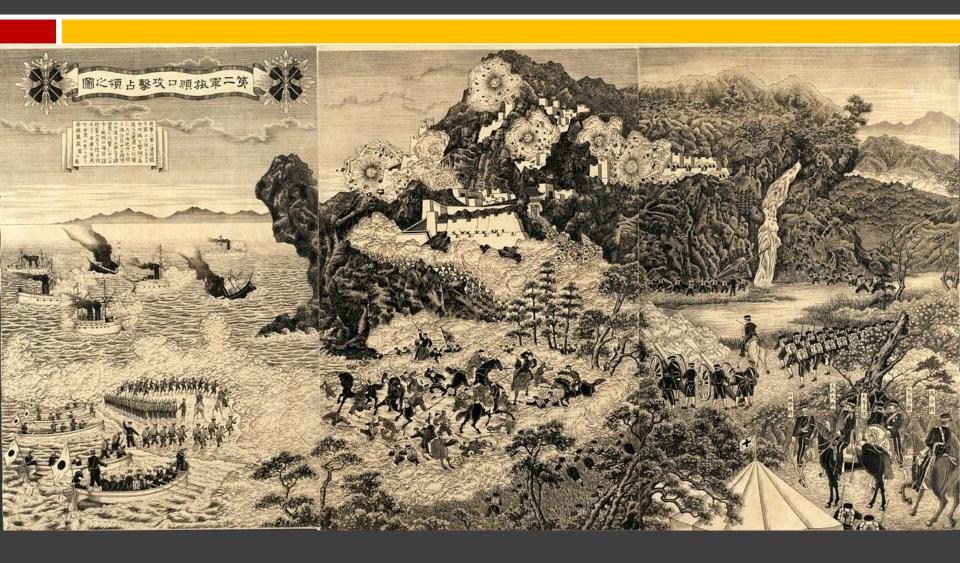
# The Beginning of the War

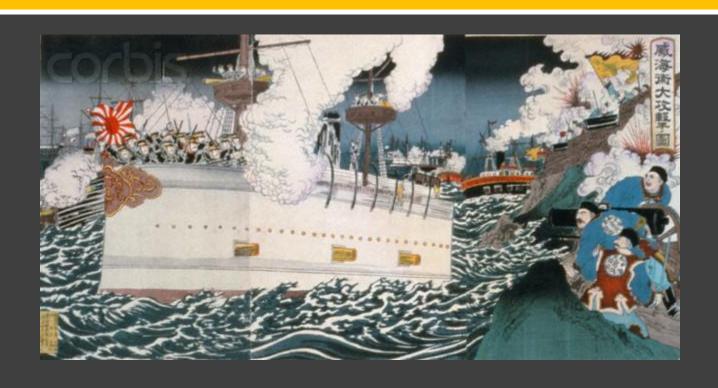
- War was officially declared on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1894.
- Battle of Pyongyang
  - Lasted ONE day
  - Casualties: Chinese had 2,700 killed, more than 14,000 wounded or captured. Japanese had 30 killed and 269 wounded.













#### The End of the War

The Treaty of Shimonoseki, signed April 17<sup>th</sup>, 1895, formally ended the war with China's defeat.



# The Treaty of Shimonoseki

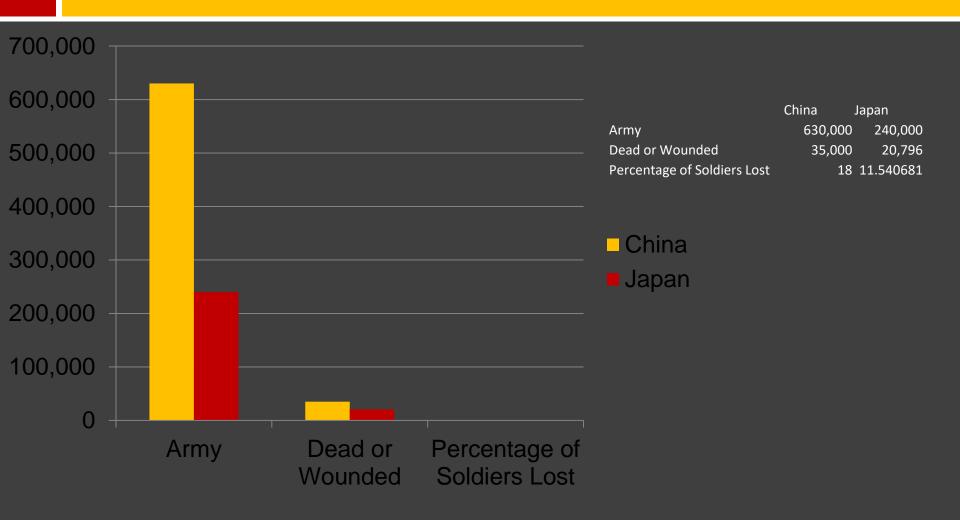


The Treaty of Shimonoseki was signed on April 17th, 1895 deeming Japan the winner of The Sino-Japanese War. This treaty held many terms in which China was forced to agree too.

- For starters, China was to acknowledge Korea's independence, in which it had previously held control over.
- China was then to cede Taiwan, the Liaodong Peninsula, Port Arthur and the Pescadores Islands to Japan.
- It was then to open the ports of Chongqing, Hangzhou, Shashi, and Suzhou to Japanese trade.
- Finally, China was to pay an indemnity of 200 million taels to Japan.
- A week later, however, France, Germany, and Russia demanded that Japan relinquish Port Arthur and the Liaodong Peninsula back to China.
- Japan agreed and gave them back, but China had to pay an additional indemnity for this to happen.



# Casualties







# THE SECOND SINO - JAPANESE WAR

SEPTEMBER 1931-1945
THE WAR THAT SET THE TONE FOR WORLD WAR II

#### PRE - WAR MANEUVERS 1931 - 1937

- Japanese troops invade Manchuria, a province North of China.
- China was at the time very unstable, recently undergoing a regime change.
- The Republic of China was fractured and was built around rival warlords



Japanese troops marching through Shenyang, a large city in southern Manchuria

#### MARCO POLO BRIDGE INCIDENT JULY 7, 1937 – AUGUST 9, 1937

- Japanese and Chinese forces exchange fire outside of Lugou (Marco Polo Bridge) Just outside of Beijing
- Cease-fire is called on July 9, however the treaty is quickly broken
- By July 25 the Japanese sack the cities of Beijing and Tianjin



Marco Polo Bridge, a key transit system into Beijing, the bridge lies 15 km southwest of the city.

#### THE BATTLE OF SHANGHAI AUGUST 13, 1937 – NOVEMBER 1937

- Chairman Kai-shek feels that the Japanese are close to breaking
- He then musters a massive force to expel the Japanese from Shanghai



The Japanese land over 200,000 troops to retake the city. They eventually succeed, but the losses are staggering.



Chiang Kai-shek, a Chinese political and military leader, led the Chinese forces.

# THE RAPE OF NANKING DECEMBER 13, 1937 – JANUARY 1938

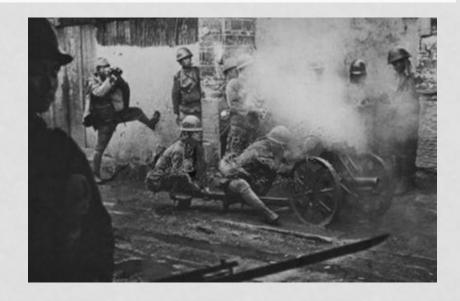
- Chiang Kai-shek knew that the Japanese would take Nanking, the capital of China
- He hopes to wear down the Japanese forces and Kai-shek abandons the city
- Because of the victory
   Japanese field generals
   continue to push into
   China



When the Japanese enter the city they begin to rape and pillage the city. Over 300,000 citizens are massacred, and tens of thousands of women are raped.

#### CLOSE OF THE WAR JANUARY 1938 - 1941

- The Japanese take their first defeats
- With casualties mounting the Japanese lead a massive air campaign, killing millions
- In response to this the Chinese make one last offensive, which leads to the destruction of the Chinese Army



Chinese forces were not used to modern warfare, and lacked the industrial and resource backing that the Japanese had. Because of this China would continue to be occupied until 1945.