Contemporary and Popular Japanese Cultures & Societies
June 23 – July 1, 2007

Notebook & Album

Elizabeth Ervin
Scenic Route
International Christian University (ICU)

Atypical Tokyo University: 150 acres
Sophia University
Modern History of Tokyo

“Edo” 1600-1868
- Peaceful Shogun Period via caste organization and lack of rights
- Increased living standard, shopping, literacy, productivity, travel
- Value having money and work hard to get it: “Industrious Revolution”

Meiji Restoration 1868
Meiji Period 1868 → “Tokyo”
- Western Modernization

1910-1930s: Military draft
- Relocation, urbanization, reeducation, resocialization
Wartime: Armor
Non-wartime: Samurai → Bureaucrats

Saigo Takamuri, the last Samurai
3 Concurrent Japans

- Traditional: Resisting the West
  - Kimono, cherry blossom, ethnic boom 1980s+

- Pop Culture: JPop
  - Manga, anime, cosplay

- Revisionist: New History
  - Changing WWII, omitting Kamikazes

→ Build into a “cool” community with “play”

→ But affects productivity
Societal Mix of Techno-orientalism

“Gross National Cool” and Strict Economy

A means to live out fantasies and hard work

Anime, manga

Power, Sex

Repression

$5.4B/yr

10000 years ago

Painting, fashion, tattoos, funky

2000 years ago

Rules, austere, religious, military, social class

Example: Strictly regulated baseball vs. cool soccer
Uniform Society

- Uniforms for every job
  - Remarkable! School uniforms are cool!
- Denial/revise history so no division
- Not alienating TV, rather networking technology
- Still searching for another national identity, i.e. national flag and anthem 1999

Ad: “If you want to be an individual, be like me.”
Sense of Community

- Nihonese
- Global
Old vs. New
Community-Wide Change to “Cool” Japan
Just New, Sexy Japan

Louis Vuitton
Cosplay

- Junior High to 20
- Similar costumes even though desire to be different

Goth Lolly
Manga and Anime

**Manga**
- 1800s: Ukiyo-e artists
- Meiji Period: Political satire
- 1947: The New Treasure Island by Tezuka
- 1070s: Appeal to girls
- Heavy issues and symbolism

**Anime**
- Often from popular manga characters
- 1917 to France
- 1961 to USA (1962 Astro Boy)
Manga

12th – 13th century

Chojyu Giga (鳥獣戯画)
Manga...as signs
More Signs
Textbooks?
Graffiti?
Wonder Woman... Anime?

- Appearance
- “Twin theme”
A Professor?
Shopping
Food!
Even Tokyo Disneyland

“Cool”
Toys
Gadgets
Museum Controls

Thermohygrometer
Early Tools

- **Balance**
- **For money**
Early Tools Cont.

- **Straight Line Machine**
- **Sumi-Tsubo, Ink Stand**
- **Carpenters, masons, construction workers**
- **Inked string is snapped to transfer ink**
Early Tools Cont.

Crane Pulleys
Bicycle Lots

Parking Enforcement Officers
Commuter Rail System

Shinjuku Sta: 2M people/day
Trains
Transportation
Transportation
Metropolitan Expressway
(1964 Olympics)
Edo-Tokyo Museum

Sumo
Tokyo National Museum
Imperial Palace Walls

- With moat
- Without mortar
Imperial Palace

Nijubashi Bridge
Religious Locations
Tsurugaoka Hachiman Shrine

*Shinto*
Tsurugaoka Hachiman Shrine Cont.

Wash to purify self before entering
Kotoku-in Temple – Daibutsu

Kotoku-in Monastery
Hase Kannon Temple

Japanese Buddhist
Hase Kannon
Temple Cont.
Religious Sects

### Source 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
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<td>Buddhism</td>
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<td>Christianity</td>
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<td>No personal belief</td>
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### Source 2 (in 2000)

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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>93M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christianity</td>
<td>1.4M</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>216M</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Actual Population</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Difference</strong></td>
<td><strong>89M</strong></td>
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</table>

Only agreement is that Christianity is 1% of the population (and that the overall population of Japan is decreasing).
Yasukuni Shrine

Controversial: Separation of church and state – shrine or war memorial?

After the Class-A war criminals were enshrined here, the late Emperor Hirohito never worshipped here again.
Revisionism

It is cool to be Japanese— I will ignore disturbing war crimes and change history to prevent community division.

I won’t even discuss this.
Literature

Male Writers
- Male = protagonist
- Female = antagonist
- Japanese = innocence, naivety
- American/Western = corruption, sinners

Female Writers
- Male = protagonist
- Female struggles with motherhood, sexuality, siblings, politics, society
- Suppressed
- Appreciate women but only in magic realism
The Arts

Kaidan-Dansu

Paper Stencils
Fabric Arts
Woodblock Prints
Theater

- Noh

- Kabuki
Kanto Loam is not glacial deposit but wind-deposited volcanic ash.

- Black humus topsoil
- Top Layer: 10,000-35,000 years ago, Jomon
- Second Layer: 35,000-50,000 years ago
- Deeper Layers: Paleolithic Tachikawa Loam, evidence of people begins 10 layers down
- Tokyo and Yokohama both stand on soft river deposits that are especially prone to tremors.
Geography
Geography: Ueno

*Highlands vs. Lowlands (10m variation)*
Archaeological Discoveries: Landfill
Modern “Landfills”

Metro Tokyo Incinerator

Seaside Tokyo Incinerator
Reclaimed and Man-made Land
Tribal Buildings
Destruction and Construction
Variety

New with Old

Steel, concrete, RC
27 Fl. above, 2 Fl. below ground

Architecture
Tokyo Station

Opened in 1914. Japan's main train station.
Numerous underground tracks.
2 dome roofs, damaged in WWII, repaired with slat-style roofs.
Rainbow Bridge (1993)

Cable suspension crossing northern Tokyo Bay
570m span, 918m long
Tower 127m high
2 levels, 3 train lines
Seasonal walkways
Solar lamps
Bridge Views Cont.

Akihabara Bridge

Kachidoki Bridge
Drawbridge but not drawn since 1970

Onniboyashi Bridge
Nihonbashi Bridge

- Original wood built in 1603.
- Edo-Tokyo Museum replica
- Historical center of Tokyo
- Granite arch in 1911.
- Metropolitan Expressway overshadows it, want to move the road!
- Washed every summer by 1,200 volunteers
Seismic Bridge Design
Other Structures

Swedish Embassy
(1990)
RC, 8 Fl. above,
2 Fl. below
ground
Reinforcements
Last 2 Major Tokyo Earthquakes

1855 (Ansei-Edo)
Epicenter below the city

1923 (Great Kanto)
Epicenter in Sagami Bay

+16th century record: major Tokyo quake every 80 years

Subduction Zone
The 1855 Earthquake: Oct. 2, 1855

- Versus 1923: 1855 more violent
  - Edo was not yet modern, so easier recovery
  - 10% of buildings collapsed, 2.5 times more
  - 1400 storehouses collapsed, 36 times more

- Total of about 10,000 casualties
  - 90% from collapsing structures

- 50 different fires, 2.2 km² burned, 4700 people died, 1074 of which burned in Yoshiwara

- 16000 ruined buildings

- Whole country aided in rebuilding, not enough though. Even relief huts from merchants.

- Actually money in Tokyo!
September 1, 1923 11:58am

- Greatest damage and loss of life in history: 71,000 people killed or missing in the city alone;
- Lunchtime! Fires broke out all over.
  - Fanned by strong winds, nearby typhoon
  - Broken water mains were no help
  - Downtown had densely packed wood buildings
- Officially, 7.3 on Richter Scale
- Up to 24ft upheaval, 800-1,000 die from landslides
- 10m-11m tsunami
- More energy expended than in WWII
1923 Quake Stats

- 52,000 died from the 100+ fires before extinguished on Sept. 3

- Mass casualties at all public locations
  - 44,000 (or 33,000 or 38,000 or 40,000) people burnt in one clothing depot

- Aftershocks: 57; >300/day for 4 days

- Dead or missing: 100,000; 130,000; 140,000; 142,000; 142,807 (officially)

- Injured: 52,000; 103,000

- Surviving Tokyo population: 11,758,00

- Homeless numbers: 3,248,205 (officially); 1.9M; 1.5M

- 60%, 2/3, 71% of Tokyo destroyed
1923 Quake

Infrastructure

- 360 bridges of 675 impassible
- People could not escape the fires and jumped in the river, drowned
- One wood building remains in Ueno
- Brick and stone buildings crumbled but reinforced concrete buildings stood – little damage to the eye, so became most common building type
- Argued over the cost of rebuilding so government only did a few wide streets downtown
- Remainder of rebuilding fell upon the poor and the merchants
The Ryounkaku tower
a.k.a. the “Twelve Stories”

- 60m tall, completed in 1890
- Popular Symbol of Asakusa
- Floors: 1-10 = brick; 11-12 = wood
- 1st elevator in Japan (to Floor 8) but closed for safety
1923 Quake Aftermath

- Stop of all communication → social chaos resulted.
- Martial law was proclaimed on Sept. 2 (or Sept. 8)
- Order via military police and civilian vigilantes
- Several incidents where countless people were massacred/assassinated.
  - Kameido incident: labor leaders killed by civilian police
  - Amakasu incident: anarchists killed by military police
  - Communists, socialists also targeted
- Sept. 7 – new law banning spreading rumors and hearsay; order gradually restored
- By 1928 (or 1935), Tokyo population had recovered
Aftermath Cont.

Wild rumors and false reports

- Another great quake coming, islands sunk into sea, monster tsunami, socialists started riots, Korean burning/bombing/robbing and poisoning water wells.

- Korean accents pronounced "G" or "J" differently, so anyone who failed to pronounce them properly was deemed Korean, including Chinese, Okinawans, and Japanese-dialect speakers.

- The Japanese Army was to protect 2,000 Koreans but not all “protected” so coverup.

- Death toll uncertain but…
  - Home Ministry: 231 Koreans killed and 43 injured, 3 Chinese killed, 59 Japanese (including Okinawans) killed and 43 injured.
  - Actual estimates: 6,600, 2,500.

- 362 Japanese civilians were eventually charged with murder, etc., but nominal sentences

- Only 14 Koreans legally charged with crimes.
EQ Revisionism

Japanese history books would have us believe that the massacre was perpetrated by irate civilians only, but recently uncovered documents indicate otherwise. Those Koreans who went to police stations seeking protection were killed by the police and those captured by the military were killed off at military posts -- all in the name of suppressing a Korean riot. The corpses were thrown into water ways or buried in unmarked mass graves by the killers in order to cover up their crimes. Some 700 Chinese laborers at Yokohama met the same fate.

Education materials include a collection of stories of exemplary behavior based on experiences of the 1923 earthquake and are imbued with moral values, such as loyalty to the Emperor and self-sacrifice.

EQ Damage 1923

1,000+ year old gingko tree remains

Kamakura:
Hachiman Shrine

700-year-old shrine destroyed → Rebuilt
More EQ Damage 1923

*Kandabashi Bridge*
Damage: Before and After
EQ Preparation: Museums
Edo-Tokyo          Tokyo National
Effects on Tokyo

**Before:** Wood single family dwellings

**After:** 1,470,000 move

*RC multi-family dwellings and disorderly city sprawl*
Tokyo Bay Bridge (2010)

- 2.9km long
- part of 4.6 km roadway
- Bridge High Performance Steel (BHS)
Tokyo Bay Bridge Cont.

Photo 2: Steel pipe sheet pile foundation

Cofferdam

Foundation structure

Steel pipe sheet pile

Footing

Precut section

Underwater cut section

Bulkhead steel pipe sheet pile

Footing connector

Bottom concrete

Paved sand

Intermediately-driven single pile
Other Items

- Rotary is very active internationally with programs, fellowships, and grants
- Faculty Exchange Program
- Politicians’ disaster preparations repeatedly unsuccessful

Example: After 1872 fire, Yuri Kimimasa, governor of Tokyo at the time, proposed to his cabinet the construction of a “fireproof city”

- Started with Ginza (now affluent)
- build brick houses so it could serve as the front door to the capital
- widen streets
- tear down the few remaining houses
- rebuild in grand style

Metro Police Office, 1923
Democratic Politics
(including Communists)
3 Current Social Problems

- **Unemployment**
  - After quake: 45% jobless in 1926
  - Economic bubble burst

- **Homeless**
  - Organized in tent camps
  - Limited certain areas of Tokyo

- **Minorities (“Non-Japanese”)**
  - 2 million doing mostly jobs that Japanese do not want
  - Even Chinese and Korean slave laborers after WWII
Urban Tokyo
Mov01574.mpg

Kamakura
Mov01825.mpg
Thank you.
Disclaimer

- 95% of these photos are my own.
- Unfortunately, I could not see all of Tokyo in one week, especially during rainy season.
- I thank those from whom I borrowed web photos, especially Philbert Ono from photoguide.jp. Please visit his site!