

**How do Asians See Their Future?**

**-----How do differences  
in Asian political systems  
influence foreign policy-----**

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# Realism is shared, but values and identity only through history

	China	Korea	Taiwan	Japan	North Korea
Sino-centric world from early 17c.	Qing	Choson; Little Sinocentrism	Outside imperial influence; Dutch --- Koxinga --- Qing	Edo under Tokugawa Shogunate; peace and rich culture, detached from China	Choson; Little Sinocentrism
Japan's Imperialism mid-19c. to mid 20 c.	Century of Humiliation	36 years of colony	50 years of colony	Rise and Fall of the Empire	36 years of colony
Post-WWII Era Mid 20c. to present	Mao's revolution; Deng's reform open; Xi's dream	Split and invaded; Dictatorship to own Democracy	White Terror to own Democracy	7 years of occupation; Imported American democracy	Split and invasion; Kim dynasty; military first

# Democracy and Identity

- Japan: Democratic tradition existed from Edo; tried to learn from Europe; but after the total defeat in 1945 America led democracy and economic rise; but Heisei adrift and soul searching continues.
- Korea: rise of democracy paralleled with rise of Korean identity; = total negation of Japan; what next unknown.
- Taiwan: rise of democracy paralleled with rise of Taiwan identity; = subdued to mighty will of China; but strong mixed feeling continues.
- China: Deng prepared China's real rise; economic freedom but tight political grip; emancipation of power in all front from 2008; content of China's dream unknown.

# Japan's search for its identity

- Encompassing best of European values of law, democracy and market economy
- Searching Japanese identity at the basis: Umehara Takeshi 梅原猛; Ogura Kizou 小倉紀蔵; Mori Tetsuro 森哲郎;
- Among politicians: Obuchi Keizo 小渕恵三 “Rich Country Virtuous Country”; Abe Shinzo 安倍晋三 “Getting out from Post-war Regime”
- Will these lead to more autonomous Japan?
- Are these directions within European political thinking or is there something uniquely Japanese?