

PART II: According to Sugita's statement, Japan had two choices. Depending on the choice, the West presented either a threat or an opportunity. Based on your reading of Dower's essay and your textbook, as well as your examination of the woodblock prints accompanying Dower's essay, do you think that Japan responded to the West as a threat or an opportunity? Present your answer in a PowerPoint presentation using the woodblock prints from the "Visualizing Cultures: Throwing Off Asia I" website.

As you organize your presentation, consider the following questions:

<p>C. Illustration of Ladies Sewing by Adachi . Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Massachusetts Institute of Technology © 2008 Visualizing Cultures http://ocw.mit.edu/ans7870/21f/21f.027/throwing_off_asia_01/gallery/pages/11_18171.htm</p>		
<p>D. Illustration of the Foreign Buildings along the Kaigandori Viewed from the Yokohama Wharves by Hiroshige III, c. 1870 [2000.506] Sharf Collection, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Massachusetts Institute of Technology © 2008 Visualizing Cultures http://ocw.mit.edu/ans7870/21f/21f.027/throwing_off_asia_01/2000_506_1.html</p>		

Name _____

Handout (1 page)

Use this page to take notes on the images in the PowerPoint. Note the title of each image or slide and look for changes and continuities during the Mes du s6.2(o)7.36H0ngd look for

Susan B. Hanley is a historian who has studied material culture in Japan. Material culture includes the objects created or built by humans. Thus, Hanley has studied architecture, food, clothing, modes of transportation, and the like.

Below are some of her findings about how housing and clothing changed and stayed the same from the Tokugawa Period to the Meiji Period.

As you read your assigned section, consider the question, Was modernization the dominant feature of daily life in Meiji Japan? Look for how this source agrees or disagrees with other sources. Be prepared to share out.

Housing

- Housing is expensive and needs to last for many years. Thus, it tends to change slowly. This was true during the Meiji Period, when housing in Japan changed slowly.
- Tokyo and other large cities saw a few Western-style buildings constructed. Often made of brick, these buildings received a lot of attention as unusual structures, brought from other lands. But most people did not see them as examples they should follow in building their own homes. In addition, wealthy families that built Western -style homes tended to use the Western rooms for entertaining. The families actually lived in Japanese-style rooms.
- Changes in homes during the Meiji Period often reflected the adoption of innovations from the Tokugawa Period or earlier. For example, more people living in cities built homes with genkan(a particular type of entryway). Genkan had, in the Tokugawa era, been considered part of the samurai style. Having a genkan was a status symbol for workers living in cities.
- People in rural areas during the Meiji Period also adopted innovations from the Tokugawa era. People whose homes had dirt floors were able to install wood floors. People with wood floors were able to add tatami mats. This made homes much cleaner.
- Another innovation from the Tokugawa era that was used more widely during the Meiji

- Western shoes were also impractical. Westerners of the time wore high shoes that buttoned up. But Japanese people took their shoes off when they went inside. Undoing all those buttons would have been time-consuming.
- Japanese footwear did change during the Meiji Period. More people adopted styles that had first appeared during the Tokugawa Period. Instead of going barefoot, people wore straw sandals or wooden clogs.
- Western ideas did influence the appearance of Japanese people during the Meiji Period. Men cut their hair short and started wearing caps and hats. Women stopped blackening their teeth. Western hairstyles for women only caught on in the period following the Meiji era.
- Some Western accessories became popular in Japan. These included Western