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Constitutional Monarchy

- Tokugawa Shogun (prime minister => real power)
- Emperor (god)

Less centralized with regional lords + caste system. CLAIM: samuri slowly breaking down + starting to sell swords

- 1854: the Shogun sign unequal treaty w/ the United States
 - Shogunate moves to westernize
 - Shogun perceived as weak and so there was a rebel
- Sonno Joi — "Revere the Emperor, Expel the Barbarians" => lead by the warlords farthest away
- 1868: Meiji Restoration
 - Westernization takes place
 - Sakamoto Reoma
 - * On his way to assassinate the Shogun, he was convinced that Westernization is a good solution
 - * The rebels becoming convinced, and started hijacking the forces
- The Shogun resigns
- Meiji Emperor takes power, and adopts western philosophy wholesale + renegotiate treaties

Japan became the role model of Westernization