

# Taishō shakai to kaizō no chōryū

Yoshikawa Kōbunkan - Criticising Colonialism in pre-1945 Japan



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**Kōza Nihon shakai shisōshi, henshū Sumiya Etsuji [et. al**

Colonial peoples were Japanese citizens who were simply unaware of it.

**Power to the People: Kaizōsha's Enpon Gamble and the Making of a Publishing Revolution**

Instead of constructing barracks, let us build schools; instead of constructing warships, let us build factories. In 1926, in a text published in *Chūō Kōron*, he demonstrated that while repression had certainly crushed the protesters of 1919, they—in other words the Korean people as a whole—had been victorious. But they were not alone.

**Criticising Colonialism in pre-1945 Japan**

It is quite natural that they would feel no love for Japan, and only a handful of people hold our country in esteem. Despite being an unwavering liberal at a time of rampant state interventionism, Ishibashi was often consulted by Japanese leaders in the 1930s for his economic expertise.

**Kōza Nihon shakai shisōshi, henshū Sumiya Etsuji [et. al**

Why then should our country be alone in perpetually continuing its domination of Korea and Taiwan and preventing the Chinese and Russians from exercising their sovereignty? Il existe par ailleurs un courant « économiste » produit de la pensée libérale occidentale. In short, whether in material or spiritual matters we have robbed them of their freedom and independence. He never succumbed to the dominant ideas of his time.

**Taishōki no seiji kōzō / Suetake Yoshiya cho**

A Korean deputy was elected to the imperial parliament twice during the 1930s. And was it even possible for these populations to be assimilated, for that matter? See the note by Wakabayashi Masahiro in Yanaihara Tadao, *Teikokushugi ka no Taiwan*, op. Justice demands, by means other than war, that the invasion be stopped.

**Taishōki no seiji kōzō / Suetake Yoshiya cho**

Quoted by Matsuo Takayoshi in Ishibashi Tanzan hyōronshū, op. If we seek eternal peace with our neighbours we must purify our hearts with love and immerse ourselves in compassion.

### **Power to the People: Kaizōsha's Enpon Gamble and the Making of a Publishing Revolution**

The repression of the Malagasy Uprising by French troops in March 1947 is said to have caused 80,000 deaths, a figure we can only hope has been exaggerated. His stance cannot merely be described as an indictment of violent repression. Some no doubt find it regrettable, but there is not one single Korean who is glad that his country has been annexed by Japan.

### **Taishō shakai to kaizō no chōryū (2004 edition)**

We would like to be able to hope enthusiastically that Koreans might feel the same sense of loyalty to Japan as inhabitants of the home islands, but it stands to reason that we cannot impose such a feeling by force, and though it is difficult to admit, this is not currently the case.

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