

100 books for Understanding Japan

Politics/Government/International Relations

1	The Autobiography of Yukichi Fukuzawa	Yukichi Fukuzawa	Columbia University Press, 1966
2	Broadcasting Politics in Japan: NHK and Television News	Ellis S. Krauss	Cornell University Press, 2000
3	Constructing Civil Society in Japan: Voices of Environmental Movements	Koichi Hasegawa	Trans Pacific Press, 2004
4	Cultural Norms and National Security: Police and Military in Postwar Japan	Peter J. Katzenstein	Cornell University Press, 1996
5	A Discourse By Three Drunkards On Government	Nakae Chomin	Weatherhill, 1984
6	Governing Japan: Divided Politics in a Major Economy	J. A. A. Stockwin	Blackwells Publishing, 1999
7	The Iwakura Mission in America and Europe: A New Assessment	Ian Nish (Ed.)	Routledge Curzon, 1998
8	Japan Remodeled: How Government and Industry are Reforming Japanese Capitalism	Steven K. Vogel	Cornell University Press, 2006
9	Japan Rising: The Resurgence of Japanese Power and Purpose	Kenneth B. Pyle	Public Affairs, 2007
10	Japanese Foreign Policy at the Crossroads: Challenges and Options for the Twenty-First Century	Yutaka Kawashima	Brookings Institution Press, 2003
11	Japan's Love-Hate Relationship with the West	Sukehiro Hirakawa	Global Oriental LTD, 2005
12	Japan's Quest for a Permanent Security Council Seat: A Matter of Pride or Justice?	Reinhard Drifte	St. Martin's Press, 2000
13	The Logic of Japanese Politics: Leaders, Institutions, and the Limits of Change	Gerald L. Curtis	Columbia University Press, 1999
14	Machiavelli's Children: Leaders and Their Legacies in Italy and Japan	Richard J. Samuels	Cornell University Press, 2003
15	Media and Politics in Japan	Susan J. Pharr and Ellis S. Kraus (Eds.)	University of Hawai'i Press, 1996
16	Network Power: Japan and Asia	Peter J. Katzenstein and Takashi	Cornell University Press, 1997
17	Regime Shift: Comparative Dynamics of the Japanese Political Economy	T. J. Pempel	Cornell University Press, 1998
18	Securing Japan: Tokyo's Grand Strategy and the Future of East Asia	Richard J. Samuels	Cornell University Press, 2007
19	Thought and Behavior in Modern Japanese Politics	Masao Maruyama	Oxford University Press, 1969
20	The Turbulent Decade: Confronting the Refugee Crises of the 1990s	Sadako Ogata	W. W. Norton & Company, 2005
21	The U.S.-Japan Alliance: Past, Present, and Future	Michael J. Green & Patrick M. Cronin	Council on Foreign Relations Press, 1999
22	U.S.-Japan Relations in a Changing World	Steven K. Vogel (Ed.)	Brookings Institution Press, 2002

Economics/Business

23	An Anticlassical Political-Economic Analysis: A Vision for the Next Century	Yasusuke Murakami	Stanford University Press, 1996
24	British Factory - Japanese Factory: The Origins of National Diversity in Industrial Relations	Ronald Dore	University of California Press, 1973

25	The Economics of Work in Japan	Kazuo Koike	LTCB International Library Foundation, 1995
26	The Evolution of a Manufacturing System at Toyota	Takahiro Fujimoto	Oxford University Press, 1999
27	Four Practical Revolutions in Management: Systems for Creating Unique Organizational Capability	Shoji Shiba and David Walden	Productivity Press, 1993
28	Japan, China, and the Growth of the Asian International Economy, 1850-1949	Kaoru Sugihara (Ed.)	Oxford University Press, 2005
29	Japan in the 21st Century: Environment, Economy, and Society	Pradyumna P. Karan	The University Press of Kentucky, 2005
30	The Japanese Company	Rodney Clark	Yale University Press, 1979
31	The Japanese Economic System and Its Historical Origins	Tetsuji Okazaki & Masahiro Okuno-Fujiwara (Eds.)	Oxford University Press, 1999
32	The Japanese Firm: The Sources of Competitive Strength	Masahiko Aoki and Ronald Dore (Eds.)	Oxford University Press, 1994
33	Japan's Financial Crisis: Institutional Rigidity and Reluctant Change	Jennifer A. Amyx	Princeton University Press, 2004
34	Japan's Lost Decade	Hiroshi Yoshikawa	LTCB International Library Foundation, 2001
35	Lectures on Modern Japanese Economic History, 1926-1994	Takafusa Nakamura	LTCB International Library Foundation, 1994
36	Manufacturing Ideology: Scientific Management in Twentieth-Century Japan	William M. Tsutsui	Princeton University Press, 1998
37	MITI and the Japanese Miracle: The Growth of Industrial Policy, 1925-1975	Chalmers Johnson	Stanford University Press, 1982
38	Native Sources of Japanese Industrialization, 1750-1920	Thomas C. Smith	University of California Press, 1988
39	Stock Market Capitalism: Welfare Capitalism: Japan and Germany versus the Anglo-Saxons	Ronald Dore	Oxford University Press, 2000
40	The Sun Also Sets: The Limits to Japan's Economic Power	Bill Emmott	Touchstone, 1989
41	21st-Century Japanese Management: New Systems, Lasting Values	James C. Abegglen	Palgrave Macmillan, 2006

Society/Culture

42	The Anatomy of Dependence	Takeo Doi	Kodansha International, 1973
43	Bushido: The Soul of Japan	Inazo Nitobe	Kodansha International, 2002
44	Edo Culture: Daily Life and Diversions in Urban Japan, 1600-1868	Nishiyama Matsunosuke	University of Hawai'i Press, 1997
45	Family and Social Policy in Japan: Anthropological Approaches	Roger Goodman (Ed.)	Cambridge University Press, 2002
46	Gender and Development: The Japanese Experience in Comparative Perspective	Mayumi Murayama (Ed.)	Palgrave Macmillan, 2005
47	Japanamerica: How Japanese Pop Culture Has Invaded the U.S.	Roland Kelts	Palgrave Macmillan, 2006
48	Japanese Science: From the Inside	Samuel J. Coleman	Routledge, 1999
49	Japanese Society	Chie Nakane	University of California Press, 1970
50	Japan's High Schools	Thomas P. Rohlen	University of California Press, 1983

51	Loving the Machine: The Art and Science of Japanese Robots	Timothy N. Hornyak	Kodansha International, 2006
52	Neighborhood Tokyo	Theodore C. Bestor	Stanford University Press, 1989
53	Race for the Exits: The Unraveling of Japan's System of Social Protection	Leonard J. Schoppa	Cornell University Press, 2006
54	Science, Technology and Society in Contemporary Japan	Morris Low, Shigeru Nakayama, and Hitoshi Yoshinaka	Cambridge University Press, 1999
55	Tokugawa Religion: The Cultural Roots of Modern Japan	Robert N. Bellah	The Free Press, 1957
56	Tsukiji: The Fish Market at the Center of the World	Theodore C. Bestor	University of California Press, 2004

Literature/Arts

57	Anime: From Akira to Howl's Moving Castle: Experiencing Contemporary Japanese Animation	Susan J. Napier	Palgrave Macmillan, 2005
58	The Cape and Other Stories from the Japanese Ghetto	Kenji Nakagami	Stone Bridge Press, 1999
59	The Columbia Anthology of Modern Japanese Literature: From 1945 to the Present	Thomas J. Rimer and Gessel Van	Columbia University Press, 2007
60	Contemporary Japanese Film	Mark Schilling	Weatherhill, 1999
61	Contemporary Japanese Literature: An Anthology of Fiction, Film, and Other Writing Since 1945	Howard Hibbett (Ed.)	Cheng & Tsui, 2005
62	Dreamland Japan: Writings on Modern Manga	Frederik L. Schodt	Stone Bridge Press, 1996
63	Erotic Grotesque Nonsense: The Mass Culture of Japanese Modern Times	Miriam Silverberg	University of California Press, 2006
64	Five Modern Japanese Novelists	Donald Keene	Columbia University Press, 2003
65	In Praise of Shadows	Jun'ichirō Tanizaki	Vintage, 2001
66	Japanese Women Writers: Twentieth Century Short Fiction	Noriko Mizuta Lippit and Kyoko	M.E. Sharpe, 1991
67	Kabuki: Baroque Fusion of the Arts	Toshio Kawatake	I House Press, 2003
68	Kabuki Heroes on the Osaka Stage, 1780-1830	Andrew C. Gerstle	University of Hawai'i Press, 2005
69	Kafu the Scribbler: The Life and Writings of Nagai Kafu, 1879-1959	Edward G. Seidensticker	University of Michigan Centre for Japanese Studies, 1990
70	Kokoro	Soseki Natsume	Tuttle Publishing, 1969
71	The Life of an Amorous Woman and Other Writings	Ihara Saikaku	New Directions Publishing, 1963
72	Manga: Sixty Years of Japanese Comics	Paul Gravett	Collins Design, 2004
73	The Narrow Road to the Deep North and Other Travel Sketches	Matsuo Basho	Penguin Books, 1966
74	The Midnight Eye Guide to New Japanese Film	Tom Mes and Jasper Sharp	Stone Bridge Press, 2004
75	Oe and Beyond: Fiction in Contemporary Japan	Stephen Snyder and Philip Gabriel	University of Hawai'i Press, 1999

76	Origins of Modern Japanese Literature	Karatani Kojin	Duke University Press, 1993
77	A Personal Matter	Kenzaburo Oe	Grove Press, 1969
78	The Pleasures of Japanese Literature	Donald Keene	Columbia University Press, 1988
79	I Haven't Dreamed of Flying for a While	Taichi Yamada	Faber & Faber, 2008
80	Tale of Genji	Murasaki Shikibu	Tuttle Publishing, 1976
81	The Tales of the Heike		Columbia University Press, 2006
82	The Wild Goose	Ogai Mori	University of Michigan Center for Japanese Studies, 1995

History

83	The Abacus and the Sword: The Japanese Penetration of Korea, 1895-1910	Peter Duus	University of California Press, 1995
84	The Atomic Bomb: Voices from Hiroshima and Nagasaki	Kyoko and Mark Selden (Eds.)	M.E. Sharpe, 1989
85	The Conquest of Ainu Lands: Ecology and Culture in Japanese Expansion, 1590-1800	Brett L. Walker	University of California Press, 2001
86	A Diary of Darkness: The Wartime Diary of Kiyosawa Kiyoshi	Kiyoshi Kiyosawa	Princeton University Press, 1998
87	Emperor of Japan: Meiji and his World, 1852-1912	Donald Keene	Columbia University Press, 2002
88	From Mahan to Pearl Harbor: The Imperial Japanese Navy and the United States	Sadao Asada	Naval Institute Press, 2006
89	The Japanese Colonial Empire, 1895-1945	Ramon H. Myers and Mark R.	Princeton University Press, 1984
90	Japanese Imperialism, 1894-1945	William G. Beasley	Clarendon Press, 1987
91	The Making of Modern Japan	Marius B. Jansen	The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2000
92	Modern Japan	Peter Duus	Houghton Mifflin Company, 1998
93	Postwar Japan as History	Andrew Gordon (Ed.)	University of California Press, 1993
94	Sakamoto Ryōma and the Meiji Restoration	Marius B. Jansen	Columbia University Press, 1994
95	Samurai and Silk: A Japanese and American Heritage	Haru Matsukata Reischauer	Tuttle Publishing, 1986
96	State and Diplomacy in Early Modern Japan: Asia in the Development of the Tokugawa Bakufu	Ronald P. Toby	Stanford University Press, 1991
97	Victors' Justice: The Tokyo War Crimes Trial	Richard R. Minear	University of Michigan Center for Japanese Studies, 2001
98	Visions of Ryukyu: Identity and Ideology in Early-Modern Thought and Politics	Gregory Smits	University of Hawai'i Press, 1999
99	War Without Mercy: Race and Power in the Pacific War	John W. Dower	Pantheon Books, 1986
100	From Marco Polo Bridge to Pearl Harbor: Who Was Responsible?	The Yomiuri Shimibun	The Yomiuri Shimibun, 2006
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