

TOHOKU FORUM FOR CREATIVITY
THE 21ST CENTURY HASEKURA PROJECT: JAPANESE STUDIES AS THE
INTERFACE OF A NEW KNOWLEDGE
FEBRUARY 13-14, 2017
TOHOKU UNIVERSITY, SENDAI

Bridging the gap: Italy-Japan political and cultural relations, from totalitarianism to democracy

Marco Del Bene
DIPARTIMENTO
DI STUDI ORIENTALI



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA





Italy and Japan modern and contemporary History studies:

Birth of the Modern state

Late comers Countries

Colonialism

National Identity

Alternative to “capitalism” and “socialism”

Fascism

Post-war reconstruction

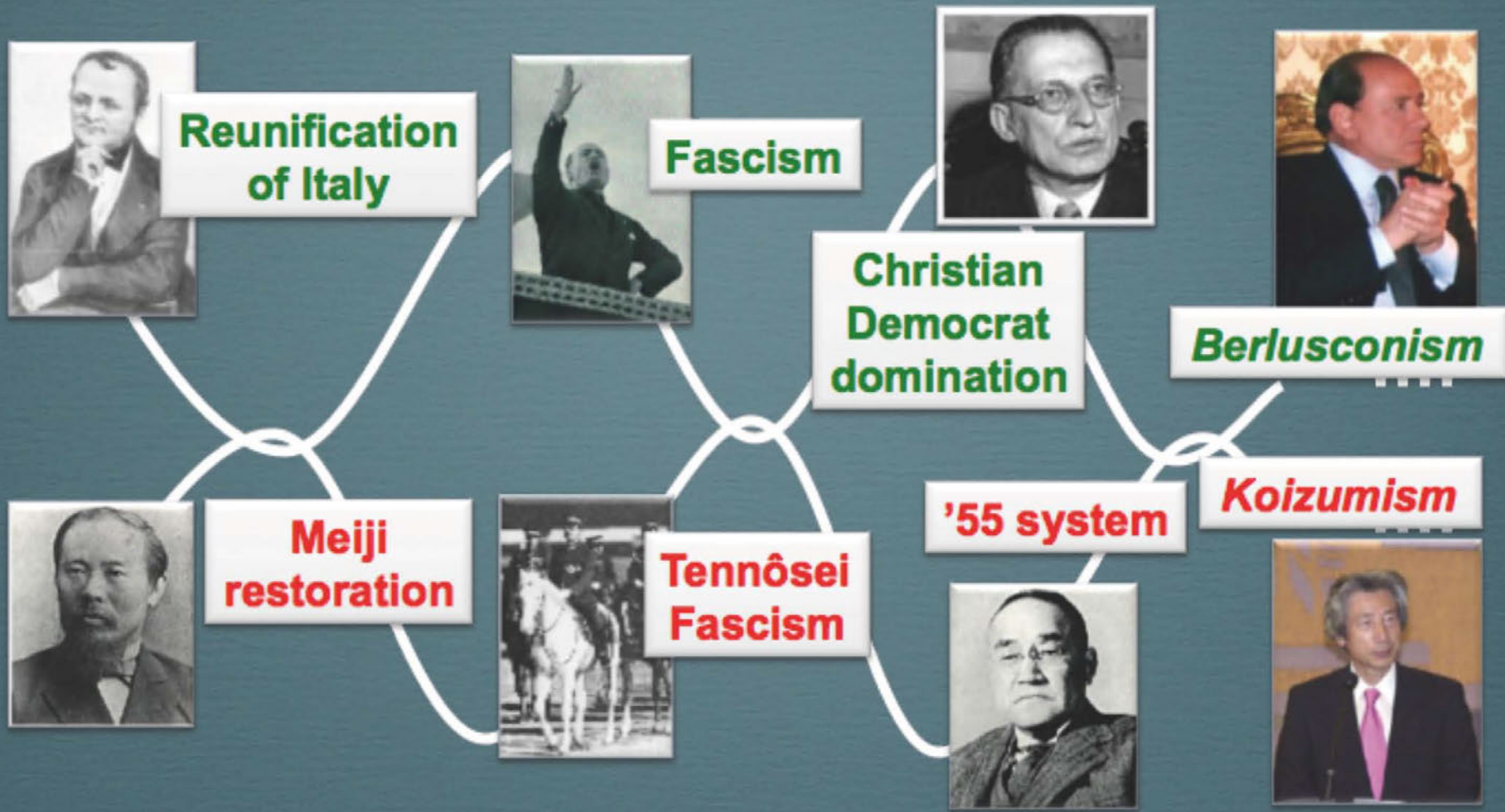
Post-war political systems and social strifes

Continuity/discontinuity from totalitarian to democratic regimes

etc...

Italy and Japan modern and contemporary History studies

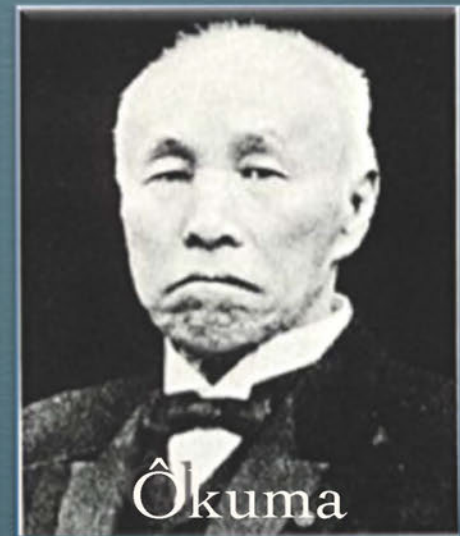
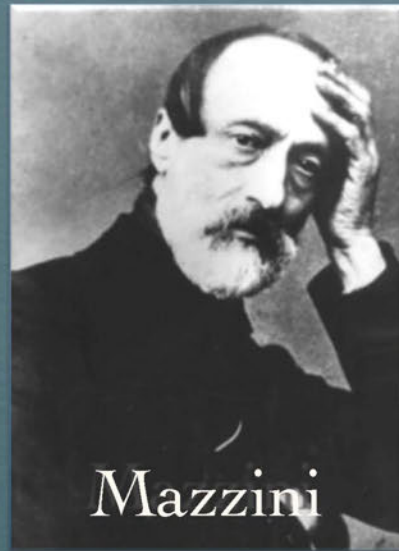
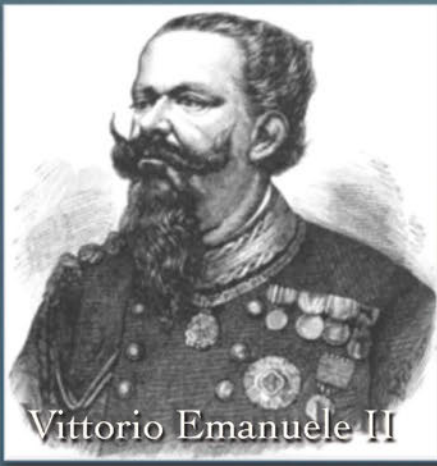
Crossed Histories



1860s

1920s

Postwar



Risorgimento

Restaurazione

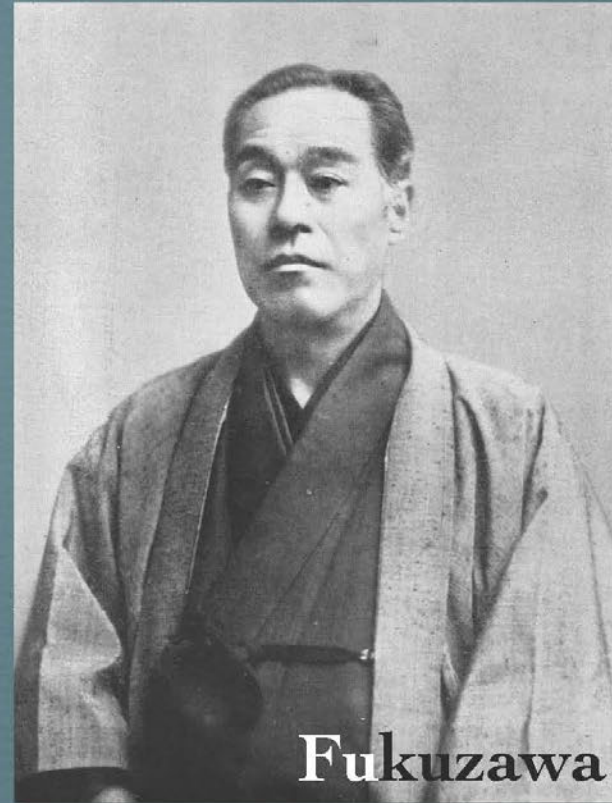
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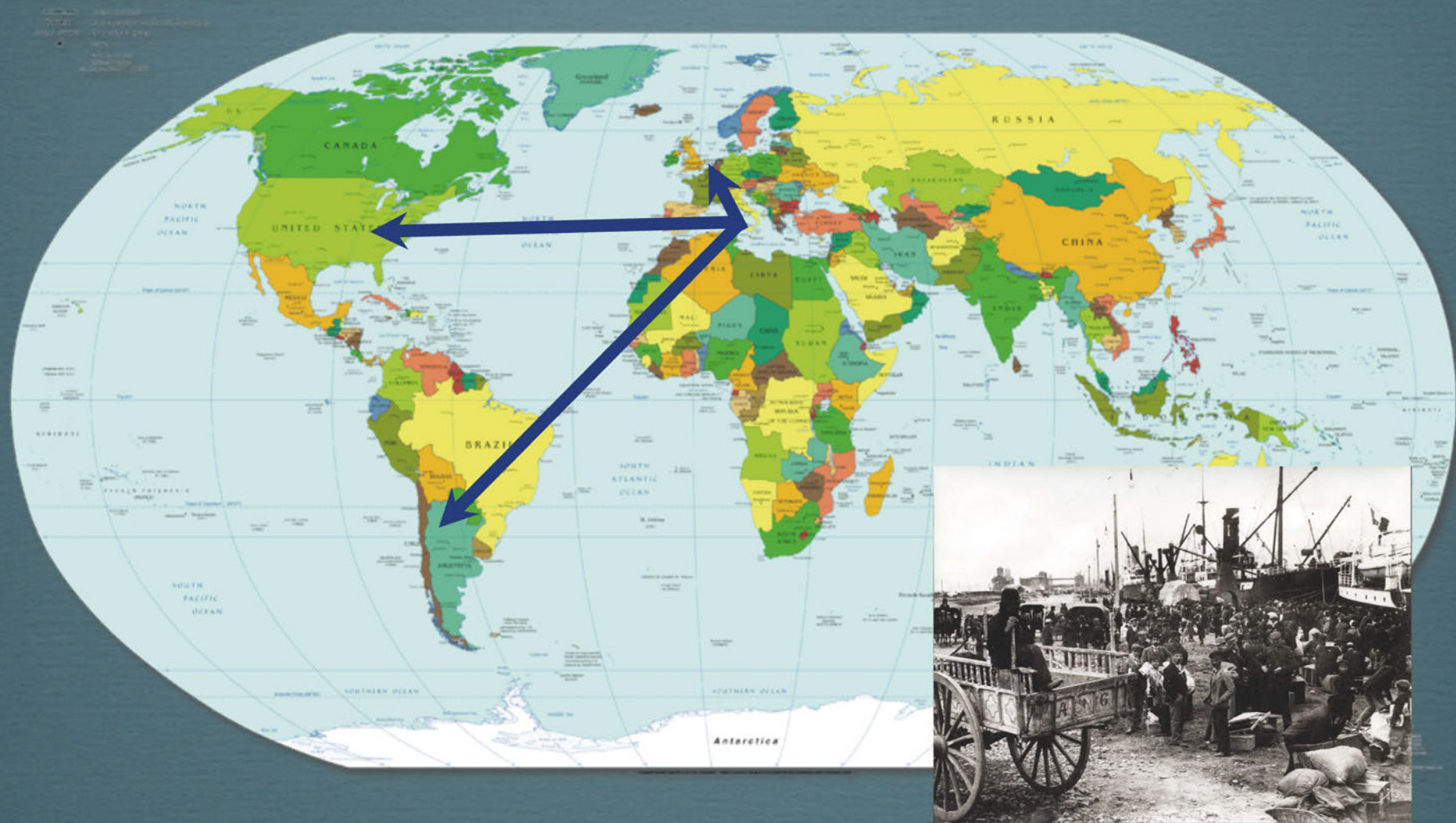
d'Azeglio

“Italy has been made; now it remains to make Italians”

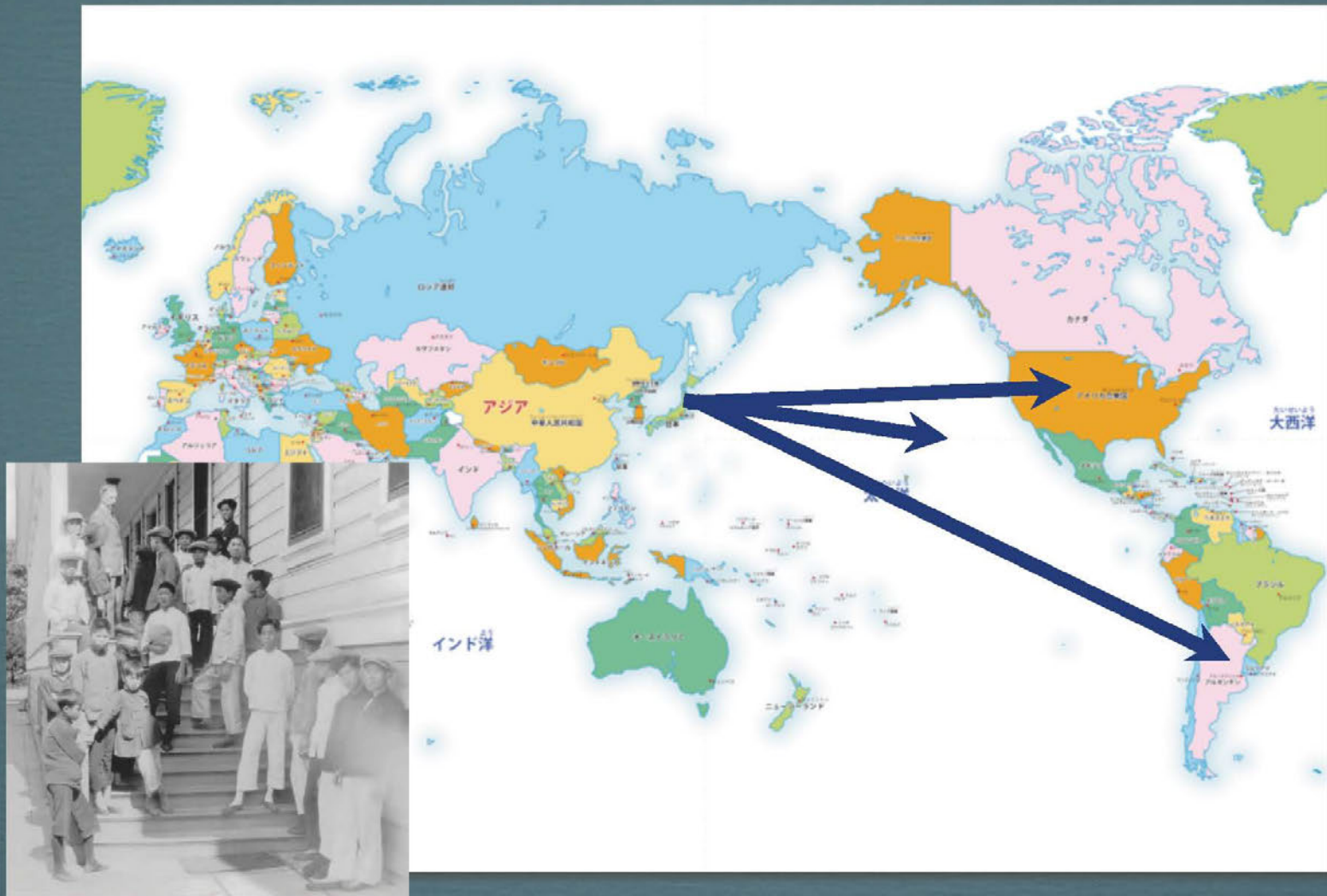


Fukuzawa

“Japan has a government but not people.”



Italian Emigration



Japanese Emigration



Arrival at Angel Island,
California, 1910 ca



*A Girl in Australia (Bello onesto emigrato
Australia sposerebbe compaesana illibata),*
1971 by Luigi Zampa

Picture brides



Italian Colonialims

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Japanese Colonialism

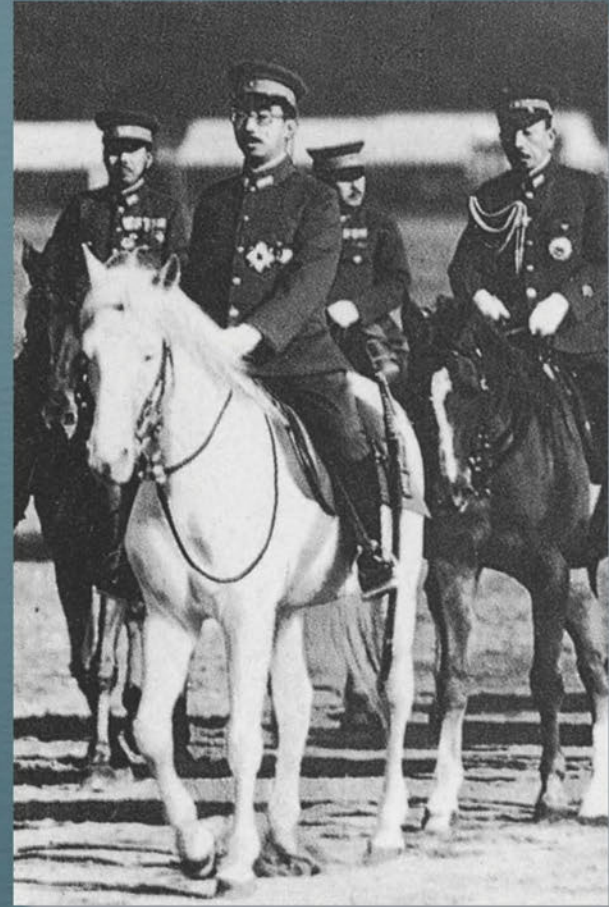


The dark face of colonialism

Russo-Japanese War First World War



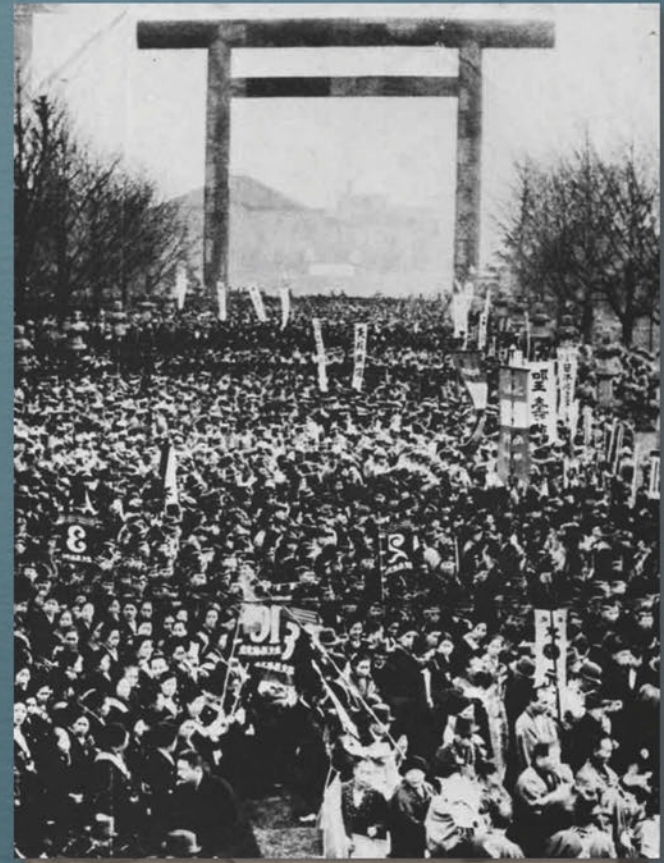
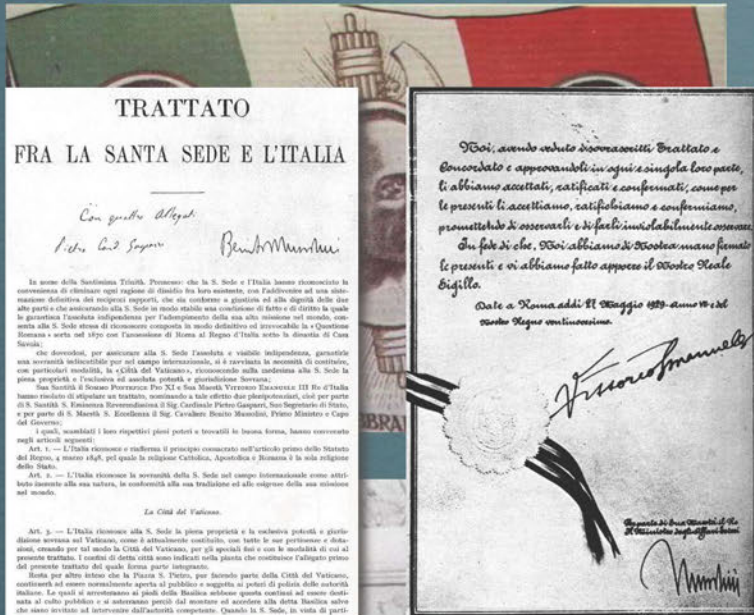
Ortodox Fascism vs. Fascism of the Imperial System?



State and religion

Lateran Treaty ラテラーノ条約

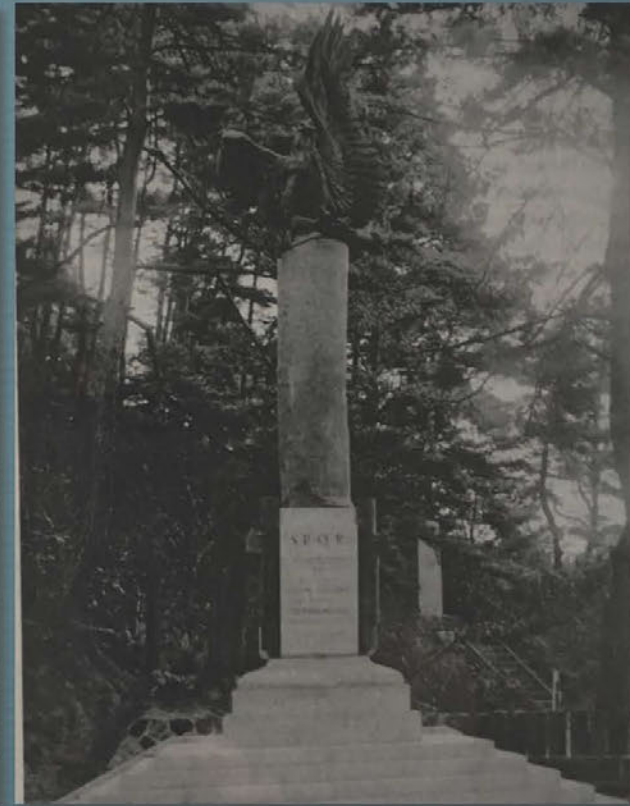
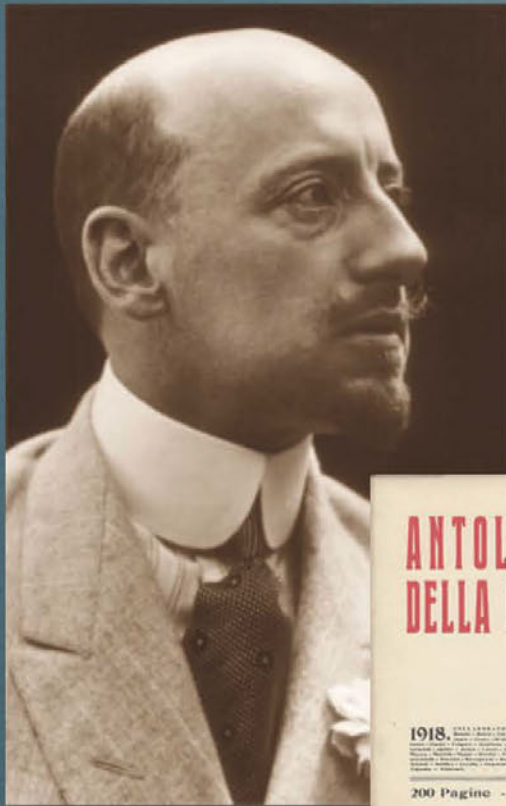
State Shinto 国家神道



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Shimoi Harukichi



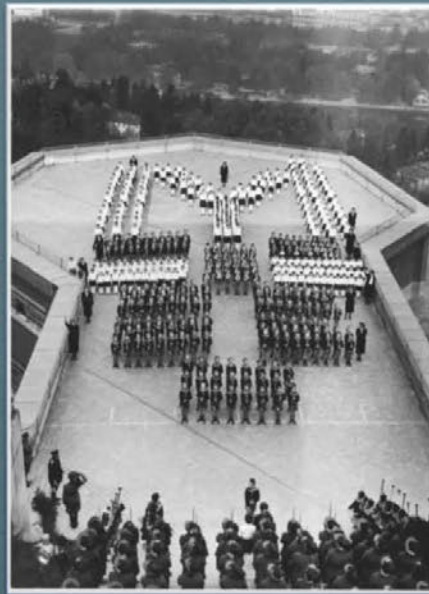
Reto Hofmann, *The Fascist Effect. Japan and Italy, 1915-1952*, Cornell UP, New York, 2015.

The Rome-Tokyo air raid

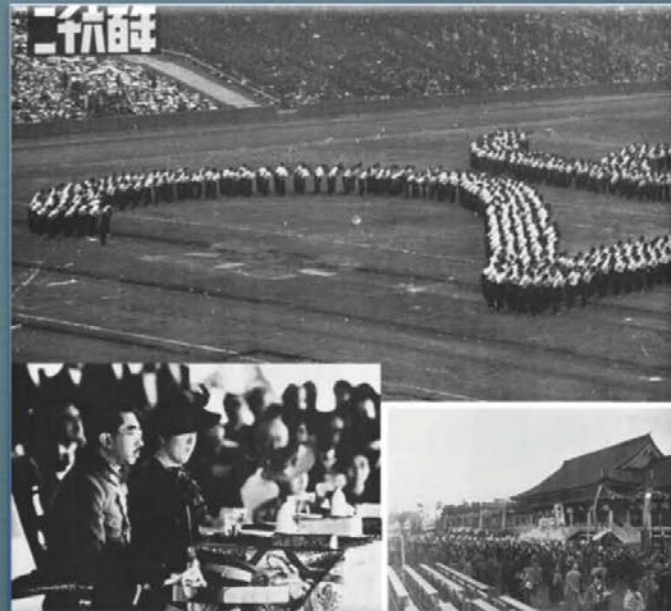
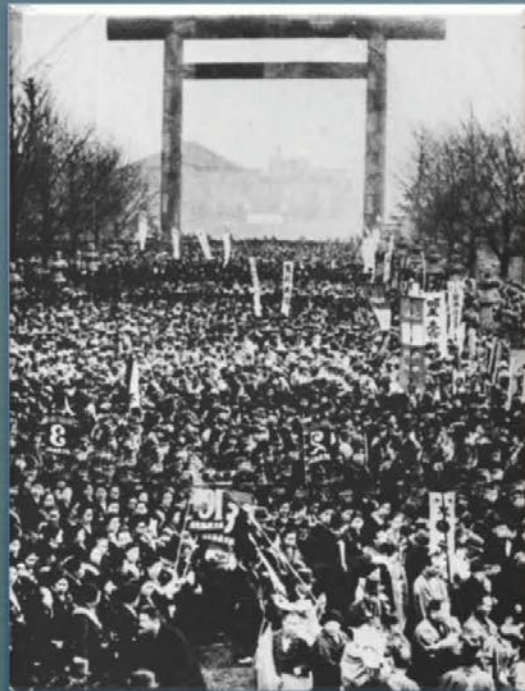




Evidentemente siamo alle prime prove per imparare il passo romano. I compagni dimostrano già in viso lo sfarzo e la stanchezza, per le ripetute prove, ma il capo insiste nelle sue esigenze.



mass dictatorships



mass dictatorships

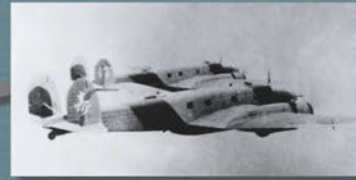
LEAGUE
of NATIONS

ETHIOPIA

URSS and
COMINTERN



ITALY



JAPAN

GERMANY



CINA

UK

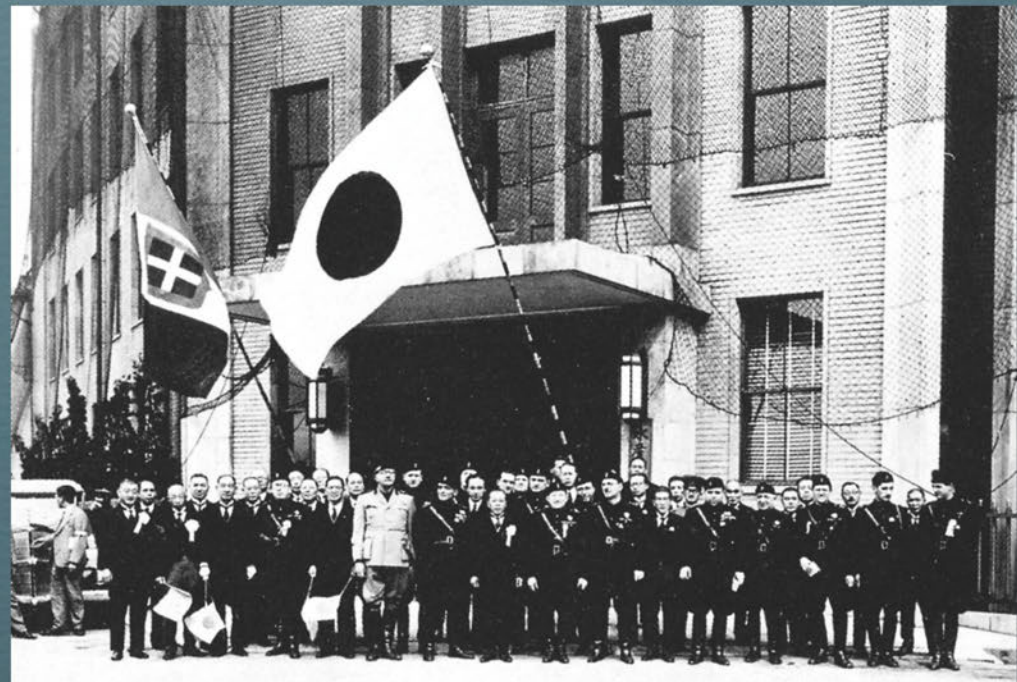
MANCHURIA

USA

Other
powers

The complex game of Italian-Japanese relations in the '30

The tripartite pact



The armistice



The Resistance



The moral rebirth of Italy
(Paolo Sylos Labini)



The surrender of Japan



Emperor's Hirohito radio message



The new "shôgun" of Japan



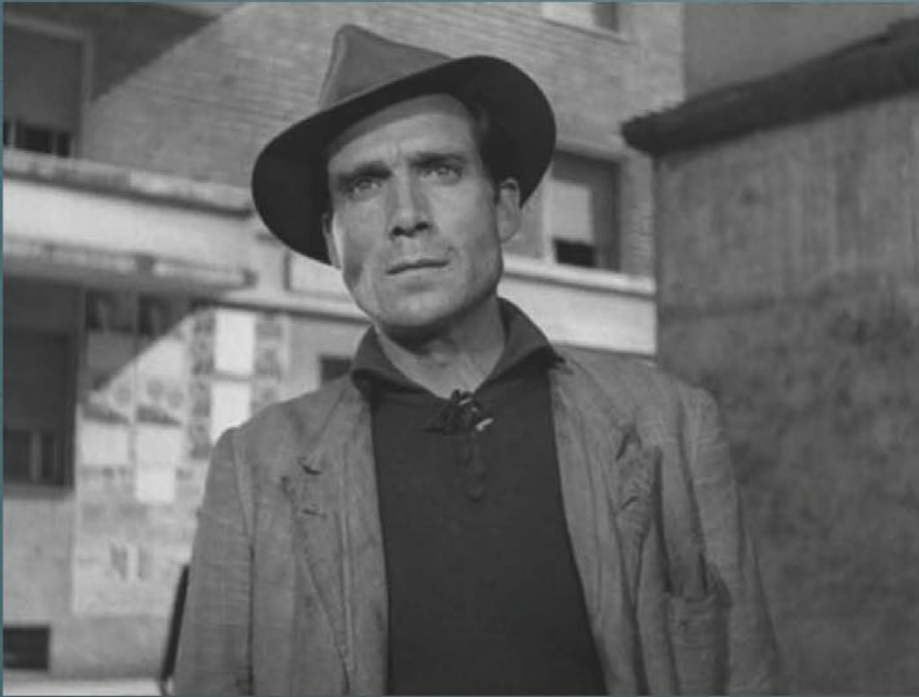
Piazzale Loreto

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International Military Tribunal for the Far East





Bicycle Thieves ' Antonio Ricci
(*Ladri di biciclette*, 1948, Vittorio De Sica)



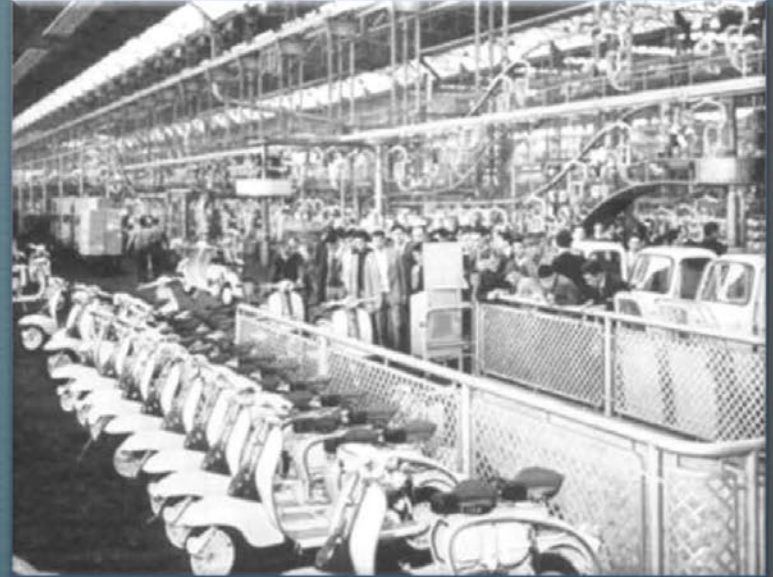
Stray Dog 's Detective
Murakami (Nora Inu, 1949, Kurosawa
Akira)



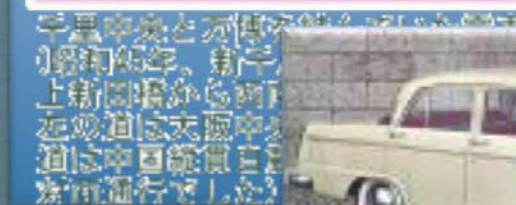
The post-war in Italy and Japan

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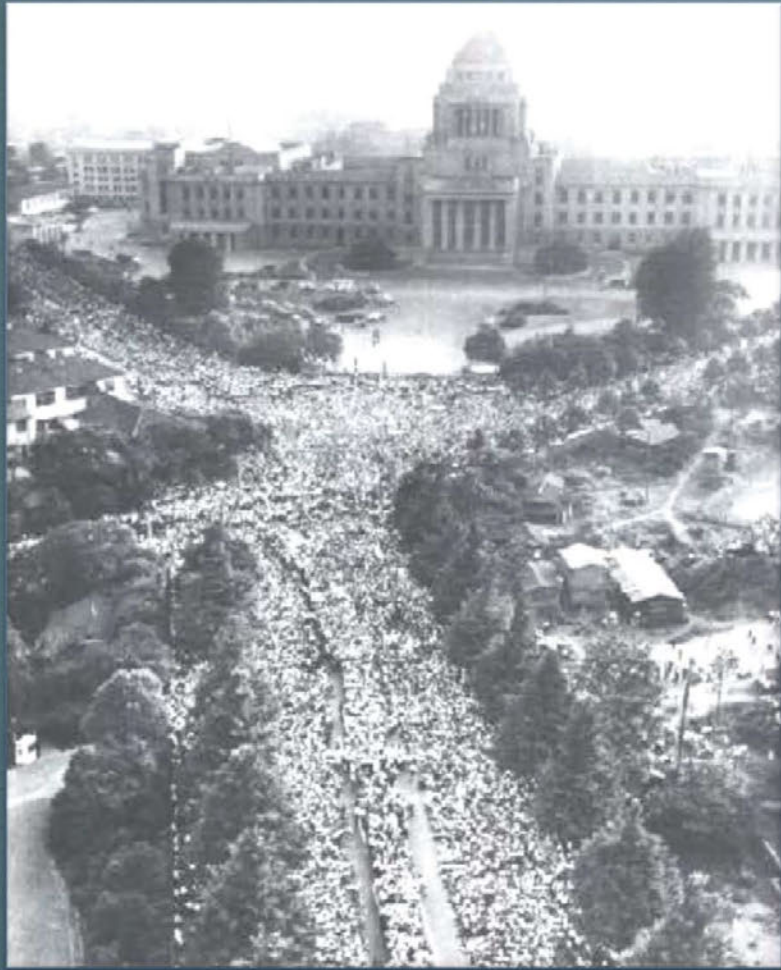
Italy's economic boom



Japan's economic miracle



Rome (1960) and Tokyo (1964) Olympic Games



Social unrest and terrorism



Social unrest and terrorism

?

vs.



Ai to kibō no machi (1959)



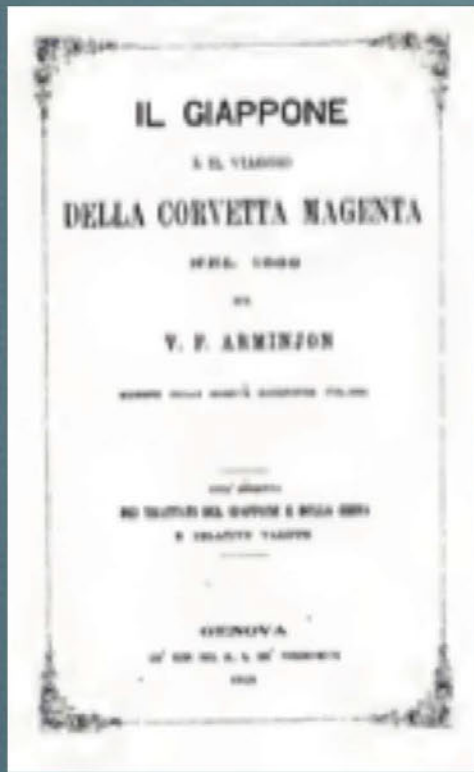
Seishun zankoku monogatari (1960)



Nihon no yoru to kiri (1961)



Social unrest and terrorism



l' "apertura del Giappone non avrà dunque per noi altra importanza utile ed immediata fuorché lo scambio dei prodotti del suolo e dell'industria. Non abbiamo nulla da acquistare moralmente al contatto di quella società asiatica, il cui decadimento è vicino se non precipitato."

The 1866 Italian mission to Japan



“gli italiani possiedono una naturale inclinazione per la manifattura e producono lavori di gusto raffinato e di qualità tecnica. [...]

Nella pittura ad olio e nella scultura l’Italia ha raggiunto le massime vette. [...]

In generale si deliziano dei piaceri della vita e sono assai abili con le loro mani. [...]

Sono anche buoni musicisti e in ogni teatro, in città o in campagna, il pubblico viene intrattenuto con musiche deliziose.

The Iwakura mission 1871-73

(in Italy, May-June 1873)