

(Library ebook) Splendid Monarchy: Power and Pageantry in Modern Japan (Twentieth Century Japan: The Emergence of a World Power)

Splendid Monarchy: Power and Pageantry in Modern Japan (Twentieth Century Japan: The Emergence of a World Power)

Takashi Fujitani

*ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook*

 Download

 Read Online

#4316962 in Books 1996-10-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.50 x 6.50 x 1.00l, #File Name: 0520202376320 pages | File size: 26.Mb

Takashi Fujitani : Splendid Monarchy: Power and Pageantry in Modern Japan (Twentieth Century Japan: The Emergence of a World Power) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Splendid Monarchy: Power and Pageantry in Modern Japan (Twentieth Century Japan: The Emergence of a World Power):

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Mediocre book on Meiji Japan By Leon Lam This book looks into the nation building of Japan through the creation of rituals and historicity in Tokyo (then Edo). Very repetitive. Some of the points are not clear and straightforward. 5 of 12 people found the following review helpful. a textbook for the study of Japan By pim This book shows how Japanese customs are made up by the successors of Meiji. most people think that the emperor of Japan has been lasted from the start of Japan, which is very wrong. After the success of Meiji, they made all the customs including weddings, images of the emperor, etc. From inventing all these things, they could easily plant into the people's mind that the emperor has been there watching his people from the beginning of the country. The author, Takashi Fujitani provokes that this is the basement of Japanese nationalism. 2 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Splendid Monarchy By Dexter This book is really redundant in its approach of asserting the pomp and pageantry that surrounds the empire of Japan. It seems like very poor organization on the

author's part. Interesting thesis, yes, but terrible execution and a terrible bore. If you are reading this for school, then good luck to you! If you are reading it for personal interest, I assure you that you can learn largely the same theses of this book in application to the British Empire in David Cannadine's *Ornamentalism*. This of course is because Japan had no originality in the Meiji period and looked to the West for a lot of its formation of tradition. I think this author is much to the same effect as Japan here and never formulates an original idea. Maybe I am just not interested in the subject in general, I don't know. Do with this review what you will.

Using ceremonials such as imperial weddings and funerals as models, T. Fujitani illustrates what visual symbols and rituals reveal about monarchy, nationalism, city planning, discipline, gender, memory, and modernity. Focusing on the Meiji Period (1868-1912), Fujitani brings recent methods of cultural history to a study of modern Japanese nationalism for the first time.

"A tremendous book. . . . Fujitani brings his skills and insights to bear on a subject crying out to be addressed: namely, the imperial institution and its formative role in the emergence of the modern Japanese nation state."--John Breen, *Monumenta Nipponica*

From the Back Cover
In 1993, Masako Owada captured the world's attention when she agreed to marry Crown Prince Naruhito of Japan. She was widely portrayed as a progressive, Westernized woman about to enter one of the last bastions of traditional Japanese sexism. Crown Prince Naruhito's world was known to be steeped in ancient tradition, and the strictures placed on her were seen as tragic vestiges of the patriarchal past. But in this dramatic departure from accepted assumptions about Japan, T. Fujitani argues that just over a century ago, there was no such thing as an imperial family, imperial family, imperial wedding ceremonies were unheard of, and the image of the emperor as patriarch did not exist. Demonstrating how the trappings of the emperor were imported from nineteenth-century Western courts, he concludes that the Japanese monarchy as we know it is actually an invention of modern times. Fujitani focuses on public ceremonials and the construction of ritual spaces in the Meiji Period (1868-1912). His work is based on extensive research in Japanese archives and libraries, including the archives of the Imperial Household Agency. To explore the modern transformations of what is often portrayed as the longest continuously reigning monarchy in the world, he focuses on the monarchy's location within a modern regime of power, city planning, the media, and the gendering of politics. Throughout, he presents rare photographs and woodblock prints to trace the image of the emperor from a mysterious figure secluded inside a palanquin to a grand public personage riding in an open carriage in Western military regalia.

About the Author
T. Fujitani is Associate Professor of History at the University of California, San Diego.