Tokyo’s Revolution

How Emperor Hirohito Saved Japan in His Quest of Modernisation

Emperor Hirohito stared forward, his eyes crystal orbs of ambition and aim. He stared at the throng of workers, their muscles bulging from their ripped arms. One by one, they trickled into the grandiose, imperious factories, their eyes glinting with the same resolve. This was the scene in 1964 when Emperor Hirohito, after WW2, began embracing Western culture and technology. And thanks to that, his nation is thriving.

Japan- A country of temples, samurai, katanas, and wooden houses. Except… It’s just not that anymore. Today, it’s a world of bustling streets and luminescent neon lights. What happened? Well, it begun back in the 20th century. Japan is defeated by the Allied Powers. Emperor Hirohito in 1964 begins to modernise. He introduces factories and Western technology. In 1989 he would pass away but what he did would go down forever. These technological influences would become implanted in Japanese society. They would continue these alliances with the West and one day, in many decades of years, his efforts would be paid off. All of these numerals would create the sum that equals today’s Japan.

Japanese culture has never stayed consistent. One day they were cavemen, the next never surrendering and fearless warriors, and after that, they were, well, the modern Japanese. Despite the fact that many say that Hirohito’s decision ruined Japanese culture, this is simply incorrect. Because Japanese culture is always changing, just like everyone else’s. Once Japanese were samurai, dangerous and feared warriors. Then they were normal citizens, your patriotic and nice person. The fact is, over time any culture is going to change, and that’s just how it’s been and how it always will be. As an addition, cultural context by itself didn’t change very heavily anyway, as most religions and temples are still here- To this day! But in the end, the fact is, that the rapid and radical modernisation would not have changed culture to a bad way, let alone if it did at all.

And so, was Hirohito a hero for this? A devil? Was this modernisation a heavenly wonder or an evil curse? There are many different perspectives, each telling different stories and interpretations of what Hirohito did. But for you? Well, you should believe that Hirohito has worked wonders for Japan, forever giving them the modern technology that they need. Hirohito’s Japanese industrial revolution is an event to go down in history.