

CLASS:--12TH, HISTORY

CHAPTER:- 11,PATH OF MODERNIZATION

Meiji Reforms

1. **Administrative Reforms:** The Meiji government imposed a new administrative structure by altering old village and domain boundaries to integrate the nation. In 1871, feudalism was abolished under the Meiji rule.
2. **Economic Reforms:** Another Meiji reforms was the modernising of the economy. Japan's first railway line, between Tokyo and the port of Yokohama, was built in 1870-72. In 1872, modern banking institutions were launched. *Zaibatsu* (business families) dominated the economy.
3. **Industrial Reforms:** Textile machinery was imported from Europe, and foreign technicians were employed to train workers, as well as to teach in universities and schools, and Japanese students were sent abroad. The number of people in manufacturing increased. Over half of those employed in modern factories were women. The size of factories also began to increase.
4. **Agricultural Reforms:** Funds were raised by levying an agricultural tax.
5. **Constitutional Reforms:** In 1889, Japan adopted the a new constitution. The Meiji Constitution had created a Diet and declared emperor as the commander of the forces, it was based on a restricted franchise.
6. **Educational Reforms:** A new school system began to be built from the 1870s. Schooling was compulsory for boys and girls and by 1910 almost universal. Tuition fees were minimal. Tokyo Universtiy was established in 1877.
7. **Military Reforms:** All young men over twenty had to do a period of military service. A modern military force was developed. The military and the bureaucracy were put under the direct command of the emperor