

The Meiji era of Japan marked a significant transition from a feudal society to a modern nation-state influenced by Western ideas. Preceded by the Keio era and succeeded by the Taisho era, it corresponded with Emperor Meiji's reign. Rapid modernization faced opposition, notably from former samurai like Saigo Takamori who led the Satsuma Rebellion. Some former samurai, like Ito Hirobumi and Itagaki Taisuke, remained loyal to the Meiji government. This era brought profound changes affecting social structure, politics, economy, military, and foreign relations.