



# RESEARCH GUIDE

## Films

All the films listed below may be ordered or downloaded for free from the National Film Board of Canada. They are listed here in chronological order.

- ***Warclouds in the Pacific***, 1941 (20 mins)  
This film, made when the war in Europe had already started, outlines the potential for war with Japan and sets the stage for the actions against Japanese Canadians that would soon follow.
- ***Fortress Japan***, 1943 (17 mins)  
Narrated by Lorne Green, this wartime film presents a distorted view of Japan that both reflects and promotes stereotypes about Canada's enemy in the Pacific. While Canadians had legitimate concerns about the expansion of Japan's military success, this type of film unfortunately served to stir up feelings against Canadians of Japanese ancestry.
- ***Of Japanese Descent***, 1945 (21 mins)  
In this production Japanese Canadians in forced relocation camps are (inaccurately) divided into those who were loyal to Canada and those who were not. It reflects the attitudes held by many non-Japanese Canadians at the end of WWII.
- ***Bird of Passage***, 1966 (10 mins)  
This is the story of a Japanese Canadian who was uprooted during WWII but then went on to a career as a chemical engineer in Montreal. The script is by Jesse Nishihata.
- ***Enemy Alien***, 1975 (27 mins)  
A combination of still photos and live footage tell the story of Japanese Canadians uprooted from their homes. It is a thoughtful, beautiful and eloquent presentation.
- ***Minoru: Memory of Exile***, 1992 (19 mins)  
Authentic footage and animation blend together to tell the story of Minoru Fukushima. Born in Canada, he had to go to Japan after WWII when his family chose to return there. This is the story of how he bore up in a strange country and eventually returned to Canada after the Canadian military requested his service.
- ***Shepherd's Pie and Sushi***, 1998 (45 mins)  
Of mixed Celtic and Japanese heritage, Mieko Ouchi was very nervous when she auditioned in 1993 for a role in television drama about the 1940's internment. While acting on the set of "The War Between Us", she discovered much about the Japanese side of herself that she had never known before.
- ***Obachan's Garden***, 2001 (95 mins)  
A touching meditation that explores the Japanese Canadian identity.
- ***Sleeping Tigers: the Asahi Baseball Story***, 2003 (51 mins)  
The Asahi baseball team was famous for its domination of the northwest minor league. It was a source of pride for many Japanese Canadians, because it exemplified teamwork and dedication. Abruptly ended by WWII and the forced relocation, the players carried on their spirit in the camps and inspired the whole community.

## Articles

- **"British Columbia and the Japanese Evacuation"** W. Peter Ward, *The Canadian Historical Review*, September 1976 This is a scholarly piece that emphasizes the importance



of lingering prejudice and war-time fears that turned out to have little or no basis in reality. It is well researched and carefully argued. Ward did not have access, however, to key government documents that became available later. It is still well worth reading. The article was reprinted in *Readings in Canadian History: Post-Confederation* (2nd ed.), R. Douglas Francis and Donald B. Smith, 1986, ISBN 0-03-921877-5 ([v. 2])

## Books

- ***A Dream of Riches: The Japanese Canadians 1877-1977***  
The Japanese Canadian Centennial Project, 1978, ISBN 0-9690708-0-2

This trilingual (English, French, Japanese) book provides a brief overview of the first one hundred years of the Japanese in Canada. The factual text is interspersed with quotations that add much humanity to the account. There is a fine collection of photographs. Unfortunately, the photos are not labelled as they appear, but at the back of the book, and the descriptions are very limited. Nevertheless, the photos provide a fine visual record of many of the events, and clearly show the Japanese community adapting to Canadian society while retaining their unique identity.

- ***Nikkei Legacy: The Story of Japanese Canadians from Settlement to Today***  
Toyo Takata, 1983, ISBN 0-919601-94-4

This is a fine survey of the Japanese Canadian experience during their first century in this country. In only 170 pages, with many photographs, it covers clearly the story of immigration, settlement, internment and post-war re-establishment. Takata stresses that the Japanese were much like other newcomers seeking at first to make a quick buck before returning home, later seeking to fit into their new homeland while retaining some of their ancestral traditions. Some notable pioneers are given special attention. Takata addresses all the key issues such as language and other cultural barriers, the ethnocentrism of all the groups involved, and conflicts within Japanese Canadian society. He is very good at describing the ambiguities of a community that had a very high volunteer and casualty rate as Canadian soldiers in World War I yet persisted in sending Canadian-born children, especially boys, to Japan for education. The forced relocation of World War II, life in the detention camps, and work on the prairie farms are well presented. One of the strengths of the book is its successful combination of analysis and description. Befitting from earlier in-depth research by writers such as Adachi and Sunahara, Takata had available all the facts and scholarly information needed to provide a convincing case that the harsh treatment of Japanese Canadians by the government of Canada was unwarranted and unfair. Benefiting also from interviews done by investigators such as Broadfoot, Takata weaves into his chronicle many personal stories that keep the human face of the story front and centre. Published in 1983, *Nikkei Legacy* does not cover the redress struggle and final settlement. The book suffers from the lack of an index but has a good bibliography. For those lacking the time or energy to read the much more detailed *The Enemy that Never Was* or *The Politics of Racism*, *Nikkei Legacy* provides a thorough and comprehensive presentation of the Japanese Canadian experience.

- ***Years of Sorrow, Years of Shame***  
Barry Broadfoot, 1977, ISBN 0-385-12550-X

In the mid-1970's Broadfoot travelled to many parts of Canada and interviewed Japanese Canadians about their experiences before, during, and after World War II. The interviewees included men and women of different ages whose experiences and attitudes varied widely. They constitute a reasonably representative cross-section of a community whose diversity was ignored by those who lumped them all together as "Japs" or "Enemy Aliens". Some individuals were bitter because of the



humiliation and material losses they suffered; others argued that the government policies were a blessing because they got them out of their limited lives in B.C. . Throughout the interviews we hear the authentic voices of those who resisted, those who complied reluctantly, and those who resigned themselves to a baffling reality. Adding to the usefulness of the study is the inclusion of non-Japanese voices ranging from government officials, police and military guards, and average citizens who initially knew little or nothing of what was happening in B.C. The strength of the book is the personal touch of the anonymous interviews that bring out the humanity behind the documents and statistics of other studies. Each of the fourteen chapters begins with a useful introduction that provides background to the reports that follow. One weakness of the book is its lack of documentation. But guarding the identities of the interviewees probably encouraged them to speak more freely, and other books provide the necessary references. There are also some inaccuracies, as might be expected from interviewees who are looking back many years with not always precise recollections. Again, those errors are easily correctable in more scholarly treatments. The lack of an index makes it hard to cross-reference points mentioned more than once. Finally, there are almost no views included of the most racist of the politicians involved. As repugnant as those views were, it would have been useful to read exactly what they said. Overall, this collection of interviews is essential reading for anyone seriously interested in the story of the Japanese Canadians.

- ***The Enemy That Never Was***  
Ken Adachi, 1976, ISBN 0-7710-0723-X

Years of painstaking research and a journalist's ability to tell a story effectively make Adachi's book a very valuable resource. A Japanese Canadian himself, he is able to understand and explain the many points of view to be found in various segments of the Japanese and non-Japanese communities. The first two hundred pages deal with the early history of the Japanese immigrants and their Canadian-born children before the attacks on Hong Kong, Pearl Harbor, and Manila that precipitated the Pacific theatre of World War II. There are many insights into the culture and changing attitudes of the immigrant community that was torn and victimized as a result of the actions of Japan's military forces. The second half of the book describes the forced relocation and expulsion of British Columbia's population of Japanese ancestry. The discussions are in-depth and include Japanese terms that help explain the attitudes of those who were caught in the upheaval. (Many of the terms are defined in the Sedai "Glossary".) In fact, the discussions may be too detailed for the casual reader. But this is a complicated story and Adachi weaves together its disparate parts very effectively. The only serious weakness of the book is that certain key government documents were still under lock and key when Adachi did his research. Therefore, further reading is necessary to obtain a more complete picture despite the depth of his analysis.

- ***The Politics of Racism***  
Ann Gomer Sunahara, 1981, ISBN 0-88862-413-1

This is the definitive study of the forced relocation and expulsion of Canadians of Japanese ancestry. Writing a little later than Broadfoot and Adachi, professional historian Ann Gomer Sunahara had access to previously withheld government documents including minutes of federal cabinet meetings. She goes beyond Ward's conclusion that the actions taken against the community were overwhelmingly the result of war paranoia. She demonstrates that the panic of war gave victory to a small group of racists. Of course, there was genuine fear of a Japanese attack on British Columbia. And certainly the government was preoccupied with the war in Europe, conscription, and numerous other issues. Nevertheless, it was the race prejudice and opportunity for economic gain that compelled the anti-Oriental politicians to push their agenda on to a country that, with some significant individual and group exceptions, was prepared to ignore the rights of a minority during a severe national crisis. This study strongly supported the case for Redress, which was achieved in 1988. This book is now available on the internet. Anyone interested in this topic needs to read at



least the preface, introduction, and conclusion of Gomer Sunahara's thoroughly researched and cogently argued investigation.

- ***A Tragedy of Democracy: Japanese Confinement in North America***  
Greg Robinson, 2009, ISBN 978-0-231-12922-0 (cloth), ISBN 978-0-231-52012-6 (e-book)

No serious researcher can omit this book when studying the history of Japanese Canadians. It is an excellent study that builds on the pioneering work of Ken Adachi and the scholarly analysis of Ann Gomer Sunahara. Furthermore, it presents new evidence and insights. While primarily an examination of what happened to Japanese Americans, *A Tragedy of Democracy* also includes much information about Canada and some on Latin America. Greg Robinson, a New Yorker by origin and professor of history at the University of Quebec in Montreal, brings a wide range of research interests, skills and experience to this project. In the Introduction Professor Robinson begins by wrestling with the controversial terms. "Relocation" and "Internment" are rejected in favour of "Removal" and "Confinement". He does not accept government euphemisms. [Please see the glossary on this website for the suggested definitions of other terms.] He then notes the irony of the arbitrary and anti-democratic actions of many governments throughout the western hemisphere during a war that was ostensibly being fought for liberty and the rule of law. Given the threat of terrorist attacks in the 21st century and the laws designed to prevent them, the question of what limitations on personal freedom in war time are permissible needs to be re-examined through historical examples. The first chapter offers a useful review of the situation of Japanese immigrants to North America. The context of the governments' actions during and after WWII is thus provided. Robinson traces the origins of wariness and hostility that existed; he notes the fear of economic competition and cultural differences found in the non-Japanese communities. And he does not neglect the issue of ambiguous identity felt by many Nisei children who did not see themselves as Japanese but had to struggle to be accepted as Americans or Canadians. At the same time, he expresses how the sending of Nisei children to be educated in Japan made them objects of suspicion when conflict with Japan broke out in 1941. Support expressed in North American Japanese language newspapers for the Imperial Japanese Army in its attacks on China earlier in the war heightened animosity towards the Japanese immigrant communities. This fact is clearly addressed as is the role of Japanese consulates in their attempts to recruit spies. Robinson carries the story through the period of incarceration, post-war adjustment, Redress and beyond in a thorough manner with a compelling narrative. One of the greatest strengths of this book is the new evidence that Robinson has unearthed. He describes the deliberate manipulation of information about the war situation and internal security issues by senior government officials in both the US and Canada. He provides fresh examples of racial bias in white communities and on the part of American President Roosevelt and Canadian Prime Minister King. New cases of blatant racism among some key figures on both sides of the border are also spelled out clearly. Throughout his work Professor Robinson makes good use of comparisons between the US and Canada. In so doing, he helps clarify events in both countries by offering the two perspectives. For example, in discussing the question of allowing citizens of Japanese ancestry to volunteer for military service he notes: "Japanese Canadians would encounter more intensive discrimination and official restrictions than their southern neighbours in the early post-war years, in part because they did not have the same opportunity to demonstrate their patriotism." (p. 244) With regard to government action he writes: "...while Canadians did make an effort to take note of American policies, Canadian leaders from Prime Minister King downward also continued their long-standing habit of making use of American policies and the need to keep in lockstep with them, less as a guide to action than an expedient justification for it (or sometimes for inaction) when it suited them." (p. 65) And again: "...the Canadian experience, like the American one, suggests that the scope and nature of the removal policy were determined primarily by political interest, without regard for framing policies that mixed security with protection of democratic rights." (p. 102) One of the greatest strengths of this book is its section on legal issues. Both Americans and Canadians tried to use the court system to uphold their fundamental freedoms. In both countries the system let them down. Robinson deals



very effectively with the complicated issues here and clarifies them well. One conclusion of *A Tragedy of Democracy* is particularly chilling. Referring to the reluctance of US army leaders to relinquish their war time powers, Robinson observes: "The durability and the popularity of the military dictatorship are a frightening precedent for the survival of American institutions in time of war and offer a discouraging message about the capacity of civilian governors to roll back limitations on democratic rights, even when there is no justification for them." (p. 246) In Canada, too, anti-Japanese Canadian measures were kept in place for years after WWII ended. Two weaknesses of the book should be noted. Some key terms used in the book are not to be found in the index. More importantly, while the significance of the attack on Pearl Harbor is duly addressed, there is perhaps not enough attention given to the anger and anti-Japanese feeling created in Canada by the violent actions of the Japanese Imperial army that resulted in the death of Canadian soldiers and nurses in Hong Kong. Overall, the analysis and exposition of *A Tragedy of Democracy* are superb. Be warned, however, this is a difficult and complex book. But so is the story it tells. A challenging read, it is worth the effort. And it is nice to find an American who actually understands Canada.

- ***From Slocan to Hong Kong***

James H. Kinoshita, 2005, ISBN 978-1-4251-2244-7

Over twenty thousand Japanese Canadians felt the impact of the forced evacuation of 1942. Each individual has a story to tell. This autobiography of JHK (as he refers to himself) is one of those stories. Overcoming his family's difficult experience, James H. Kinoshita would become an influential architect (as would his brother Gene also). JHK's grandfather and father came from Shiga-ken, not far from Kyoto. Like many Japanese, the original plan was to make money in Canada and return to the homeland rich. His grandfather did well enough to go back and become the mayor of Hikone. His father chose to stay in Vancouver where he successfully operated several businesses in the Japan town area on Powell Street. Born in 1933, JHK was eight years old when the attack on Pearl Harbor took place. (It is interesting to note that he makes no reference to the similar attack on Hong Kong.) His family was interned in Slocan, first at Roseberry and then at Popoff. Like many of the children in the prison camps, JHK had mixed feelings. He recalls both the hardships (cold, cramped conditions) and the fun (berry picking and fishing). He did not enjoy his training in Kendo but he accepted the "shikata ga nai" attitude of the adults around him. He did wonder, however, why Japanese were selected for forced relocation and not Germans or Italians. After the war he stayed in Slocan for a period, and then completed his high school education in Vancouver. Next came Winnipeg where he began to call himself "James", because his fellow students had trouble with his given name of "Hajime". Helped by family, members of the JC community, and sympathetic Canadians of various backgrounds, he did very well in architectural school at the University of Manitoba. While there he met his future wife, a student from China. After completing his studies he travelled to Japan to visit family and to learn first-hand about Japanese design. His trips to Kyoto and Nara left a lasting impression. From Japan he went to China where he proposed to his Chinese sweetheart. He was accepted by her and her family with no prejudice. The remainder of the book describes his experiences as a successful architect, world traveller, and family man. While this book does not focus on the internment experience, it does show how the situation improved for Canadians of Japanese origin after World War II due to their own efforts and a changing attitude among Canadians in general.

- ***After Camp: Portraits in Midcentury Japanese American Life and Politics***

Greg Robinson, 2012, ISBN 9780520271586 - review by George Hewson

Do we owe Redress to Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr.? Are Japanese unique among the many minority groups of North America? Should Japanese Canadians avoid or celebrate sushi? While Professor Greg Robinson may not answer each of these questions directly, he does cast much light onto the background discussions that revolve around them.





After Camp is the third in a series of books Robinson has written about the Japanese American experience. The first (*By Order of the President*, 2003) looked at the role played by US President F. D. Roosevelt in the decision to forcibly remove Japanese immigrants and their families from the west coast during World War II. While Roosevelt was a true liberal, he was still caught up in the underlying prejudices of the time. The second (*A Tragedy of Democracy*, 2008) demonstrates how, in both the USA and Canada, wartime hysteria was used as a cover to implement the racist policies favoured by certain extremists. Robinson demonstrates how fragile our freedoms can be under the duress of a perceived threat.

As its title indicates, this third book (published in 2012) examines the experience of Japanese Americans before and after World War II. It focuses largely on the reestablishment and renewal that followed the release of the inmates from the detention camps. Robinson argues that this process is just as important as the dramatic events of the war in shaping the life of Japanese Americans. The volume consists of a series of case studies organised thematically rather than chronologically that investigate topics such as national resettlement, the mental and physical adjustments of the former detainees, and their political links to other minority groups. Most of the material is previously unpublished. Robinson notes that his investigation is not intended to be definitive, but rather to encourage further research and discussion.

The key themes Robinson addresses are: the general shift in group leadership from the Issei to the Nisei; the debate over accommodation vs. assimilation; and the relations between Japanese Americans and other communities that were also striving for rights and recognition.

Part I centres on the question of resettlement and dispersal. Part II explores identity. Part III details the shifting relations with Mexican Americans and Jewish Americans. Part IV and Part V examine the making and breaking of alliances with African Americans in the common struggle for civil rights.

Robinson outlines the idea that the Nisei overcame obstacles exclusively through their cultural values of hard work and subdued diligence. But he also notes opposition to the view that Japanese Americans were conformist and passive, and discusses the “model minority” thesis and its critics. While it is true that most Nisei families tried to blend in with mainstream American culture (even to the point of rejecting all ties to their Japanese heritage), the evidence suggests that the experience of individuals was both more complex and less cohesive than the “quiet American” stereotype would indicate.

The consciousness of being members of a small and exposed group of outsiders resulted in certain Nisei reaching out to other marginalised groups such as Hispanics and Jews. As a result, some negative images that the various groups held of each other were reconsidered.

Both Japanese and African Americans were the victims of various forms of legal and economic discrimination. Immediately after the war they worked together to fight these common forms of oppression. Gradually this cooperation declined as many Japanese Americans' lives moved in different directions than African Americans. Growing militancy in the African American community in the 1960's further increased the gap between the two groups especially where the older Nisei were concerned. At the same time, however, some younger Nisei and new Sansei leaders were inspired by the “Black Power” movement to take greater pride in their Asian roots. As part of the broader civil rights movement the campaign for acknowledgement of the wrongs suffered by Japanese Americans gained strength and resulted in federal redress legislation in 1988.

The great strengths of Robinson's book are its original research and penetrating analysis. This is an academic volume that the average reader might find rather scholarly in approach; it is not meant for holiday reading on the beach. But anyone who chooses to think seriously about the situation of



Japanese Americans today must read *After Camp*. And, by extension, since no one looking into the Japanese Canadian story can avoid making comparisons with the experiences of other Nikkei communities (especially those in the USA), this book is of great value to Canadians also.

- ***Uprooted Again: Japanese Canadians Move to Canada After WWII (Nikkei Kanadajin no tsuihou)***

Tatsuo Kage, 2012, ISBN 9781896627205 - review by George Hewson

*Uprooted Again* is a translation of Tatsuo Kage's 1998 book *Nikkei Kanadajin no tsuihou* ("The Expulsion of the Japanese Canadians"). However, it is not a literal translation; it has been updated, and also adapted for an English-speaking audience that might require further explanation of some of the ideas that would already be clear to Japanese readers of the original.

Kage, born in 1930, grew up in Japan, taking degrees in history from Japanese universities. After witnessing Japan's successful moves towards democracy after growing up in ultra-nationalistic pre-war Japan, he immigrated to Canada in 1975. Interested in the Japanese Canadian experience, he became active in the Redress movement.

The memoir aspect of the book is paramount. Kage interviewed about twenty-five of the nearly four thousand Japanese Canadian exiles who opted to go to Japan after World War II. Kage tells the stories of the refugees well, noting their shared circumstances but also their highly individual situations and reactions. The book is certainly worth considering for the personal anecdotes shared by the interviewees.

Kage successfully outlines the complexity of motives for accepting "repatriation". The government's sometimes subtle yet powerful coercion was one factor, but there were many others as well. The Japanese Canadians' experiences in war-ravaged Japan - such as poor quality food, resentment from native Japanese, feeling foreign, and working for the Occupation forces - make for touching reading. The importance of language proficiency comes to the fore, since varying degrees of fluency in Japanese and English resulted in wide range of circumstances for the exiles in Japan.

Furthermore, the author delves thoughtfully into the reasons why some exiles stayed in Japan and others chose to return to Canada.

The Redress settlement of 1988 is reviewed and its purpose and effectiveness are also insightfully examined.

Read this book for the memoirs, certainly; but go beyond them too. As the author writes, "It is infinitely satisfying to listen to individuals and set down their stories, but one must also consider the meaning of their experiences within a wider setting." (p. 139)

For example, Kage attempts to study the implications of the "repatriation" policy on the JC community as a whole, and on certain individuals whose reactions range from bitterness to denial and to stoic acceptance. He is particularly concerned about all Canadians who are "visibly exceptional", and he briefly explores the psychological tension that arises when one is a member of a minority group. The book also outlines some of the difficulties we face with our policy of multiculturalism in Canada.

At the end, there is a call to action. Kage hopes that he has offered encouragement and suggestions for any reader involved in the protection of human rights. He notes the hostile reactions that continue to be directed unfairly after the attacks on New York City in 2001, "...we cannot be sure



that members of minority groups such as Arabs and Muslims would be protected as Canadians with full rights of citizenship.” (p. 139)

It is worth noting that *Uprooted Again* includes copies of many relevant documents such as the notice for voluntary repatriation and the declaration itself. There are photographs of families preparing for deportation. Well researched, there is a fine bibliography for those who would like to explore these topics in more depth.

## Documentary

### Japanese deportations in Canada during WWII : Throwaway Citizens (1995) –

The Fifth Estate

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ggNYkFg6AjA&feature=youtu.be>

## GLOSSARY

There are a number of Japanese terms, which appear in the interviews and documents. The following Glossary will provide explanations for some of the terms.

- **Aikido** - Japanese martial art derived from jujutsu by Ueshiba Morihei; a system of self-discipline and self-defence that uses throws, joint-locks, and pins; unlike Judo, the partners do not grapple while holding each other's uniforms; this martial art was largely unknown to Japanese Canadians before World War II
- **Alien** - someone from another place; a non-citizen (Japanese-Canadians, although born in Canada, were labelled "Enemy Aliens" during World War II).
- **Angler** - A camp for German prisoners of war located in Ontario east of Thunder Bay on Lake Superior that was also used to intern about 700 Japanese-Canadians who refused to comply with the evacuation order. It was surrounded by barbed wire. The prisoners were required to wear uniforms with targets on the back.
- **Anti-Asian Riot of 1907** - (also known as the "Powell Street Riot") violent attacks against Chinese, Japanese, and Indians (from south Asia) by white citizens of Vancouver who felt threatened by increasing non-white immigration; no one was killed, but there was some personal injury and extensive property damage; some financial compensation was paid by the federal government under a commission led by future Prime Minister W.L.M. King.
- **Asahi** - Rising sun; name of famous minor league baseball team made up of Japanese-Canadians.
- **Asiatic Exclusion League** - A group formed in 1907 in B.C. to press the federal government to ban immigration from China, Japan, and India out of a fear of job losses and a declining standard of living, as well as a general race prejudice.
- **Assimilation** - The process of absorbing people into a larger group, especially of having a minority cultural group take on the characteristics of the majority group.
- **Atama no kuroi keto** - "Black-haired white trash"; term used by Issei who claimed that Japan would win the war to describe those of their community who thought otherwise.
- **Axis** - The military alliance between Germany, Italy and Japan. Officially it was the Anti-Comintern Pact, an agreement to resist the spread of Communism.





- **Bakufu** - "tent government"; it refers to the military government of Japan led by the leader of the samurai, the Shogun; it ended in 1868 when power was ceremonially returned to the Emperor.
- **Banzai** - "May you live 10,000 years!" (a Japanese celebratory exclamation, patriotic cheer, or battle cry).
- **Bay Farm** - One of the internment sites.
- **Beet Workers Association** - (Shogo Endo Kai) a group formed to represent the interests of Japanese Canadians sent from British Columbia to Alberta.
- **Benjo** - Toilet (old-fashioned term).
- **Bill 43** - Gave right to vote in British Columbia's provincial elections to persons of Japanese ancestry (1949).
- **Bill 198** - Law to amend the Dominion Elections Act; restored the right to vote in federal elections to Canadians of Japanese ancestry (1948).
- **Bird Commission** - A Royal Commission established in 1947 and headed by Justice H. I. Bird that inquired into claims by Japanese Canadians for loss of property. The minimum payments eventually awarded were considered unsatisfactory by many individuals.
- **British Columbia Security Commission (BCSC)** - An official group appointed by the federal government in 1942 to organize and supervise the removal of Japanese Canadians from coastal areas. It followed policies set by the federal Cabinet Committee on Japanese Questions, the Department of Labour and the Department of Justice
- **Brothel** - A house of prostitution; as early as 1890 there were brothels in Victoria, Nelson, Cranbrook, etc.; the prostitutes were usually young, illiterate women from poor Japanese villages.
- **Cabinet Committee on Japanese Questions** - A federal cabinet committee largely influenced by the highly prejudiced ideas of one of its members, Ian Mackenzie. Many of its decisions became government policy through Orders-in-Council. Its secretive nature kept many of the facts concerning Japanese Canadians away from the Canadian public. As a result, most Canadians apparently assumed that the Japanese Canadians must have been guilty of something or they would not have been forcibly relocated.
- **Camp and Mill Workers Union (CMWU)** - Established in 1920 this organization of younger Issei attempted to improve conditions for Japanese immigrant workers by working closely with other labour groups, and by integrating more into Canadian society.
- **Canadian Civil Liberties Association** - An organization dedicated to the protection of Canadians' civil and political rights.
- **Canadian Japanese Association** - Established in 1897 this almost entirely Issei organization attempted to assist and represent Japanese immigrants in Canada (in the 1930's its newspaper published articles supporting Japan's attacks in China and other war propaganda).
- **Chambara** - Japanese movie-style sword fighting.
- **Chinese Exclusion Act** - A federal law passed in 1923 that almost completely stopped Chinese immigration to Canada (It did not apply to Japanese because the "gentlemen's agreement" to limit immigration from Japan was still in effect.)
- **Chonmage** - Samurai hairstyle with shaved pate and top-knot; it was officially abolished in 1876 just one year before the first documented Japanese migrant arrived in Canada.
- **Civil Rights** - The rights one has as a citizen of a country; they include freedom of thought, speech, and assembly.
- **Coercion** - Forcing someone to behave in a certain way by threat or force; a contract is not valid if either side is coerced into signing.
- **Concentration Camps** - A place to forcibly hold enemies and their families; it has been argued that the term applies to the communities where Japanese-Canadians were held during and after World War II (It should be noted that the treatment of the detainees in



these camps was not the same as that of the infamous places where the Nazis enslaved and murdered Jews, Slavs, Gypsies, homosexuals, etc.) (See "Internment Camps")

- **Conscription Crisis** - At the beginning of WW II Prime Minister King had promised that there would be no conscription for overseas service. As the war went on and more soldiers were needed, King was under pressure to change his promise; his preoccupation with this highly divisive issue is one reason why he paid little attention to actions affecting Japanese Canadians. Despite the shortage of soldiers, Japanese Canadians were not accepted as volunteers.
- **Consultative Council for Cooperation in Wartime Problems of Canadian Citizenship** - Vancouver group headed by Herbert Norman that opposed government policies that uprooted and dispossessed Japanese Canadians.
- **Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (CCF)** - Canadian political party founded in 1930's; later became the New Democratic Party (NDP).
- **Co-Operative Committee on Japanese Canadians (CCJC)** - A Toronto based group of Japanese Canadians and Canadians of other origins that opposed the "repatriation" of Japanese and Japanese Canadians to Japan.
- **Culture** - The total way of life of a large group of people; it includes language, beliefs, customs, food, clothing, etc.
- **Curfew** - A rule that people must be inside their homes during certain hours.
- **Custodian of Enemy Alien Property** - Government agency responsible for the protection and sale of land, houses, cars, boats, and other personal items belonging to Japanese-Canadians (in many cases the property was sold for much less than its market value).
- **Dekasegi** - "Leaving the village for employment"; many of the first Japanese arrivals in Canada did not intend to stay, but hoped to enrich themselves and then return to Japan (see fukoku-kyohei).
- **Deportation** - The expulsion of non-citizens back to their country of origin (by definition, Canadian citizens cannot be deported from Canada) (see "Repatriation")
- **Detention** - Keeping someone under restriction in confinement.
- **Discrimination** - The ability to distinguish differences; unfavourable treatment based on prejudice.
- **Emigrant** - Someone who leaves his/her country and goes to live permanently in another country.
- **Enryo** - Restraint; holding one's emotions in check.
- **Ethnocentrism** - Judging other cultures by one's own cultural standards; believing that one's own culture is naturally superior to others.
- **Etiquette** - Rules of behaviour; how to be polite and thoughtful.
- **Euphemism** - A mild, vague, or misleading expression used in place of a harsher but more realistic term.
- **Evacuation** - The removal of people from a place of danger for their own safety (The forced relocation of Japanese-Canadians from the coast of British Columbia to camps in the interior of the province was described by the federal government as an action to protect them; however, there were also motives of racial prejudice and economic greed demonstrated by some of the white population of B.C.)
- **Evacuee** - Someone who is part of an evacuation.
- **Fifth Column** - Local people willing to help an invading force (Some Canadians thought that Japanese-Canadians might be helping the Japanese Imperial Army/Navy in planning an attack on British Columbia. There was no evidence for this idea once some local sympathizers were detained.)
- **Franchise** - The right to vote.



- **Fukoku-kyohei** - "Enrich the nation and strengthen the military"; this was a slogan of the Japanese government after the Meiji Restoration of 1868; for the first time in centuries Japanese were allowed and encouraged to go overseas to study and work (see dekasegi).
- **Fukujinzuke** - Japanese pickles.
- **Furo** - Japanese bathtub (less formal term than ofuro).
- **Futsuu no mono dattara** - If things were as usual.
- **Gaijin** - Foreigner; non-Japanese (also "gaikokujin").
- **Gaman** - Forbearance; the ability to be able to meet challenges without complaining (A common phrase in Japanese is "Gambatte kudasai" meaning "Please persevere" or "Please do your best under the circumstances".)
- **Ganbari** - Resistance (to the government's orders).
- **Gentlemen's Agreement** - A document signed between the governments of Canada and Japan in 1908 to limit the number of Japanese immigrants to Canada despite the contrary terms of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance of 1902; the USA and Japan had a similar agreement.
- **Ghetto** - Originally sections of a European city to which Jews was restricted; later came to mean an area of a city where members of a poor minority group lived.
- **Ghost Town** - A formerly populated community that has been largely or entirely vacated (Some of the internment camps were ghost towns in the interior of B.C.)
- **Giri** - The duty to keep one's personal reputation and family name clean. (see On)
- **Gosei** - Fifth generation. (see Issei and Nisei)
- **Greater Vancouver Advisory Committee** - A government-appointed board that organized the sale of Japanese Canadian urban properties at below market value.
- **Greenwood** - One of the internment sites.
- **Habeas Corpus** - The body of basic rights; presumes innocent until proven guilty, knowing what charge has been laid, having a trial in a reasonable amount of time, etc. Many of these guarantees for Canadian citizens of Japanese origin were ignored under the War Measures Act and other government regulations (Orders-in-Council).
- **Hakujin** - White person; someone of European ancestry.
- **Hashi** - Japanese chopsticks.
- **Hastings Park Exhibition Grounds** - Vancouver site where Japanese-Canadians were kept in hastily converted horse stables and cattle stalls after they were forced from their homes until they were sent to internment camps in the interior of B.C.
- **Head Tax** - A fee required from each Chinese immigrant to Canada starting in 1885; it did not apply to Japanese immigrants whose numbers were limited by a "gentlemen's agreement" between the governments of Canada and Japan (the agreement was a supplement to a military alliance between Britain and Japan).
- **Hito ni meiwaku o kakete wa ikenai** - You shouldn't make a nuisance of yourself.
- **Hong Kong** - This city in southern China was a British colony when the Japanese Imperial Army attacked it on December 8, 1941. They raped and murdered Canadian nurses when they captured the colony on December 25. The Canadian soldiers who survived the battle were interned. (See "POW Camps"). The brutal treatment of the nurses and soldiers enflamed Canadian passions against the Japanese. Unfortunately, some of this anger was directed against Japanese-Canadians in B.C. who were in no way involved.
- **"Hostels"** - Interim lodging for Japanese Canadians moving east from the BC camps after WW II; often barracks-like conditions, they were referred to euphemistically as "temporary regional centres" by the government.
- **Ikebana** - The art of Japanese flower arranging.
- **immigrant** - Someone who enters another country with the intention of living there permanently.
- **Incarceration** - Being in jail or prison.
- **Incarceration Camps** - Places where Japanese-Canadians were forced to go such as ghost towns in the interior of B.C. (an alternative and stronger term than "Internment



Camps"). No such camps were created for German-Canadians or Italian-Canadians, even though the threat of an invasion of the Atlantic coast was much greater than that of the Pacific coast.

- **Interior Housing Centre** - Government euphemism for internment camp.
- **Interior Settlement** - Government euphemism for internment camp.
- **Internment** - The act of forcing a prisoner to stay within a restricted area.
- **Internment Camps** - The typical term for the communities where Japanese-Canadians were sent during World War II (see "Incarceration Camps" and "Concentration Camps").
- **Intimidation** - Frightening someone by threatening.
- **Issei** - First generation; refers to pre-World War II immigrants.
- **Jap** - A derogatory and racist term applied to Japanese.
- **Japanese Canadian Citizens Association (JCCA)** - A group formed in Vancouver in 1932; it declined in importance after World War II; its final conference was held in Toronto in 1961; its Toronto chapter continued after that time.
- **Japanese Canadian Citizens' Council (JCCC)** - A coalition of various Japanese Canadian groups formed in 1942 assist those who were being uprooted.
- **Japanese Canadian Citizens League (JCCL)** - A Nisei organization founded in 1936 to obtain full civil and political rights for Canadians of Japanese descent.
- **Japanese Canadian Committee for Democracy (JCCD)** - A Toronto-based group that rejected the acceptance of food supplies from the Japanese Red Cross because it would make them appear to be Japanese rather than Canadian. By 1944 they were lobbying for the right to vote as Canadian citizens.
- **Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre (JCCC)** - A community centre that opened in Toronto in 1963; the original building was designed by Raymond Moriyama; in the 1990's the members moved to another, larger building.
- **Japanese Canadians** - Immigrants to Canada from Japan and their descendants (Of the approximately 24,000 Japanese-Canadians interned (incarcerated) in the 1940's about 2/3 were born in Canada and were, therefore, Canadian citizens, as were some of the Issei who were naturalized Canadians).
- **Japanese Fishing Vessel Disposal Committee (JFVDC)** - A federal government appointed group that oversaw the selling of fishing boats confiscated from Japanese Canadians. Their appraisal of the value of the vessels was based on their condition after three months of neglect and abuse.
- **Japanese Liaison Committee** - A group of three Issei appointed by the British Columbia Security Commission to liaise between itself and the Japanese Canadian community. Its controversial leader was Etsuji Morii.
- **Japanese Property Owners Association** - A group of Issei in Kaslo that opposed the sale of confiscated property starting in 1943.
- **Japanese Repatriation League** - Organization of white Canadians in B.C. to have persons of Japanese ancestry sent to Japan.
- **Judo** - Japanese martial art derived from jujutsu by Kano Jigoro; a sport but also a system of self-discipline and self-defence where partners engage in a form of wrestling while wearing sturdy uniforms; it was well known to Japanese Canadians before World War II.
- **Kana** - Japanese symbols for writing Japanese and foreign words; there are two forms, "hiragana" and "katakana."
- **Kanji** - Chinese characters (pictograms/ideographs) used to write Japanese words.
- **Karate** - Japanese martial art and sport derived from China and Okinawa that primarily uses punches and kicks; it was largely unknown to Japanese Canadians before World War II.
- **Kanpyo** - Dried gourd.
- **Kaslo** - One of the internment sites.



- **Kendo** - Japanese martial art derived from sword fighting where partners compete wearing armour and using split bamboo swords (shinai); it was well known to Japanese Canadians before World War II.
- **Kenjin-kai** - Prefectural organization (immigrants from the same region of Japan).
- **Ketojin** - Hairy person; a derogatory term for white people.
- **Kibe** - See Kika.
- **Kika Nisei** - Japanese Canadians born in Canada but educated in Japan (see Shushin).
- **Kikajin-kai** - See Naturalized Japanese Canadian Association.
- **Kisaragi Club** - A Japanese Canadian group that gave instruction in ballroom dancing.
- **Kodomo no tame ni** - For the sake of the children.
- **Kokojin** - Black person; someone of African descent.
- **Komagata Maru Incident** - In 1914 white Canadians prevented the landing in B.C. of a Japanese ship carrying Indian workers from South Asia.
- **Konnyaku** - Yam root.
- **Koseki-tohon** - Family register.
- **Kotobukikai** - A social club for Japanese Canadians over sixty years of age.
- **Kumeric Incident** - In 1905 over one thousand Japanese workers arrived from Hawaii; Canadians in B.C. were alarmed by what they saw as competition for scarce jobs.
- **Kunimono** - People from the same prefecture.
- **Lemon Creek** - One of the internment sites
- **Little Tokyo** - See "Powell Street."
- **Manchukuo** - The Japanese puppet state in Manchuria, 1931-1945.
- **Manitoba Japanese Joint Committee** - A group formed in 1943 to represent the interests of the Japanese Canadians who had been moved from British Columbia to Manitoba.
- **Miai-kekkon** - Arranged marriage; typical of Issei, not always accepted by Nisei.
- **Military Necessity** - A justification for extreme action in time of war.
- **Miscegenation** - The interbreeding of what are presumed to be distinct human races, especially links between white and non-white individuals; this form of bias sometimes prevented the marriage of Japanese with people of European background.
- **Miso** - Soybean paste used for soup and other types of cooking.
- **Mochi** - Pounded rice cake.
- **Moxa** - Dried leaves burned on or above the skin for medicinal purposes.
- **Mores** - Typical or essential customs of a community.
- **Namaiki** - Impertinent; some Issei saw Nisei as lacking in respect and obedience.
- **Nanking** - A Chinese city now known as Nanjing; the atrocious behaviour of the Japanese Imperial Army in capturing this city increased Canadian hostility toward Japan; some of that hostility was directed toward Japanese-Canadians, especially when Issei groups attempted to justify Japan's aggression.
- **National Emergency Transitional Powers Act ("Bill 15")** - A Canadian law that recognized that the emergency of war had ended on January 1, 1946; Unlike the War Measures Act it did not include the powers of arrest, exclusion and deportation, but it still gave the government extraordinary powers to take action to wrap up war related matters.
- **National Japanese Canadian Citizens Association (NJCCA)** - A Nisei group formed in Toronto in 1947.
- **National Security** - Protection of the country, especially from a military or terrorist threat.
- **National Selective Service** - The power of the federal government to conscript individuals for civilian or military duty during wartime.
- **Nativist** - Someone who favours long-time residents over recent immigrants.





- **Naturalized Citizen** - Someone who was born elsewhere but has legally become a citizen of his/her new country of residence.
- **Naturalized Japanese Canadian Association** - Known colloquially as the Kikajin-kai. This group, formed in March 1942, opposed the work done by Etsuji Morii and the Japanese Liaison Committee.
- **New Canadian** - See "The New Canadian."
- **New Denver** - One of the internment sites.
- **Nihon** - Japan (same as Nippon).
- **Nihonjin** - Japanese person (also "Nipponjin").
- **Nihonjin-machi** - Japan town (the area of Vancouver where many Japanese lived).
- **Nihon-machi** - The same as Nihonjin-machi.
- **Nikkei** - People of Japanese ancestry living in another country.
- **Nippon** - Japan (same as Nihon).
- **Nisei** - Second generation; the Canadian-born children of the pre-World War II Japanese immigrants.
- **Obaachan** - Familiar form of "Obaasan."
- **Obaasan** - Grandmother; old woman.
- **Ocha** - Japanese green tea.
- **Odori** - Dance; Japanese dancing.
- **Ofuro** - Japanese bathtub (more formal term than furo).
- **Ojiichan** - Familiar form of "Ojiisan."
- **Ojiisan** - Grandfather; old man.
- **On** - Duty; the obligations owed by children to their parents (see Giri).
- **Order-in-Council** - A directive or order given by the government without passing a new law.
- **Order-in-Council, P.C. 365** - A federal government regulation of January, 1942, (under the War Measures Act) that empowered the Minister of Justice to make any area of Canada a "protected area" from which enemy aliens could be excluded. It was used to legalize the forced removal of Canadian of Japanese ancestry from the coast of British Columbia. Under this rule, Japanese males were ordered out.
- **Order-in-Council, P.C. 1486** - A federal government regulation of February 24, 1942, (under the War Measures Act) that empowered the Minister of Justice to control the movements of all persons of Japanese ancestry, whether Canadian citizens or not, in the "protected areas". Under this rule, entire families were forced out of their homes. The driving force behind this plan was B.C. Liberal M.P. and cabinet minister Ian Mackenzie.
- **Origami** - Japanese artistic paper folding.
- **Osushi** - Formal term for "sushi."
- **Pacific War** - One of the terms used in Japan for WW II.
- **Paternalism** - Limiting freedom and responsibility in the belief that it is for the good of those who are thereby restricted.
- **Pearl Harbor** - This American naval base in Hawaii was attacked without a prior declaration of war by the Japanese navy on December 7, 1941. The deaths of thousands of American military personnel finally brought the US into World War II. Japanese military success so close to North America created fear and panic among the residents of British Columbia and western US states. (It is interesting to note that there was no forced removal of Japanese in Hawaii, unlike on the west coast of the USA and Canada.)
- **Picture Brides** - Women brought from Japan to marry Issei immigrants in Canada; often the couple had never met but only exchanged photographs in advance of the marriage; they began to arrive in Canada around 1908; about 300-400 arrived in 1913; the practice was discontinued after 1928.
- **Popoff** - One of the internment sites.



- **POW Camps** - Prisoner of war camps (In the Japanese samurai tradition, surrender was a disgrace. A soldier should win, die fighting, or commit suicide. Therefore, enemy soldiers, for whom there was such a thing as an honourable surrender, were looked down upon by their Japanese captors. Conditions in Japanese camps were deplorable and not in keeping with the Geneva Convention. Reports of mistreatment of Canadian prisoners angered Canadians at home. They directed some of this hostility toward Japanese-Canadians in B.C., especially when it was learned that one particularly sadistic prison guard was a Japanese-Canadian who had moved to Japan before the war. However, Japanese-Canadians in B.C. were in no way involved in the atrocities of the POW camps.)
- **Powell Street** - A street in Vancouver where Japanese-Canadians lived and worked; it was the centre of Nihonjin machi; the Japanese equivalent of "Chinatown."
- **Prejudice** - Forming opinions about individuals based on limited evidence about that person's group; unfair judgement based on unreasonable generalization; an opinion formed in advance of specific knowledge; a dislike or distrust of a person or group based on misinformation or the actions of a small number of examples.
- **Propaganda** - Deliberate spreads ideas that are partially or totally false for the purpose of achieving a political goal.
- **Race** - Major division of humans based on superficial physical differences such as skin colour, hair texture or facial features (race is largely dismissed by anthropologists as an explanation of group or individual behaviour).
- **Racism** - Discrimination based on racial prejudice.
- **RCMP** - The Royal Canadian Mounted Police. (Canada's national police force, they also form the provincial police in British Columbia.)
- **Redress** - The act of righting a wrong (in 1988 the government of Canada officially apologized for the treatment of Japanese-Canadians during and after World War II and provided some financial compensation)
- **Refugee** - A person who flees to escape invasion, persecution, or threat to life.
- **Relocation Centre** - Government euphemism for internment camp.
- **Reparations** - Compensation (often in the form of a monetary payment) paid to make amends (As part of the redress settlement of 1988 the government of Canada made financial contributions to the families that were forcibly relocated during World War II).
- **Repatriation** - The returning of someone or something to the country of origin (After World War II the government of Canada encouraged Japanese-Canadians to go to Japan; for those born in Japan this was repatriation. Many of those born in Canada had never been to Japan).
- **Resettlement** - The issue of (a) what to do with the Japanese-Canadians removed from their homes in 1942 and (b) where they would be allowed to live after World War II.
- **Rural Advisory Committee** - A government-appointed board that organized the sale of Japanese Canadian rural properties.
- **Sabotage** - The damaging of property by enemy agents during a war.
- **Saboteur** - Someone who commits sabotage.
- **Sakura** - Cherry blossom.
- **Samurai** - Servant or retainer; the warrior class that ruled Japan 1185-1868; the samurai as a distinct social class ended in 1876.
- **Sandon** - One of the internment sites.
- **Sansei** - Third generation.
- **Sake** - Alcoholic beverage brewed from rice (often incorrectly referred to as "rice wine").
- **Sashimi** - Raw fish consumed as food.
- **Seebe** - A camp for German prisoners of war in Alberta that was also used to intern Japanese-Canadians who were arrested immediately after the Japanese military attacks on Hong Kong and Pearl Harbor in December 1941.
- **Sensei** - Teacher; anyone deserving respect for success in a certain area.



- **Shiga-ken** - A prefecture (province) in central Japan from where numerous immigrants came to Canada.
- **Shikata-ga-nai** - It can't be helped (nothing can be done).
- **Shiruko** - Red bean soup (for New Year's Day).
- **Sho-ga-nai** - It can't be helped (nothing can be done).
- **Shogo Endo Kai** - See Beet Workers Association.
- **Shogun** - Actually "Sei-i-tai-shohgun" or "barbarian-quelling supreme general"; the samurai military commanders who ruled Japan for over seven hundred years until 1868.
- **Shoyu** - Japanese soy sauce.
- **Shushin** - Ethics; the combination of Confucian behaviours and nationalist ideology taught in Japan from the 1890's to the end of World War II. It became increasingly chauvinistic during the 1920's and 1930's when some Canadian-born Nisei were sent to Japan for education. (see Kika Nisei)
- **Slocan** - A town in the interior of British Columbia where Japanese-Canadians were held; one of the internment (incarceration) sites.
- **Soba** - Buckwheat noodles.
- **Special Cabinet Committee on Relocation and Repatriation** - A 1945 federal cabinet committee charged with affairs relating to Japanese Canadians.
- **Status** - Position in relation to others; one's rank within a group.
- **Suffrage** - The right to vote.
- **Sumi-e** - Artistic painting using mainly or exclusively black ink.
- **Supreme Court** - Canada's highest court; during WW II appeals could still be made to Britain (Privy Council of the House of Lords).
- **Sushi** - Rice and other ingredients (perhaps raw fish) wrapped in seaweed.
- **Takuan** - Pickled radish.
- **Tashme** - A town in the interior of British Columbia where Japanese-Canadians were held (one of the internment sites); named after the three Security Commissioners Taylor, Shirras, and Mead by combining the first two letters of each of their last names.
- **Tatami** - Straw mats used for flooring (about 2.5 cm. thick, 1 meter wide and 2 meters long).
- **Tanomoshi** - Mutual financing; the practice of Japanese immigrants, especially from the same prefecture, of lending money to each other without collateral.
- **Terrorist** - Someone who uses illegal violence, especially against civilians, to achieve a political goal.
- **The Continental Times (Tairiku)** - A Japanese language newspaper serving the Issei.
- **The New Canadian** - A Japanese Canadian newspaper founded in 1938 by Nisei.
- **Tofu** - Soybean curd.
- **Tojo** - Japanese military officer and WW II prime minister; executed as a war criminal.
- **Tonarigumi** - The tradition of working together for mutual benefit.
- **Toronto Claimants Committee** - A group that split off from the NJCCA in opposition to accepting a partial compensation.
- **Twenty-one Demands** - Japanese government's attempt to extend its influence in China during World War I when Japan was an ally of Britain and Canada; evidence of Japan's plan to expand its empire beyond Korea and Taiwan.
- **Udon** - Thick white noodles.
- **Values** - Ideas about what is good/bad, right/wrong, important/unimportant.
- **Veterans' Land Act** - Legislation designed to find land for returning armed forces personnel. It was used in part to justify the sale of farms confiscated from Japanese Canadians.
- **War Measures Act** - Legislation that gave the federal government extraordinary powers; it was used to arrest and incarcerate individuals and groups deemed a threat during both



World War I (1914-1918) and World War II (1939-1945); it was also enforced during the FLQ kidnappings of 1970.

- **Wartime Security Commission** - A group of about 150 Japanese-Canadians who helped to implement the federal government's evacuation orders.
- **White Canada Association** - A nativist group in pre-WW II British Columbia that spread its prejudiced views of Japanese Canadians.
- **Women's Missionary Society** - A group from the United Church of Canada that helped Japanese Canadians from the beginning of the forced evacuation.
- **Yamato-damashii** - Japanese spirit; the sense of what it means to be Japanese and the behaviour that should flow from it.
- **Yellow Peril** - An offensive term used to describe the assumed political and military threat to Europeans and North Americans from East Asians, i.e., Chinese, Koreans and Japanese (White British Columbians often had this idea in mind when they pressed for limitations on immigration, voting rights, etc.) (The term was first used by Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany in 1895 at the time of Japan's defeat of China in the Sino-Japanese War.)
- **Yen** - Japanese currency.
- **Yonsei** - Fourth generation.