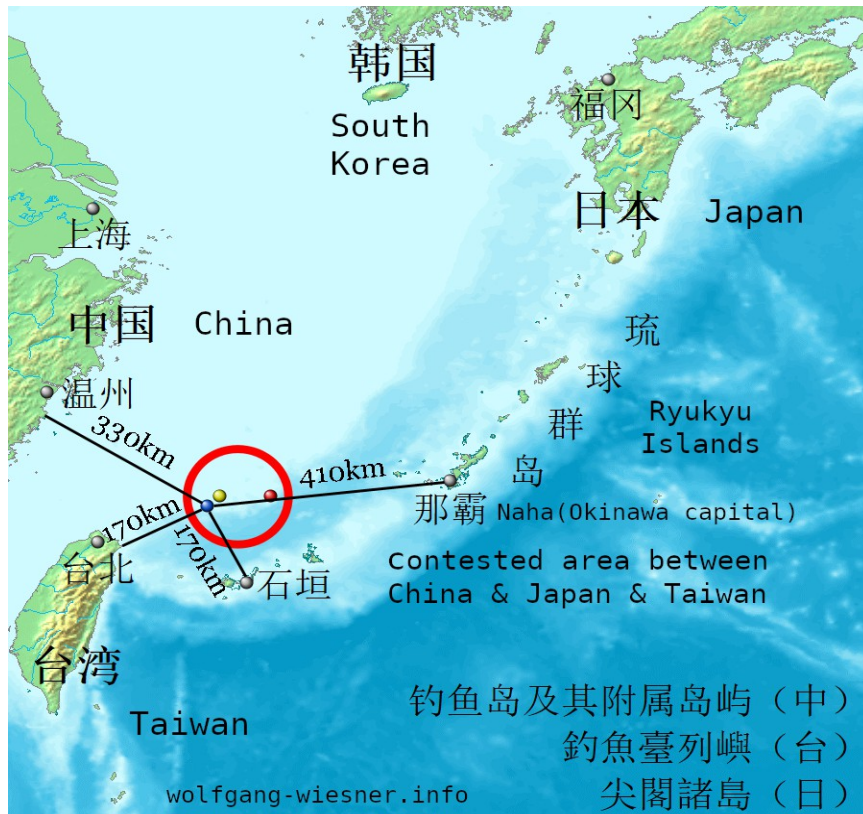


Chinese Materials Related to the Geopolitical Crisis in the Far East between China, Japan & the USA



My collection of materials on China's history is based on scientific sources and newspaper articles published in Mainland China. I searched them for information on subjects of public interest and typed some Chinese passages into my computer, chosen from printed books I collected some years ago. I did the same with recently published articles on Chinese websites that are dealing with related aspects of China's history.

All has been done to work for a better understanding of the current development in and about China from a strictly neutral position. If you don't like what you are reading here, then put the blame on national policies and historic mechanisms that led us into the present situation.

Wolfgang Wiesner
December 7, 2025

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blueprinteditor.blogspot.com



中国近代史百题 (上)

A choice of subjects from Modern History of China (part 1/2)

1982 年出版了在湖南人民出版社

第 441- 443 页 **The Sino-Japanese War 甲午中日战争**

【《人民日报》1981 年 9 月 7 日】

早在明治时代，日本就制定了先征服朝鲜和中国台湾，进而征服中国以至世界的狂妄的“大陆政策”。

一八七四年，日本在美国支持下出兵台湾，接着，又在美国援助下入侵朝鲜。

一八七六年，日本以武力胁迫朝鲜签订了不平等的《江华条约》。

As early as the **Meiji era**, Japan formulated the arrogant ambition of first conquering Korea and Taiwan, then China, and eventually the world as its "**continental policy**".

In 1874, **Japan invaded Taiwan** with support of the United States, and **then invaded Korea** with **American aid**.

In 1876, **Japan urged Korea** by military force **to sign the unequal Treaty of Ganghwa**.

[一八九五年] 四月十七日《马关条约》正式签订。条约的主要内容有；(1) 割让辽东半岛、台湾全岛以及附属岛屿、澎湖列岛给日本；(2) 赔偿日本军费库平银二万万两；(3) 清政府承让朝鲜独立，实际上就是承让日本对朝鲜的控制；(4) 允许日本资本家在中国通商口岸投资设厂；(5) 开放沙市、重庆、苏州、杭州为通商口岸，日本轮船可驶入上述各埠，搭客载货。

《马关条约》订立后，由于帝国主义争夺中国的矛盾，俄、德、法三国出面干涉，迫使日本同意由清政府偿付三千万两“赎还”辽东半岛。

The **Treaty of [Shimonoseki]** was officially signed on **April 17, 1895**.

The main contents of the treaty were:

- (1) Cession of the Liaodong Peninsula, Taiwan and its dependent islands, as well as the Penghu islands to Japan;
- (2) Payment of reparations to Japan for military expenses in the form of 200 million taels of silver;
- (3) [China's] Qing government agreeing to Korea's independence, which in reality means agreeing to Japan's control of Korea;
- (4) Allowing Japanese capitalists in China an investment and factory establishment in commercial ports;
- (5) Opening of commercial ports in Shashi, Chongqing, Suzhou, and Yangzhou, allowing Japanese ships to dock at these ports and carry passengers and cargo.

After the Treaty of Shimonoseki was signed, **three countries (Russia, Germany and France)** intervened in the frame of an **imperialist struggle for China**, and forced Japan to agree to the **payment of 30 million taels to the Qing government** to "redeem" the **Liaodong Peninsula**.

[Editor: 1) The **Meiji era** was a period in Japanese history that extended from 1868 to 1912. 2) The Chinese name for that war is "**Shielding from the Buffalo**" and which has the idea of a "War of Resistance". China was fighting a militant Japanese force that later invaded further and more essential areas of China. It finally needed two atomic bombs to make Japan surrender in World War II. Thereafter, a redistribution of annexed territories took place in the **1945 Potsdam Treaty**.]

中国通史 (简本)

An Abbreviated History of China

著者: 周谷城 — 1986 年 2 月出版

第 402 页

China's Neighbours to the East

邻近中国东部, 由海道来中国朝贡通商的国家, 为数不多; 不过朝鲜、琉球等, 及日本而已。朝鲜对大明帝国的友好关系, 早在洪武初元, 即大加整理。高丽国王之号, 即由大明帝国所赐封。

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至于琉球对大明帝国的朝贡关系, 也在洪武初年成立了。只有日本, 与大明通商的需要最为迫切; 但通商关系却始终不易弄好。

As to the neighbours of Eastern China, there are not many countries that trade with China via sea routes; just countries such as **Korea and Ryukyu**, and only **Japan**.

Korea's friendly relations with the Great Ming Empire were thoroughly organized as early as the beginning of the **Hongwu period**. The title of a King of Goryeo was bestowed by the **Ming Empire**.
[Editor: Period of Emperor Hongwu (1368-1398), founder of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644)]

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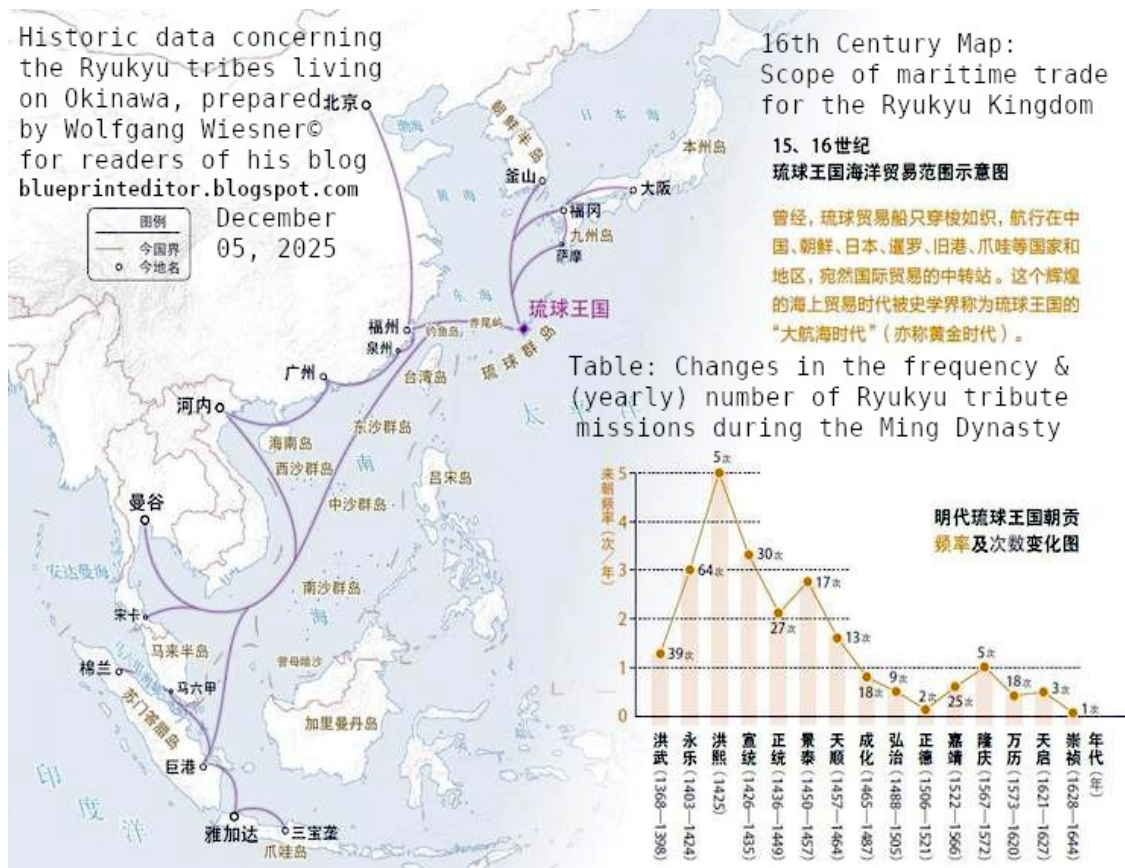
As for the **tributary relationship between Ryukyu and the Ming Empire**, it was established in the early Hongwu period.

Only Japan had the most pressing need to trade with the Ming; however, the **trade relationship** was always difficult to manage.

Okinawa's History Searching for China and the Ryukyu Kingdom's 600 Years

冲绳寻史 中国与琉球王国的六百年

网站 2018 在《中国国家地理》



冲绳，与中国浙江、福建隔海相望。其实，它还有一个更为古老和久远的身份—琉球王国。从 15 世纪开始，明清朝廷多次对琉球王进行册封；依靠着中琉朝贡贸易优势，琉球创造出辉煌的东亚大航海时代，成为亚洲重要的海洋贸易枢纽。由此，华夏文明也被深深刻入了琉球的文化基因。

Okinawa lies across the sea from Zhejiang and Fujian, China. Actually, it also has a much older identity as the **Ryukyu Kingdom**.

Beginning in the 15th century, the **Ming and Qing imperial courts** conferred **canonization on the Ryukyu kings** several times; relying on the advantages of a **Sino-Ryukyu tributary trade**,

Ryukyu created a glorious era of great voyages to East Asia and became an **important maritime trade hub in Asia**. As a result, Chinese civilization was also deeply penetrated into Ryukyu's cultural genes.

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1372 年，琉球向中国称臣纳贡。明清时期，每逢琉球王国王位变更，必向中国请封，中国亦会派出隆重的册封使团东渡琉球，总次数达 20 多次。今天，数百年的历史记忆并未因岁月变迁而消亡，反而成为了冲绳当地重要的节日庆典。盛典期间全城动员，万人空巷。

In 1372, Ryukyu paid tribute to China. During the Ming and Qing dynasties, whenever the throne of the Ryukyu Kingdom changed, it would ask China for a title. China would also send a grand canonization mission to Ryukyu eastward, with a total of more than 20 times.

Today, hundreds of years of historical memory have not died out due to the changing years, but have instead become an **important local festival celebration in Okinawa**. The city is mobilized during the grand ceremony, and the streets are empty.
