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What Japanese Media Doesn't Want You to Say! Response

In this article, the author writes about the “real Japan” that is not spoken about openly. When the author wrote an article for a Japanese publication company, his blunt honesty about Okinawa's victimization and Japanese corruption of the Indonesian government was considered an “issue” and he removed the article himself.

The author says that Japanese imperialism, although relatively short, was heavily influenced by the West's idea of superiority. For example, Japan was interested in Western medicine and Germany's horrific experiments in South Africa, and later did the same in on Chinese people. Even after the end of WWII when Japan was no longer able to idolize Germany, Japan merely switched sides and started to idolize the British, French, Australians, and North Americans.

After WWII, those in control of the Japanese government remained largely the same, meaning that the Tokyo Trials were worthless, and unlike other colonies, Japan was allowed to rise up and become rich rather than merely plundered. This allowed Japan to rise to an equal level as countries in the West, by being more “Western” than its original handlers.

However, Japan did not just rise to equal level as the West, but also copied some of its unethical techniques as well under Western ideal of “putting self-interesting above morality.” For example, no matter how beneficial a good public transit system would be in Indonesia, the Japanese car industry would prefer people to keep needing cars and scooters, so Japan uses economic terrorism against Indonesia to get its way, similar to what is done by Western countries. Additionally, by offering scholarships to Japanese schools, students from all over Asia can learn directly from the source how not to deviate and rebel against the Japanese system.

One of the most prominent examples though is the Japanese control of Okinawa, which was not originally part of Japan, but has become thoroughly controlled by the Japanese. Due to Japan's standing with the West, if the West were to attack China or other parts of Asia, the first retaliation would be to Okinawa because Japan's loyalty to the West means an attack would likely come from Japanese soil.

The author also says that although PM Abe paints himself as a Japanese patriot, many of his ambitions and interests are that of the West and not Japan. For example, the laws concerning Japanese military strength that have been altered during his time in office. This means that Japan is still firmly in the pocket of the Western leading powers.

Personally, I have never heard of some of the information touched in this article, such as the Chinese experimentation or the Indonesian government corruption. I wonder that is due to my lack of awareness or because the issues are not spoken about. However, speaking in terms of a country's self interests, I think it makes some sort of sense that Japan has so thoroughly aligned itself with the historically dominant and successful West.