From “Restoration” to “Revolution”
Restoration Leaders

Itō Hirobumi (Chōshū)

Saigō Takamori (Satsuma)
From Coup to Revolution

- Change in governance
- Dismantling the status system
- Reorientation towards foreign powers
Change in governance

- March 1869: ‘voluntary’ surrender of 4 key restoration domains (Chōshū, Satsuma, Tosa, and Hizen)
- Abolition of 280 domains and establishment of 72 prefectures (46 by 1890)
- Land survey and direct taxation
Emperor Meiji
(Mutsuhito)
(1852-1912)
A Modern Monarch

This image is in the public domain.
“Imperial Circuit”

This image is in the public domain. Source: [Wikimedia Commons](https://commons.wikimedia.org).
Dismantling the Status System

• 1870, reclassification of “commoners”
• 1876, compulsory conversion of stipends to bonds; ban on swords
William E. Griffis (1843-1928)
Mikado’s Empire (1876)