

RESULTS RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR 1904-1905

TREATY OF PORTSMOUTH: The domestic problems in Russia had become a major concern for the Tsar and his government. Under these circumstances he chooses to negotiate for peace. The US President Theodore Roosevelt offered to mediate (which gave him the Nobel Peace Prize in 1906).

The **Treaty of Portsmouth** was signed September 5th 1905 (Portsmouth, New Hampshire, USA).

- *Russia recognized Korea as Japan's sphere of influence*
- *Japan took over the 25-year lease of Port Arthur + Hinterland*
- *Japan also took over the lease of the Railroad in southern Manchuria (and its access to several strategic resources)*
- *The southern half of the Sakhalin Island was ceded to Japan*
- *Both Russia and Japan agreed to evacuate Manchuria*
- *Russia did not have to pay any war indemnity*

CASUALTIES: Several different figures exist;

Samuel Dumas: Japan: 86,100 dead
Russia: 43,300 dead

Japanese Bureau of Military Statistics

Gaedke: Japan: 80,378 dead
Russia: 71,453 dead

Small & Singer: Japan: 85,000 dead
Russia: 45,000 dead

Gilbert: Japan: 58,000 dead
Russia: 120,000 dead

Eckhardt: Total: 130,000 dead

Urlanis: Total: 139,000 dead

WHY DID RUSSIA LOOSE THE WAR?

- Incompetence of officers and administrators! Contrasted by the bravery and sacrifice of the common soldiers
- Japan was closer to the war. Russia had to transport men from Europe. They used the Trans-Siberian Railroad which took a while. The Trans-Siberian Railroad was single-track and about 150 km was missing in the region of Lake Baikal. Around 35,000 men per month was a maximum.
- Japanese army and navy were better equipped and more efficient
- Japan had more men than Russia already at the beginning of the war and could get reinforcements faster.
- The loss of the naval initiative made Japan control her reinforcements as well as the landing along the coast, etc...
- The Japanese soldiers and officers fought with "semi religious fanaticism" – Nationalism!

RESULTS

- The loss was very embarrassing for Russia (and Europe) who had been convinced about their superiority. Russia lost a lot of prestige...
- The loss of the war contributed to the 1905 Revolution in Russia
- The lost war in the Far East made Russia change the focus on her Foreign Policy. She now concentrated more on the development in Europe. Especially in the weak part in the South-East... the declining Ottoman Empire = the "Eastern Question"!
- Japan became a power to count on and started her domination of China as well as other areas in the Far East. She would find a new competitor in the Pacific – USA