Grade 9
Modern World Studies

Ohio Standards Connections:
History:
Analyze the global impact of post-World War I economic, social and political turmoil including colonial rebellion.

Geography:
Analyze the patterns and processes of movement of people, products and ideas.

Purpose:
This lesson is the third part of a unit which asks students to consider American President Woodrow Wilson’s principle of self-determination, part of the Fourteen Points proposed at the end of World War I, which urged the world powers to allow people to determine for themselves how they are to be governed, then use prior knowledge and what they have learned in this lesson to select and evaluate a current situation which might exhibit similarities today. In this third part we examine the 1918 Rice Riots in Japan.

Estimated Duration:
Five forty-five minute classes.

Commentary:
World War I began the decline of Imperialism. Controls were relaxed as the belligerent powers exhausted resources and colonial efforts increased in importance. Following the war the espousal of self-determination contributed to rising hopes as exhibited in popular movements among intellectuals. Instead the imperial powers reacted harshly to re-establish political control; a reaction which laid the groundwork for differing approaches for independence. The 1918 Rice Riots shared the spontaneity with March First and May Fourth Movements, but not their revolutionary inspiration.

Materials and Resources:
Multiple descriptions of the Rice Riots from differing perspectives (attachments)


**Key Vocabulary**

inflation

**Instructional Procedures:**

Small groups of students will select one of the reading attachments describing the Rice Riots from differing perspectives. Students will then compare with each other and with the text book to analyze what is said and omitted in these descriptions.

**Attachments**

Attachment Set 1:


Attachment Set 2:


Attachment Set 3:


JAPAN - TIP