

Types of war in Japanese history. Supplementary materials for the book *War as Entertainment and Contents Tourism in Japan*, edited by Takayoshi Yamamura and Philip Seaton. This table is © Philip Seaton and Takayoshi Yamamura. Published online at war-memory-tourism.net in 2022.

| War Type | | Description | Examples |
|---|-----------------------------|--|---|
| Wars of imperial rivalry | International / Interethnic | Fought against another imperial power, usually in a territory where there are rival claims. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ First Sino-Japanese War (1894-5) ▪ Russo-Japanese War (1904-5) ▪ <i>Pacific War</i> (1941-5, nationalist narrative of Asian liberation) |
| Wars of colonial conquest/expansion | | Wars fought overseas to gain control of new territory. Territories separated clearly by geography and culture from the home territory. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Korea invasions</i> (1592, 1597) ▪ Ryukyu Expedition (1609) ▪ Manchurian Incident (1931) ▪ <i>Second Sino-Japanese War</i> (1937) ▪ <i>Pacific War</i> (1941-5, progressive narrative of Asian invasion) |
| War by alliance | | When the primary reason for war is to fulfill the terms of an international alliance. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Boxer Rebellion (1900) ▪ World War I (1914-18) ▪ Siberian Intervention (1918-1922, result indecisive) |
| Defensive wars | | War to resist invasion by others of homeland territories and/or colonial possessions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mongol Invasions (1274, 1281) ▪ <i>Pacific War Allied Counteroffensive</i> (1942-) ▪ <i>Soviet Invasion</i> (1945) |
| Border clashes or wars of border expansion | Domestic / Civil Wars | A war to assert control over adjacent land or to expand one's own territory. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Warring States Period battles (to 16th century, numerous) ▪ Shakushain's War (1669) ▪ <i>Nomonhan Incident</i> (1939) |
| Domestic power struggles | | A head-to-head between rival factions to determine who rules. Winner-takes-all civil war. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Genpei War (1180-5) ▪ Kenmu Restoration and creation of Ashikaga Shogunate (1333-6) ▪ Onin War (1467) ▪ Battle of Sekigahara (1600) ▪ Boshin War (1868-9) |
| Rebellions | | A (failed) uprising against the status quo. | <p>Countless incidents to the 1880s including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shimabara Rebellion (1637-8) ▪ Satsuma Rebellion (1877) ▪ Chichibu Incident (1884) |

Notes: Wars in **bold are international victories** for Japan. Wars in *italics are international defeats* for Japan. Wars in regular font are domestic wars, meaning that narratives vary according to the region of Japan.