

## **Imperialism in China**

China was not interested in trade with the outside world because they were totally self-sufficient – they did not need to trade. British merchants began secretly trading opium with Chinese merchants. The Chinese government begged the Queen to stop this trade but she refused – this resulted in the Opium War. Britain easily defeated China and forced them to sign the Treaty of Nanking. This treaty forced China to open up and trade with Britain.

## **Imperialism in Japan**

Japan had also remained closed to trade with the outside world because they were self-sufficient. In 1853, Matthew Perry (an American) sailed to Japan. The Japanese saw the American ships and weapons and agreed to a treaty which opened Japan to trade with America. The Meiji (ruling family of Japan) took advantage of this situation and traded for goods that would industrialize and modernize Japan.