

## Chapter 4: Life During Wartime



*My chest is aching, burns like a furnace.  
The burning keeps me alive.*



**Katakura Tadashi**  
**The Marshal**

When Japan looked upon the end of the Constitutional Crisis, it saw a land in violent decay. It saw an administration suffocating on its own excrement. It saw a royal family plagued by traitors and sybarites. It felt, for a brief moment, absolute terror. That terror led them to appoint Katakura Tadashi as Prime Minister of Manchukuo. With his rise, the Kwantung Army is once again the ascendant and dominating force of Manchurian politics.

Katakura Tadashi does not believe in Manchuria as anything more than a forward operating base against China. To the west, he sees an enemy unconquered, a false ally who sharpens knives behind its back and waits for the moment to plunge it into the Japanese Empire. But he will be the dagger at their heart. The entire state will be torn up and rebuilt into what it was meant to be: a national defence state, unfettered and uncluttered by foolish notions of peaceful co-existence with a people who will never accept them. The natives will be pacified. The citizens will be armed and trained. There will be a clarity of purpose and a mutual understanding of the threats they face. And when the day comes that the hordes flood the borders, they will be ready to drive them back or feed them into a great maw.

For in Katakura's world, there are only enemies to destroy.

# The Golden Age

## Domestic Policy

### National spirit

### Government

- HoS: Yu Jingtao
- Katakura's collaborators and puppets. According to the theory of nation-building, the ruling party of Manchukuo would be Xiehedang, and Katakura must find a Chinese to assist him, and Yu is the best candidate. Although he serves as a puppet and may not have all the rights, it's better than nothing; Yu will seek some "comfort" during his tenure from the "new generation." He will appoint Zhang Shaoji, the son of Zhang Jinghui, as his secretary, but this will bring some negative consequences to his record in the future.
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- Katakura Tadashi - Character Setting
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- Having spent many years in the Kwantung Army, Katakura is accustomed to everything. He is fed up with the stagnation of Manchuria, the uneducated Chinese occupying the fertile black soil, and the advanced Japanese being taken advantage of by the foolish Chinese. He aims to be the Timur of Manchuria, the greatest conqueror, using all means to civilize the foolish and barbaric Chinese and Russians. He wants their children to become fervent patriots defending Manchuria, abandoning their own race and the barbaric authoritarian cultural traditions, and embracing Japan's advanced culture.
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- Katakura Tadashi - Flavor Setting
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- He enjoys trendy music. He wants to plant cherry blossom trees in South Manchuria to alleviate his homesickness.
- He believes Manchuria should transform from a violent state into a modern civilized country.
- He will send delegations to various countries for academic exchanges or agricultural and technological investigations to enhance Manchuria's presence in the world. At the same time, he will export cheap and practical Manchurian-made daily necessities to these countries, binding their industries to Manchuria (his main targets are Thailand, pro-Japanese countries in South America, and Italy).
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- He will compile a new constitution to consolidate Manchuria's theoretical status as an organic state. He will also introduce corporal punishment to punish those who do not heed advice in social technical education schools (slave labor factories) as a deterrent. He will strive to turn Manchurian corporations into world-class monopolies in certain national economies (reference example - South Korean conglomerates). These corporations may include Manchuria Agricultural Co. Ltd. (Manchukuo Development Corporation - the agricultural line will focus on high quality and high yield to overthrow agricultural weak countries), Manchurian Heavy Industry Development Co., Ltd. (this line will focus on daily items such as civilian cars and color TVs, and Manchuria will focus on international propaganda and will set up a channel on international channels to promote Manchuria's advancement and internationalization), and Manchurian Armament Co., Ltd. (will compete to seize the arms supply of developing countries and sell arms to hot spots).
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- ForMin: Prince Takeda Tsuneyoshi
- A pioneer in opposing the United States, he subscribes to Katakura's belief that "the yellow race will ultimately defeat the white race." His professional role as Foreign Minister primarily involves wooing pro-Japanese countries to foster investment and diplomatic relations with Japan.
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- EconMin: Ayukawa Yaichi
- He intensely, intensely, intensely despises Guangdong, regarding it as a bunch of little kids playing house. He will refer to the economic system of Manchukuo under Japanese corporatist reform, introducing technical professions and industrialists, to establish a "new order of Manchurian financial cliques" economically.
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- SecMin: Kusachi Teigo
- A social Darwinist advocating eugenics. His policies are more extreme, advocating universal compulsory military service, while also supporting arms dumping to profit from war. His aim is to make Manchukuo a munitions factory within the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.

## Economy

- Katakura's economic policies are diverse, primarily divided into one major policy and three exclusive routes of minor policies (players can only select one for special attention, while the other two will only progress to a certain extent. If by the end of the game none of the three indicators have made significant progress but are all above average, it will trigger the "mixed government" branch in the "good ending").
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- Major policy: Radical reform of conglomerates. Over-inflated conglomerates will be streamlined to maximize economic output. It also demands that conglomerates disclose their financial expenditures; any corruption will result in dismissal (limited to non-Kwantung Army factions). Encouragement of new conglomerates and new research (financial support; those performing well will directly negotiate with Katakura face to face). His ultimate goal is to replace old blood with fresh blood.
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- Minor policies:
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- Agriculture: Katakura will collaborate with Lee Teng-hui's agricultural group to focus on improving Manchuria's agricultural system. He will implement a few years of "agricultural competition mode" in Manchuria to eliminate farmers who are "naturally eliminated." The remaining farmers will be reorganized into an "agricultural army," or in other words, an agricultural vanguard; high-yield hybrid rice will be given to these people for cultivation.
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- Lee Teng-hui's policies are essentially for his own benefit; his ultimate goal is not in Manchuria but in Japan. If he transforms Manchurian agriculture into a very invincible model, he will be promoted to Japan.
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- Military industry: Kusachi Teigo will shift all focus to military construction, using military production to drive economic development. Large quantities of weapons will be produced for trade with war-supporting countries, and the cost of these items will be extremely low, primarily due to an unlimited demand for labor costs. The government will begin to capture Chinese and Russian people as free laborers to manufacture weapons.
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- If players choose this route, Manchuria will likely collapse in the future, as they will only focus on military development and ignore other issues. Such a Manchuria would be very difficult for China to subdue, but its core soul would be lost, leaving it a mere shell.
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- Civilian labor: Ayukawa Yaichi will develop Manchurian economy into a predominantly planned economy, with the market still existing. This will be a mixed

economic system dominated by enterprises. The 996 work schedule will be normalized, and to keep them from rebelling against their work, many gray underground industries will be promoted, including but not limited to drugs and pornography. Katakura's theory of Manchukuo prohibits these things, but the Katakura government will find "middlemen" to sell these things to Chinese people, promote the influx of Han Chinese farmers into cities, and raise house prices significantly to better exploit them. Manchurian products will adopt a German-style efficient and practical approach. The turning point for Manchukuo's fortune will be the introduction of electric-oil hybrid cars on July 1st, and this route will enhance its international presence, appearing very Wilsonian internationalist. It will invite various international cultural exchanges and academic exchanges, seemingly turning Manchuria into a "normal country."

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- If players develop this route to the extreme, Manchuria's economy may even rival Japan's, and this monstrous Manchuria will unleash all its power, intending to become the heart of the world. In the end, Manchuria will be a carnival of conglomerates and foreign capital.

## Culture

- Cultural: Ethnic Policy (I'm not quite sure whether ethnic issues should be classified under culture or security)
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- The ethnic policy of the Kwantung Army is unique in the world. This issue stems from a series of policies initiated by Ishihara Kanji when he served as a staff member of the Kwantung Army. Although Ishihara's ultimate goal at the time was to initiate the "theory of the final world war" as the first step in the war between Japan and the United States, this set of ethnic policies is equally applicable to Katakura. Based on my current research, Katakura was greatly influenced by Ishihara in many policies.
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- For Han and Manchu children, the Manchukuo government will adopt an assimilation policy, applying the same methods used in the Kaitakushi to these children, causing a rift in cultural identity and understanding between them and their parents.
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- Seriously speaking, the ethnic composition of Manchukuo is much more interesting than that of TNO Guangdong. This is a deduction based on OTL, not my own idea. Chinese, Manchu, Mongolian, Korean, Russian, and Japanese people, as well as Japanese who consider themselves Manchukuoans, Chinese and Manchu people who consider themselves Manchukuoans, and Chinese who consider themselves Japanese and want to overthrow Manchukuo. The ethnic composition of Manchukuo is so wonderful. I want to emphasize Katakura's ethnic policy after becoming a leader:

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- 1. Before completing the “theory of the final world war,” Manchukuo was managed by the Kwantung Army for a considerable period of time, but this represented a lot of oppression. Therefore, during this period, Katakura would not appoint a large number of local Manchukuoan population as officials. Where did the shortage of manpower come from? It’s simple—Taiwanese. In OTL, Manchukuo was a treasure land for Taiwanese people. Including Lee Teng-hui, who later became president, a large number of Taiwanese people studied at universities or worked directly in Manchukuo during the war (including the father of the current Taiwanese leader Tsai Ing-wen, who repaired planes for the Japanese army in Manchukuo during World War II); even many Taiwanese minorities joined the Kwantung Army in Manchukuo.
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- Katakura will start receiving Taiwanese and “pioneers” from Japan through voluntary applications or forced conscription during his term of office, with the purpose of replacing the Han population among Manchukuo officials and initiating a new round of ethnic integration.
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- 2. Japanese people? We also need to thank Ishihara Kanji. During his tenure, members of the “pioneers” underwent a sublimation of ideological education, that is, “you are Japanese citizens” became “you are citizens of Manchukuo, you are the ‘Japanese ethnic group’ in Manchukuo, you are not Japanese citizens.” Since then, all the education on the “pioneers” has changed from the previous Japanese-style education to a very peculiar phenomenon. The Japanese people and their descendants, who originally belonged to Japanese citizens, have been infused with the idea that “you are Manchukuoans”, which has led to an important result. From this time on, the “pioneers” all regarded themselves as unrelated to Japan. Japan is only a allied country of “our Manchukuo”, with no connection to themselves. (For example, in OTL, a Japanese woman belonging to the “pioneers” was only 10 years old when she was repatriated to Japan in 1945, but she received “Manchukuo-style education”. This caused her to identify with Chinese culture until she was in her eighties. She never understood why the CCP government repatriated her to Japan until she died, and she always considered herself Chinese from start to finish.)
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- Koreans
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- While a significant portion of Koreans have followed Sejima Ryūzō, this does not mean they are not important in Katakura Tadashi's plans.
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- One of Katakura's allies is a Korean, and he is a seasoned veteran: Cho Ning-chu. He had significant connections with Ishihara Kanji in the 1940s.
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- Mongolians
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- There isn't much to say here. The Mongolian population in Manchukuo is also a crucial aspect that must be brought into the plan.
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- Chinese and Manchus
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- Katakura will go to great lengths to eradicate Han culture, and his methods are unique. I have mentioned before that the so-called "Manchu culture" in Manchukuo is essentially Chinese. In other words, in this scenario, both Han and Manchu cultures are fundamentally distorted; Han people speak Chinese but call it Manchu, and Manchu people speak Chinese but also call it Manchu, while true Manchu is on the verge of extinction.

## Security

- Civilian: Allow Yu Jingtao to expand the Manchukuo Police Bureau system, with a small number of Kwantung Army soldiers, Japanese, or collaborators placed in every village to spy on all resistance activities. Association activities are closely monitored, and only the natural sciences are allowed free speech in universities. The Concord Party only allows Han elites to join. Anyone who expresses sympathy for Han civilians, regardless of their status, will be sent to forced labor camps. The labor camps are composed of recruits from each village, and the crimes are absurd (e.g., Li Dazhuang - in 1960, he secretly sold grain in the village, making a profit of 21.58 yuan; Vladimir Ivanov - in 1958, he secretly studied scriptures in the Eastern Orthodox Church for 15 days).
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- Katakura still propagates the theory of "Five Races Under One Union" to some extent through political slogans, but deep down, he despises the Chinese ethnic group. Therefore, a small number of Chinese people may still be sent to Xiehehui, but their backgrounds must be carefully examined. After entering Xiehehui, they will also be monitored and secretly surveilled, and they must use Japanese in their work.
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- Military: Weaken the local army, with the Kwantung Army replacing the position of the Manchukuo Army. Welfare is prioritized for the Kwantung Army. The Kwantung Army will also be renamed "Dai Manshū Heiwa-ji Hoji Gun".

## Foreign Policy

### Japan

- Takagi Sōkichi - Reform as you please, it's none of our concern. Once party politics return, I'll start deceiving you with false compliance.

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- Ikeda Masanosuke - A very capable politician; we can work with him.
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- Kaya Okinori - An economist? Acceptable, as long as he can facilitate cooperation between the zaibatsu and Manchukuo.
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- Fukuda Takeo - Though also an economic bureaucrat, he's a bit too liberal. Limited cooperation is acceptable.
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- Shiina Etsusaburo - The greatest Prime Minister Japan has seen in the past two decades.
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- Higashikuni Naruhiko - What's happening to Japan?! The Manchukuo government will need to reassess its plans based on Japan's situation.
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- Muto Akira - 226 has returned... Relations between Manchukuo and the Muto government will deteriorate rapidly.

## China

- Gao Zongwu - The leader least deserving to exist in the Greater East Asia Prosperity Circle. Most of the top brass in the RGOC were once members of the Communist Party or left-wing activists, including Wang Jingwei. These individuals are all duplicitous frauds and cannot be supported.

## Guangdong

- For Katakura Tadashi, the disdain towards Guangdong is more repugnant than those smiling faces in Nanjing. In his view, Suzuki Teiichi and Sejima Ryuzo are essentially cut from the same cloth. Suzuki is nothing but a wastrel, who for years has failed to fulfill the tasks assigned by Nagatacho. In the end, he even got played by a few zaibatsu.
- As for others, except for Komai Kenichiro, Katakura won't give them a second thought. Ibuka Masaru is a complete hypocrite and madman, seemingly wanting to develop Guangdong into an engineer's paradise for Japan's progress, but it's all for his own gain. Matsushita Masaharu only rides on the coat-tails of his father-in-law; his success is merely thanks to his family's efforts behind the scenes. Morita Akio and that Chinese guy are the most detestable entities in the entire sphere. If not for restrictions, Katakura would gladly subject these two traitors to a thousand executions each. To him, executing them is a mark of respect for the military, something these repulsive turncoats don't deserve. Nagano Shigeto is somewhat acceptable in his eyes, but just barely. Katakura cannot fathom why Nagano waited



for over a decade to eradicate Guangdong, this malformed creation. However, he does commend Nagano for executing all those traitors.

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- Katakura is no fool; he has his own economic advisory team—perhaps not the right people, but currently, there are only two main figures: Ayukawa Yaichi and Furumare Tadayuki. Ayukawa seems more like an executor of details and a liaison between Manchukuo and Japan; he leverages his father's immense influence in the Japanese business world to achieve many goals—including his own.
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- Furumare, on the other hand, is the planner for economic issues; he doesn't appear in the cabinet, but he is a significant economic advisor.
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- Together, the three form Katakura's government's relentless attacks on Guangdong, with their primary goal being to thoroughly defeat Guangdong in the form of an economic war, by any means, at any cost. In other words, if Nagano Shigeto were to seek power, Katakura might even personally write him a letter of recommendation. Although Komai is Katakura's favored choice, if Katakura had to choose between Nagano and Komai, he would not hesitate to choose the former.

## Russia

- Cannot possibly support all potential unifiers. He advocates for eugenics for the Yellow race, believing that the Yellow race is destined to defeat the White race. In his approach, he also seeks to exploit the Russian people.

## Miscellaneous

- The Manchukuo government will seek to court as many pro-Japanese African and South American countries as possible. Its objective is to utilize the diplomatic propaganda of these nations to present the current Manchukuo as a "normal country" in international public opinion. Allowing black people to stay in Manchukuo is intended to mock the United States, suggesting, "That's all a free country is."

## Arcs

### Arc 1

Stabilizing domestic political chaos and vacancies, initiating the cleansing of opposing factions, and implementing measures such as division, dismantling, and arrest of other hostile factions. This phase has relatively little content.

## Arc 2

Initiating simple economic corporatization work and preparing the process of revising the new constitution. In short, the second paragraph is a prelude to the climax, covering a period of about one year.

## Arc 3

The real climax, where all significant work occurs, including the establishment of concentration camps, factories, diplomatic relations, and the selection of sub-routes. All processes of "Organic National Reconstruction Theory" are carried out here, making it the focal point for all activities in the game.

## Arc 4

Due to excessive exhaustion, Katakura experiences hallucinations. When he falls ill and declares to disband the Kwantung Army, other senior Kwantung Army officials deem him unfit to continue his duties. He is then escorted by two soldiers and retired forcibly. However, Katakura believes that recent events are all false, meaningless dreams while in the mental hospital. The manner of Katakura's death is determined based on the route completion, while also dealing with the aftermath of his sudden death. (This chaotic period of power struggles led to the Manchurian Uprising.)

# The Bleeding Age

## Oil Crisis

Currently, let me explain the method of determining the ending. After Katakura's death, certain events unfold, ultimately leading to a change in government. The criteria for judgment are based on the completion status of the three specific branches of the "Organic State Transformation Theory" at the time of Katakura's death.

The three judgment criteria are:

1. Economic Transformation Status
2. Manchurian National Identity
3. National-Social-People Integration Situation

Katakura's content mainly covers the above three aspects. Economic transformation mainly depends on the policies of three individuals: Lee Teng-hui representing agriculture, Ayukawa Yaichi representing labor, and Kusachi Teigo representing military industries.

To avoid ending up with a bad outcome, it's necessary to ensure some progress in these three goals. If any one of them is in a negative state, it will trigger the corresponding bad ending.

If all progress normally and one has relatively high development, it will lead to a High ending. The final determination of the leader will be based on whom you choose in the economy. If none of the three indicators are in a negative state and no one is ahead of the others, the negotiation will decide to bring "the old man" back. If two or all three of Economic Transformation, Manchurian National Identity, and National-Social-People Integration fail, the ending will be determined based on the order of Economic > Integration > Nationality.

## The NAJUA Offensive

### Endings

High: Manchuria is the heart of prosperity, unafraid of the brutal Jiang bandits. The people of Manchuria are an integral part of the region, and the Chinese will never conquer here.

Medium: Fragmented reality leads to the resurgence of guerrilla warfare and numerous attacks, but overall, the new generation of children is beginning to forget their own heritage.

Low: He messed everything up. Manchuria falls apart, and "harmony" is just something written on propaganda slogans.

(These are some basic situations about the three endings. Each ending will have unique branches, and the criteria for determining the ending will be based on the "Organic State Transformation Theory" when Piankuang passes away.)

#### Ending 1

After Katakura's death, the Agricultural Corporation became the new ruling body in the parliamentary elections, while also quelling the coup plots of the military opposition. Lee Teng-hui became the national leader (with the ideology being corporatism). Lee Teng-hui would not stay in Manchuria for long; the final event in the narrative would show Lee preparing to go to Japan to continue his work after completing the agricultural experiments in Manchuria. (The coup is a scenario present in all three endings, and the player must resolve it.)

#### Ending 2

After Katakura's death, the parliamentary elections resulted in the Economic Corporation led by Ayukawa Yaichi becoming the ruling body. Manchuria's ideology shifted to corporatism. In this outcome, Manchuria's parliament became a paradise for large corporations, with various major industrial companies from Japan forming a council under the leadership of Mangyo. (Statist Corporatocracy)

## Ending 3

After Katakura's death, the parliamentary elections resulted in Kusachi Teigo and his Military Corporation becoming the new leaders. Manchuria's ideology shifted to stratocratic corporatism. Manchuria would become a massive arms production base, with weapons from Manchuria being sold worldwide and preparations being made for the eventual great war.

## Failstate

If the parliamentary elections after Katakura's death result in a deadlock or if the successor fails to handle the coup, it will lead to a coup by Tsuji Masanobu. Other factions within the Kwantung Army will be revived, and Manchuria will prepare for a future invasion of China.