

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910254885503321
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Titolo	'Deficient in Commercial Morality'? : Japan in Global Debates on Business Ethics in the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries // by Janet Hunter
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London : , : Palgrave Macmillan UK : , : Imprint : Palgrave Macmillan, , 2016
ISBN	9781137586827 1137586826
Edizione	[1st ed. 2016.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (IX, 116 p.)
Collana	Palgrave Studies in Economic History, , 2662-6500
Disciplina	330.9
Soggetti	Economic history Business ethics Asia - Economic conditions Globalization Economic History Business Ethics Asian Economics
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Chapter 1. Credit, Speculation, Legislation and Reputation: the Evolution of the Discourse on Commercial Morality in England and Beyond -- Chapter 2. Deceit, Piracy and Unfair Competition: Western Perceptions of the Level of Commercial Morality in Japan -- Chapter 3 – National Interest, Reputation and Economic Development in an 'Infant' Country: the Japanese Response to Western Criticisms -- Conclusion -- .
Sommario/riassunto	This enlightening text analyses the origins of Western complaints, prevalent in the late nineteenth century, that Japan was characterised at the time by exceptionally low standards of 'commercial morality', despite a major political and economic transformation. As Britain industrialised during the nineteenth century the issue of 'commercial morality' was increasingly debated. Concerns about standards of business ethics extended to other industrialising economies, such as

the United States. Hunter examines the Japanese response to the charges levelled against Japan in this context, arguing that this was shaped by a pragmatic recognition that Japan had little choice but to adapt itself to Western expectations if it was to establish its position in the global economy. The controversy and criticisms, which were at least in part stimulated by fear of Japanese competition, are important in the history of thinking on business ethics, and are of relevance for today's industrialising economies as they attempt to establish themselves in international markets. Janet Hunter is Saji Professor of Economic History at the London School of Economics, UK. She has published widely on the economic and social history of modern Japan, and is currently researching on concepts of ethical business practice in developing economies such as Japan, and the economic impact of the 1923 earthquake.
