1. Record Nr. UNINA9910811251503321 Autore Takenaka Harukata <1971-> **Titolo** Failed democractization in prewar Japan : breakdown of a hybrid regime // Harukata Takenaka Pubbl/distr/stampa Stanford, California:,: Stanford University Press,, 2014 ©2014 **ISBN** 0-8047-9074-4 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (256 p.) Collana The Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center Disciplina 320.952/09043 Democracy - Japan - History - 20th century Soggetti Japan Politics and government 1912-1945 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Front matter -- Contents -- Figures and Tables -- Acknowledgments Nota di contenuto -- Introduction -- Chapter 1. Analytical Foundations -- Chapter 2. Defining the Regimes of Prewar Japan -- Chapter 3. Political Institutions under the Meiji Constitution -- Chapter 4. The Semi-Democratic Regime, 1918–1926 -- Chapter 5. The Semi-Democratic Regime, 1926–1929 -- Chapter 6. The Semi-Democratic Regime, 1929–1932 -- Conclusion -- Notes -- Selected Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto Failed Democratization in Prewar Japan presents a compelling case study on change in political regimes through its exploration of Japan's transition to democracy. Within a broad-ranging examination of Japan's "semi-democratic" political system from 1918 to 1932, when political parties tended to dominate the government, the book analyzes in detail why this system collapsed in 1932 and discusses the implications of the failure. By reference to comparable cases—prewar Argentina, prewar Germany, postwar Brazil, and 1980's Thailand—Harukata Takenaka reveals that the factors responsible for the breakdown of the

Taisho democracy in Japan replicated those that precipitated the

collapse of democracy in Europe, Latin America, and elsewhere in Asia. While most literature on these transitions focuses on successful cases, Takenaka explores democratic failure to answer questions about how and why political parties and their leaders can behave in ways that undermine the democratic institutions that serve as the basis for their