

Japan

- Shaped by geographic conditions
- Ethnically = mixed origins
 - Language = Altaric family
- 200s BC = “bronze” age
 - Period = *Yayoi*
 - Starts in Kyushu
 - Numerous small warring states
 - Rulers = hereditary chieftains
 - NOTE: the *Ainu*
 - *Yayoi* contacts w/ mainland
 - Population boom (1st cen AD)
 - Expansion
 - Transportation
 - Close ties w/ Korea
 - NOTE: *Weizhi*
 - Local conflicts arise
 - Winners = +land, +\$\$\$\$, +power
 - Clans divided by class
 - Military aristocracy develops
- Kofun Period begins 3rd cen

- Migrants from Paekche
- Yamato emerge
 - Result = unique civilization forms
 - Yamato chieftains = *Sumeramikoto*
 - Develop Chinese-style state
 - Claim title = *Tenno*
 - Link clan to Jimmu
 - Yamato imperialism
- Society = matriarchal
 - Ex. Empress Jingū
 - Majority of Shinto deities = female
- Shintoism develops
 - Focus = natural forces & ancestors
 - Inspires art & poetry
 - Shamans
 - Yamato linked with Amaterasu Omikami
 - NOTE: 2nd important aspect
 - All clans linked with *kami*
 - Yamato “check” Buddhism
- Nara Period begins 7th cen
 - Seeds sewn during reign of Empress Suiko

- Was “empress-regnant”
- Her rule = start of unique system
- Nara = period of Chinese influence
 - 1st steps by Shotoku Taishi
 - Opens embassy in T’ang court
 - Drafts *Kenpo Jushichijo*
 - » Based on Confucianism
 - » Basis = “Will of Heaven”
 - Emperor Kotoku embraces Shotoku’s reforms
 - Issues *Taika* Reform Edicts
 - » Written by T’ang Confucian scholars
 - » It = Japanese Imperial System
 - » NOTE: Flaws
 - Built capital – Nara
 - » Based on Ch’angan
 - » Capital until 794AD
- Heian Period
 - Triggered by Emperor Kammu
 - Founds Heian-kyo
 - Heian Period = 3 ½ cen of peace
 - Rules = Confucian & divine

- Gov't = Chinese imperial pattern
 - Council of State
 - Eight ministries
 - NOTE: difference w/ China
 - Most important = Imperial Household Ministry
 - Local gov't = ~60 provinces
- Reforms end = weakening of rulers
 - Apparatus = too much
- 2 offices control gov't
 - 1) Bureau of Archivists
 - 2) Police Commissioners
- Fujiwara take control
 - Fujiwara = hereditary regents
 - Most influential = Fujiwara no Michinaga
 - Fujiwara use “web” to control
 - Monarchs “retire” when heir old enough
 - Fujiwara regents “manage”
- Consequence = power shifts to provinces
 - Rise of *Daimyo*
 - Resentments of Fujiwara
- Emperor Go-Shirakawa

- *Hōgen* Rebellion erupts
 - Fujiwara removed
 - Establishes gov't offices
 - Confiscated Fujiwara lands
 - Develops ties w/ *daimyo*
- Consequence = New military system
- *Daimyo* had private armies
 - NOTE: tried Chinese military system
 - Emperor Kammu abandons
 - Recruits local warriors
 - “*Samurau*” = *samurai*
 - Official recruits replaced by private bands
 - Reason = \$\$\$\$
 - Most samurai from well-to-do families
 - Role = preserve order; tax collection
 - 1st disputes = End of 9th cen
 - District officials vs. provincial governors
 - 10th cen: regional coalitions form = conflict
 - Ex. *Jōhei Tengyo no ran*
 - Cycle repeats over & over
 - Result = court manipulates *daimyo*

— Code of Bushido

- Seven primary virtues
- NOTE: *seppuku*
- Goal = “good death” – not “future rewards”

— Japanese Buddhism

- Mahayana Buddhism
- Monasteries involved with state
- Adopts magic & mystery of Shinto
- Two new Buddhist sects: *Tendai* & *Shingon*

— Saichō - *Tendai*

» Center = Mount Hiei

— Kūkai – *Shingon*

» *Shingon* focus = eternal & cosmic Buddha

» Remains popular

- Buddhism assimilated in Shinto

— At village level

— In capital

— Not disentangled until 19th cen

- Japans Feudal Age

— Emperors lose control

— Minamoto clan emerges

- Leader = Minamoto Yoritomo
- Go-Shirakawa grants title – *Sei-i-Taishōgun*
- Yoritomo’s capital at Kamakura
 - *Bakufu*
 - Few offices
- Later *shōguns* follow precedent
- Kamakura *shōgunate* = “super-feudal” order
 - Built on Fujiwara system
- Feudalism = hierarchy
 - Emperor “owns” kingdom
 - Shōgun runs state
 - Daimyo runs provinces
 - Samurai run villages
 - Lord & Vassal
 - Involves “homage”
- Minamoto power = brief
 - Masako & Hōjō usurp power
 - NOTE: women in Kamakura period
 - Masako = *shikken* for sons
 - Hōjō make *shikken* hereditary

- NOTE: Jōkyū Incident
 - Go-Toba resists
 - *Daimyo* support Hōjō
- New system = vassals loyal to *bakufu*
- Hōjō maintain control thru 1333
 - Ashikaga Takauji triggers *Sengoku Jidai*