

Middle Ages Asia: Japan

Background

- Geography
 - o Negatives
 - Isolated from rest of Asia
 - Difficult to adopt technological advancements
 - Poor Soil
 - Needed lots of fertilizer
 - Thinly populated because of Mountains
 - Population mostly located in Coastal plains
 - Slowed development and unification
 - o Positives
 - Isolated from rest of Asia
 - Very difficult to invade
 - Culturally isolated
 - o Picked and chose what they allowed in
 - o Own unique culture
 - Language
 - Art
 - Natural and open
 - Order
 - Close to Korea
 - o Tomb Building
 - o Art
 - o Armor and Weapons
 - Close to China
 - o Art
 - Natural themes
 - Calligraphy
 - Islands
 - Easy access to trade and fishing
 - Climate
 - Mild winters
 - Humid summers
 - o Rare droughts
- Uji
 - o Tribal Colonies
 - o Consolidated in 7th Century C.E.
 - Prince Shotoku
 - Sent missionaries to China
- Heian
 - o 794-1185 C.E.
 - o Nara
 - Modern day Kyoto
 - o Center of court culture
 - Buddhist



- Refined
 - Clothing
 - Literature
- Lady Murasaki
 - The Tale of the Genji
- Overthrown in 1185 C.E.
 - By Minamoto family

Feudal Japan

- Kamakura
 - 1193 – 1333 C.E.
 - Establishes capital at Kamakura
 - Establishes Feudal System
 - Emperor – Figurehead at top
 - Shogun – Military leader
 - De-Facto Ruler
 - Daimyos - Nobles
 - Samurai – Warrior Class
 - Peasants – Fishers and Farmers
 - Merchants
 - Japan divided by infighting
 - Conflict between Daimyos
 - Use of Samurai
 - Warriors
 - Code of Bushido
 - Bravery
 - Loyalty
 - Mongol Invasions
 - Kubilai Khan demanded submission
 - Planned invasion of Japan
 - Forced Koreans to build ships for him
 - First Invasion
 - 1274 C.E.
 - Invasion lands fleet destroyed by Tsunami
 - Second Invasion
 - 1281 C.E.
 - Japanese executed Mongol envoys
 - Mongols, Chinese, Koreans
 - Kamikaze
 - Divine Wind
 - Overthrown by Ashikaga
 - Go Daigo
 - Emperor
 - 1338 C.E.
 - Overthrew Kamakura
 - Trying to strengthen Imperial control
 - Overthrown by Takauji



- Proclaimed self Shogun
- Installed puppet emperor

- Ashikaga

- 1333 – 1573 C.E.
- Early Periods of Civil War
- Conflict with Ming China
- 1467 C.E. Lost effective control of Japan
- Cultural growth
 - Mixture of cultural traits
 - Buddhism
 - Zen
 - Discipline and oneness
 - Teas Ceremony
 - Chinese Idea
 - Aesthetic
 - Order and decorum
 - Beauty
 - Noh
 - Japanese Theater
 - Costumes, Make-up
 - Refined gestures
 - Rich emotion, meaning, passion
- 1542
 - Portuguese Arrive in Japan
 - Jesuits bring Christianity
 - Traders bring Guns
- 1570s
 - Ashikaga Dissolved
 - Thrown into Civil War

