

From Nara Through Edo: The Rise and Fall of Warrior Government in Japanese History



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Periodization

- Prehistory:
 - Jōmon 縄文 (10,000 BCE - 300 BCE)
 - Yayoi 弥生 (300 BCE - 300 CE)
- Ancient:
 - Tomb (Kofun 古墳 or Yamato 大和 [300 - ca. 700])
 - Asuka 飛鳥 (592 - 710)
 - **Nara 奈良 (710 - 784)**
 - **Heian 平安 (794 - 1185)**
- Medieval:
 - **Kamakura 鎌倉 (1192 - 1333)**
 - **Muromachi 室町 (1336 - 1568)**
- Early modern:
 - **Azuchi-Momoyama 安土桃山 (1568 - 1603)**
 - **Edo 江戸 (1603 - 1867)**
- Modern:
 - Meiji 明治 (1868 - 1912)
 - Taishō 大正 (1912 - 1926)
 - Shōwa 昭和 (1926 - 1989)
 - Heisei 平成 (1989 - present)

The Nara Period

- A permanent capital
 - Nara was chosen in 646, but did not become a functional capital city until 710.
 - Proximity to major temples
 - Fengshui 風水
- Consolidation of imperial power
 - Two major impediments: the rise of the Buddhist ecclesiastical establishment; the economic autonomy of the aristocracy.
- Buddhist sectarianism
 - The rise of the Six Schools.
- Buddhism and the state
 - In 745, the emperor orders construction of a great temple, Tōdaiji 東大寺, giving Buddhism the status of a virtual state religion.
- Japanese literature
 - Three major literary works were composed during the Nara period, forming the basis of classical literature: *Kojiki* 古事記 (712); *Nihon shoki* 日本書紀 (720); *Man'yōshū* 万葉集 (759).

Tōdaiji



Heijō Palace 平城宮





Suiko 推古天皇



Kōgyoku 皇極天皇



Jitō 持統天皇



Gemmei 元明天皇



Genshō 元正天皇



皇族

孝謙天皇

生年 718~770
別名 称徳天皇、阿倍内親王

聖武天皇と光明皇后の娘で、二人のあいだに男児が生まれなかつたために即位した。その治世下においては母・光明皇后の信任を受けた藤原仲麻呂が権力を独占するが、彼女はしばしばこれと対立。そして、淳仁天皇に位を譲ったあと、道鏡を寵愛したことがきっかけとなつてついに仲麻呂と対決、これを破る。その後は称徳天皇として改めて即位し、道鏡に特権を与えるも、後継者のないまま死去した。

Kōken Shōtoku 孝謙称徳天皇



Kammu 桓武天皇

The Heian Period

- Moving the capital
 - Emperor Kammu 桓武天皇 (737 - 806) and the assertion of imperial authority
 - Nagaoka-kyō 長岡京 (784)
 - Heian-kyō 平安京 (794)
- The Fujiwara Regency (970 - 1070)
- The rise of the samurai
 - Pre-Heian warriors
 - The Minamoto 源氏 and Taira 平家 clans.
 - The Gempei 源平 War (1180 - 1185)
 - Emergence of Minamoto no Yoritomo 源頼朝 (1147 - 1199): the “first” shogun.



The Gempei War

Minamoto no Yoritomo



The Medieval Period: Kamakura

- The Kamakura Period
 - Yoritomo and the first shogunate or bakufu 幕府.
 - The emergence of “feudalism”
 - The *shōen* 莊園 system
 - The Hōjō Regency
 - The Mongol invasions of 1274 and 1281
 - The decline of the Kamakura bakufu
- Kamakura Buddhism
 - Pure Land 淨土宗, True Pure Land 淨土真宗, Nichiren 日蓮宗, and Zen 禪宗



The Mongols

Nichiren



The Muromachi Period

- In 1336, a new bakufu was established in Kyoto
- By the middle of the 15th century, the Muromachi shoguns had lost any effective control over the provinces; the power vacuum was filled by local warlords, *daimyō* 大名, and their private samurai armies.
- The Warring States (Sengoku) Period 戦国時代 (1467 - 1568)
- Muromachi culture: Noh theater 能楽; tea ceremony 茶の湯; rock gardens, especially the *karesansui* 枯山水; linked-verse poetry 連歌; *sumi-e* 墨絵

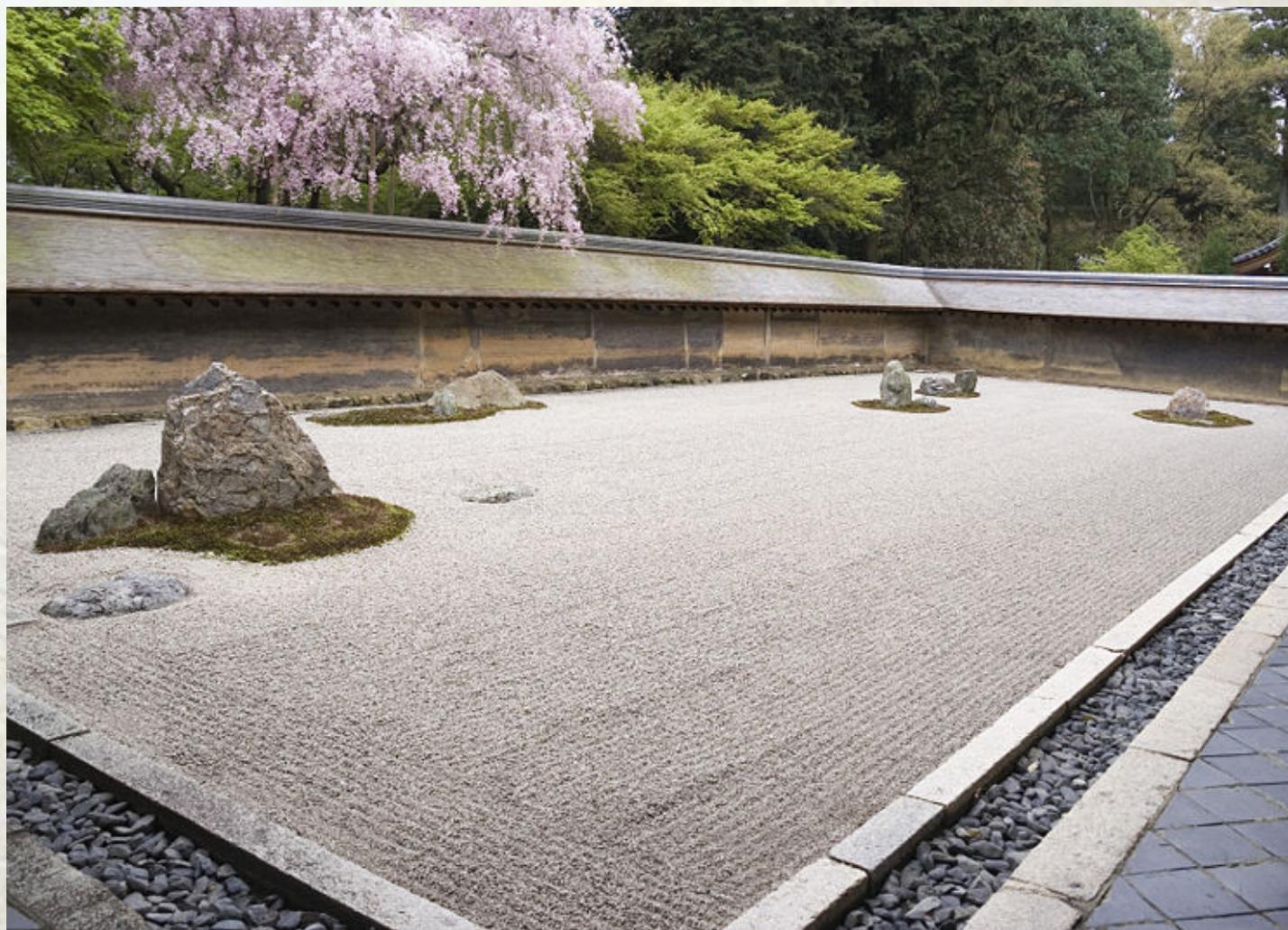


Takeda Shingen 武田信玄 (1521-1573)



Kagemusha





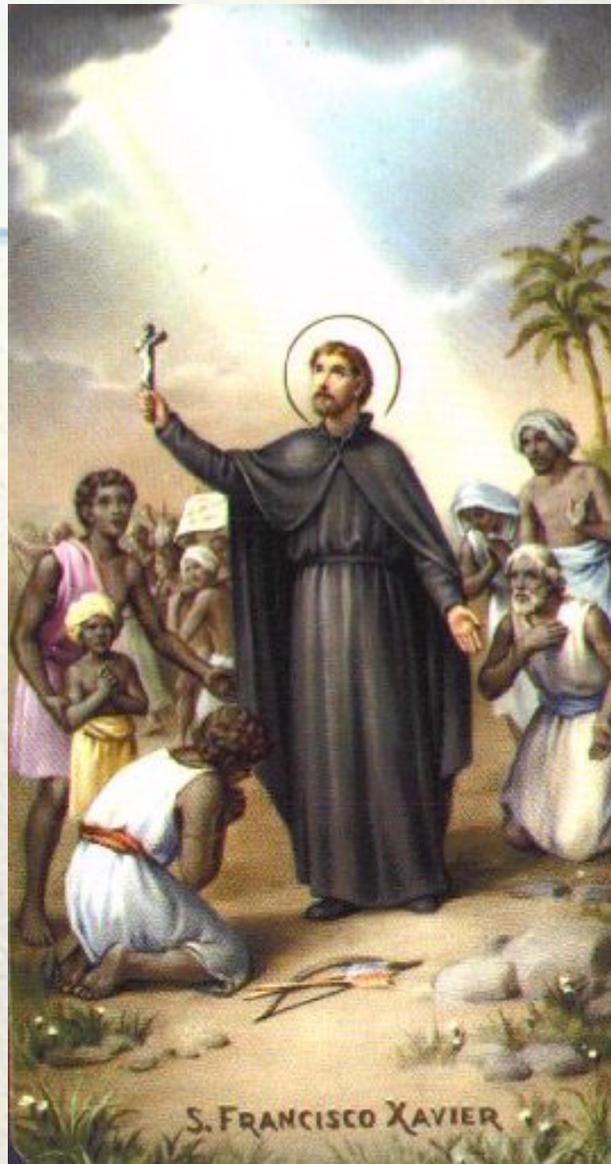
Ryōan-ji 龍安寺



Chanoyu 茶の湯

European Contact

- The Portuguese were the first Europeans to arrive in 1542.
- The introduction of firearms
- Portuguese traders began arriving around 1544.
- The Jesuits, led by Francis Xavier, arrived in 1549.



The Azuchi-Momoyama Period

- This was the period between the end of the Muromachi bakufu and the beginning of the Edo bakufu.
- This was the era of Japan's political reunification at the hands of three warrior leaders: Oda Nobunaga 織田信長 (1534 - 1582); Toyotomi Hideyoshi 豊臣秀吉 (1537 - 1598); Tokugawa Ieyasu 徳川家康 (1542 - 1616)

Oda Nobunaga



Toyotomi Hideyoshi



Tokugawa Ieyasu



The Edo Period

- Following a decisive battle in 1600, a new bakufu is established by Ieyasu in 1603.
- The emergence of a money economy
 - Urbanization and merchant culture
 - Proto-industrialization and rural elites
- The isolation policy: *sakoku* 鎖国
 - European contact confined to the Dutch; the Japanese begin to learn about European navigation, gunnery, and medicine in the 18th century
 - *Sakoku* ends in 1854
- The fall of the Edo bakufu
 - The Meiji Restoration 明治維新 (1868)

Ryūkyū Kingdom 琉球王国

- Okinawa 沖縄

- The island was unified in 1429 and became the Ryūkyū Kingdom, lasting until 1879.
- Ryūkyū was a tributary state of China.
- It was invaded by the Satsuma domain 薩摩藩 in 1609; thereafter, the Satsuma domain and the Edo bakufu controlled Ryūkyū, an arrangement they kept a secret from the Chinese.



Shuri Palace 首里城



Commodore Matthew Perry (1794-1858)

