Feudal Japan

Timeline Cards
Subject Matter Expert
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Title  Horyu-ji Temple, Nara Prefecture, Japan, built in 607 AD (photo) / Bridgeman Images
Chapter 1  Japan: The Japanese sun goddess Amaterasu Omikami with her guardians Myojin and Taga Myojin. Hand-colored Shinto woodblock print, 18th century / Pictures from History / Bridgeman Images
Chapter 2 Steve Vidler/SuperStock
Chapter 3, Card 1  Japan: Emperor Kanmu was the 50th emperor of Japan, according to the traditional order of succession. (r. notionally 781–806). 16th century painting on silk / Pictures from History / Bridgeman Images
Chapter 3, Card 2  Minamoto no Yoritomo (1147–1199) founder and the first shogun of the Kamakura Shogunate of Japan/ Universal History Archive/UG / Bridgeman Images
Chapter 4 Universal Images Group/SuperStock
Chapter 5, Card 1  Map of Asia at the time of the greatest extent of the domination of the Mongols in the reign of Kublai Khan, from Histoire Universelle Ancienne et Moderne, published in Strasbourg c.1860 (coloured engraving), French School, (19th century) / Private Collection / Ken Welsh / Bridgeman Images
Chapter 5, Card 1 Kublai Khan, 1294 (ink & colour on silk), Asaniko or Anige (1245–1306) / National Palace Museum, Taipei, Taiwan / Ancient Art and Architecture Collection Ltd. / Kadokawa / Bridgeman Images
Chapter 5, Card 2  Map tracing Magellan's world voyage, once owned by Charles V, 1545 (vellum) by Battista Agnese (1514–64)/John Carter Brown Library, Brown University, RI, USA/Bridgeman Images
Chapter 5, Card 2 Ferdinand Magellan (1480–1521)/Pictures from History/Bridgeman Images
Chapter 5, Card 3  The Arrival of the Portuguese in Japan, detail of the left-hand section of a folding screen, Kano School (lacquer), Japanese School (16th century) / Musee Guimet, Paris, France / Bridgeman Images
Chapter 5, Card 4 Americans arriving in what is now Tokyo Bay on 8 July 1853, Escott, Dan (1928–87) / Private Collection / © Look and Learn / Bridgeman Images
Chapter 5, Card 5  Japan: Tokugawa Yoshinobu (October 28, 1837–November 22, 1913) the 15th and last shogun of the Tokugawa shogunate of Japan, Beato, Felice (Felix) (1825–c.1908) / Pictures from History/Felice Beato / Bridgeman Images

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Big Question: How did China and Korea influence the development of Japanese culture?
CHAPTER 2: Religion in Japan

In the 500s CE, Buddhism spread to Japan from other Asian countries.

Big Question: What are the basic teachings of the Shinto and Buddhist religions?
CHAPTER 3: Japanese Feudalism

By 800 CE, Japanese rulers, such as Emperor Kanmu, had become richer, but more isolated within the palace walls.

**Big Question:** In what ways was a shogun more powerful than an emperor?
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CHAPTER 3: Japanese Feudalism

Big Question: In what ways was a shogun more powerful than an emperor?

Japan developed a feudal system with a specific order of social classes.
Big Question: How did daily life differ based on people’s place in society?
CHAPTER 5: Changes Come to Japan

From 1268 to 1281 CE, Kublai Khan attempted to make Japan part of the Mongol Empire.

Big Question: How did foreign trade bring about the end of the shogun era?
In 1522 CE, Magellan’s crew became the first Europeans to circumnavigate the globe.

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In 1853 CE, Commodore Matthew Perry opened trade between the United States and Japan.

**Big Question:** How did foreign trade bring about the end of the shogun era?
CHAPTER 5: Changes Come to Japan

Japan’s last shogun was removed from power in 1867 CE.

Big Question: How did foreign trade bring about the end of the shogun era?