Japan Notes

Social Studies 8 – McDade

**TIMELINE**

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| Year | Event |
|  | The Jomon Period when the first settlements appeared in Japan. |
|  | The start of the Yayoi Period. The Yayoi introduced the farming of rice. |
|  | Prince Shotoku comes into power. He promotes Buddhism and brings peace to Japan. |
|  | Emperor Kammu reigns over Japan. |
|  | The Kamakura Shogunate government is formed when Yoritomo is appointed the first Shogun. |
|  | The Mongols, led by Kublai Khan, attempt to invade Japan, but fail when a typhoon destroys much of the Mongol navy. |
|  | The Ashikaga Shogunate takes power. |
|  | The Portuguese arrive in Japan bringing firearms. |
|  | Japan is unified under the leadership of Toyotomi Hideyoshi. He establishes the Edo Shogunate. |
|  | Japan invades Korea. |
|  | Japan becomes isolated from the world restricting all foreigners except for a few Chinese and Dutch merchants. This period of isolation will last for more than 200 years. |

**DEFINITIONS**

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| **Term** | **Meaning** |
|  | An order of society in which people are given different levels of power according to their job and status. |
|  | The supreme ruler over Japan. He was looked up to by all of his people, but held little power. |
|  | Probably the most important and powerful figure in society. He was in charge of military and all the decisions made in this field. He was ranked under the emperor, but held more power. |
|  | A great leader who was the most powerful under the shogun. His job was manage a large area of land he was in charge of as well as serving the shogun. The daimyo also paid samurais to protect and work for them. |
|  | A japanese warrior (similar to a knight) who worked for the daimyo. They brought justice and order to the community and protected their people. |
|  | In most simplest terms, a ronin is basically an 'ex-samurai'. |
|  | A worker who provided food for the community. Eg. a farmer or fisherman. |
|  | A worker skilled in a certain trade. Eg. clothes-making or swords-making. |
|  | Considered the lowest class in society. Their job was to trade and sell goods. |
|  | Suicide with honour. It was commonly practised by samurais after the death of their daimyo, or if they had caused disgrace in any way. |
|  | Meaning 'Way of the warrior', Bushido was a strict code of conduct the samurai followed. |
|  | A military commander. |

**HOW DID FEUDALISM DEVELOP IN JAPAN?**

* Before feudalism Japan was inhabited by many different \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. They fought each other frequently and lived their lives in fear of attack.
* Japan’s first \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was established when he was able to unite the clans in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ century.
* By the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ century the emperor still existed but kept himself safe by surrounding himself with loyal nobles (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) and their warriors
* As these nobles gained wealth, independence and strength they became \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the emperor as they wanted his position.
* BY the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ century there were many wars again as the fight for control raged
* The winner of these wars became Japan’s first \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The emperor lost his real powers to the shogun but remained an important figurehead for the Japanese people.
* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was a time in which one family (15 generations!) ruled for ­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_ years.
* This was the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ family. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ took the title of shogun in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and ruled with strict controls.

**THE JAPANESE FEUDAL PYRAMID**

**TOKUGAWA IYESU**

* Ieyasu had \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ under him and he knew he needed to control them or he may lose his position.
* He divided him into 3 groups
  + 1)
  + 2)
  + 3)
* Together he and his family owned \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Japan’s land
* His loyal followers and family were given land near the capital, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and regions that were important for trade and defense.
* Less trustworthy \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were placed at the fringes of Edo surrounded by Ieyasu’s supporters
* He made each lord swear loyalty to him and if they rebelled he would \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their land and give it to someone else.
* Each daimyo had a certain amount of authority. They had registers of the peasants’ lands and collected \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at a fixed rate. This provided farmers with security and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in exchange for their taxes.
* The daimyo were ordered to spend every other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Edo (the capital)
* The expense of maintaining two homes meant that they did not have money to spare to start \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Because of Ieyasu’s strict rules and controls Japan found itself in an extended period of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ continued to practice their military skills but also began to focus on the arts such as the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, literature and philosophy.