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|  | 8000 – 600 CE | 600 – 1450 CE | 1450-1750 CE | 1750 – 1914 CE | 1914 - Present |
| Politics | Dynasties with emperors- mandate of heaven  Start of bureaucracy/meritocracy | Japan borrowed from China  Increased bureaucracy  Tributary system  Constant threat from North  Prince Shotoku then daimyos | Fall of Ming from internal/external - Manchu  Japan: Warring States Period to Tokogawa Shogunate  Centralized rule | Abdication of Qing, unification of China  Fight for control with Mao  Japan: abolishes feudalism, Civil code, regional govs  Nationalism = huge force | Decolonization from Europe Nominally democratic  Tensions- China and West  USSR/China split  Birth of Chinese Republic  Japan: parliamentary capitalism |
| Economy | Lots of money flowing in from Silk Roads  Otherwise agricultural | Paper money  Credit or “flying money”  High taxes cause peasant revolts  Serfs bound to land | China: trade with Europeans in Qing  Japan: manufacturing, merchant class get wealth and power , urbanization, population growth | Provide labor for plantations/mines  Meiji Restoration- quickly industrialized in Japan | Modernization of Japan, Taiwan, South Korea  Post- industrial/high-tech  Less affected by global depression  Need natural resources |
| Social Class/Gender | Patriarchal  Confucian principles  Women only power in court  Scholars/officials 🡪 military 🡪 artisans  Few live in cities | Code of Bushido- chivalry  Women lost freedom in Japan | Foreigners allowed in China  Manchus higher than Chinese  Japan: hierarchy becomes unbreakable, samurai at top  lower class women more free – upper obey or die | Rigid Tokogawa hierarchy ended  Middle class grows power  Lower classes- horrible conditions, taxed a lot | Slow to embrace/tolerate diversity and individualism  High degree/variety social services  Rise of feminism- suffrage  Women went worked WWII  Foot binding outlawed |
| Science/Inventions | Iron Age  Modernized army  Paper, accurate sundials/calendars, agriculture improvements (plow) | Gunpowder for military  Boasts = junks  Navigation/block printing  Iron production  Agriculture technique 🡪 population 🡪 cities | Gunpowder more prevalent  Globalization of trade | British introduced opium to China  Westernization of Japan  - steamships/railroads  Communication revolution | Atomic bombs  Nuclear weaponry  Militarism in Japan  Computer, internet, biotechnology and genetic science |
| Art/Architecture | Brush painting  Palaces | Infrastructure (roads, inns, postal stations)  Japan: haiku, pencil sketches, ink sketches, Noh drama, tea ceremony | Japan: kabuki theatre replaces restrained drama,  Woodblock prints = art form, borrowed Korean ceramics and western oil painting | Artistic styles change more rapidly and radically than ever before | Theme for lit- resisting US  New style= cubism  Movie industry  Use of concrete and glass  New skepticism |
| Empire | Collapse of empires in China from internal problems – economic depression, natural catastrophe, social unrest | Mongol empires – conquer China, but fail in Japan 🡪 replaced by Ottoman Turks and Ju Yuanzahng of Ming dynasty | Japan empire centralized  Fall of the Manchu empire  Interaction with west = China – relatively isolated, Japan- periods of isolation and acceptance | The fall of China – opium wars, internal rebellions, external lasses, Boxer Rebellion  Japanese imperialism- Taiwan, Korea, Russia | Japan- WWII- invades Manchuria, China, Siberia – taking over Southeast Asia,  Bomb Pearl Harbor – brings US into war 🡪 atomic bomb 🡪 US occupies Japan |
| Religion | Polytheism, animism ancestor worship  Confucianism, Legalism  Daoism, also spread of Buddhism from India | Buddhist missionaries  Shinto religion  Influenced by monotheistic religions  Neo- Confucian thought | New sects of Buddhism from China to Japan  Neo- Confucianism increase  (ethnocentric, historicism, rationalism) | Scientific/secular world becomes dominant | Religious fundamentalism  Western appreciation for science spread |