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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 ShogunateCentralized rule  | Abdication of Qing, unification of China Fight for control with Mao Japan: abolishes feudalism, Civil code, regional govsNationalism = huge force  | Decolonization from Europe Nominally democratic Tensions- China and WestUSSR/China split Birth of Chinese Republic Japan: parliamentary capitalism  |
| Economy | Lots of money flowing in from Silk Roads Otherwise agricultural  | Paper moneyCredit 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/minesMeiji Restoration- quickly industrialized in Japan | Modernization of Japan, Taiwan, South KoreaPost- industrial/high-techLess affected by global depression Need natural resources  |
| Social Class/Gender | Patriarchal Confucian principles Women only power in court Scholars/officials 🡪 military 🡪 artisansFew 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 toplower 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- suffrageWomen went worked WWIIFoot binding outlawed  |
| Science/Inventions | Iron AgeModernized 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 bombsNuclear 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 USNew 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 empireInteraction 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  |