

Japan Culture

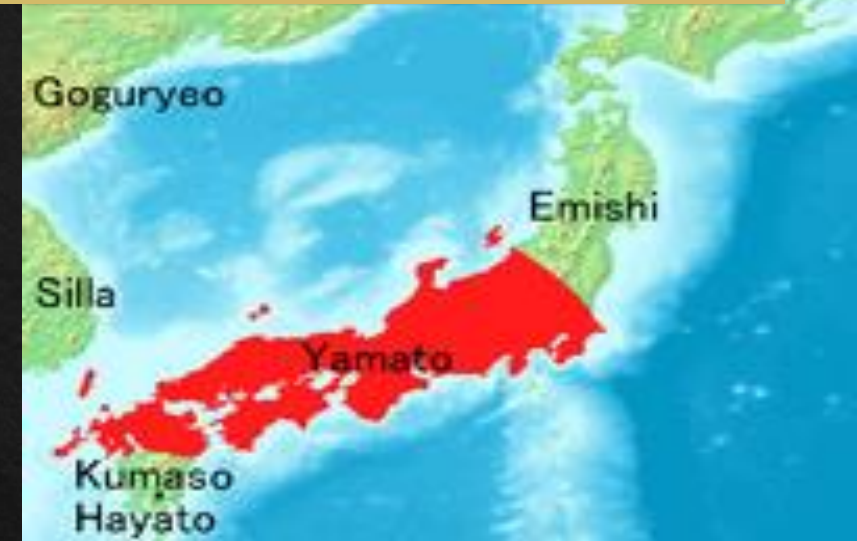
A scenic view of Mount Fuji in the background, a city with cherry blossoms in the middle ground, and a traditional Japanese pagoda in the foreground. The pagoda is a multi-tiered structure with dark roofs and light-colored walls, situated on a hillside. The city below is densely packed with buildings, and the foreground is filled with blooming cherry blossom trees. The overall atmosphere is serene and culturally rich.

Aim: How did China influence Japanese culture?

Do Now: How were Greece's and Japan's geography similar?

Yamato Clan <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LEYyEnUI9w4>

- ◆ The Yamato Emperors By the A.D. 400s, the Yamato clan had established itself as the leading clan. The Yamato claimed to be descended from the sun goddess Amaterasu. By the seventh century, the Yamato chiefs called themselves the emperors of Japan. The early emperors did not control the entire country, or even much of it, but the Japanese gradually accepted the idea of an emperor. Although many of the Yamato rulers lacked real power, the dynasty was never overthrown. When rival clans fought for power, the winning clan claimed control of the emperor and then ruled in the emperor's name. Japan had both an emperor who served as a figurehead and a ruling power who reigned behind the throne. This dual structure became an enduring characteristic of Japanese government.



Cultural Borrowing

Compare and Contrast these two pictures, how are Tang and Heian woman similar and different?

- ◆ taking ideas and practices from another **culture**, ethnic group or religion.
- ◆ **Selective borrowing** is an example of cultural diffusion when a country is able to choose which aspects of culture they want to bring to their own country, while rejecting others is does not find desirable.



Borrowed from China



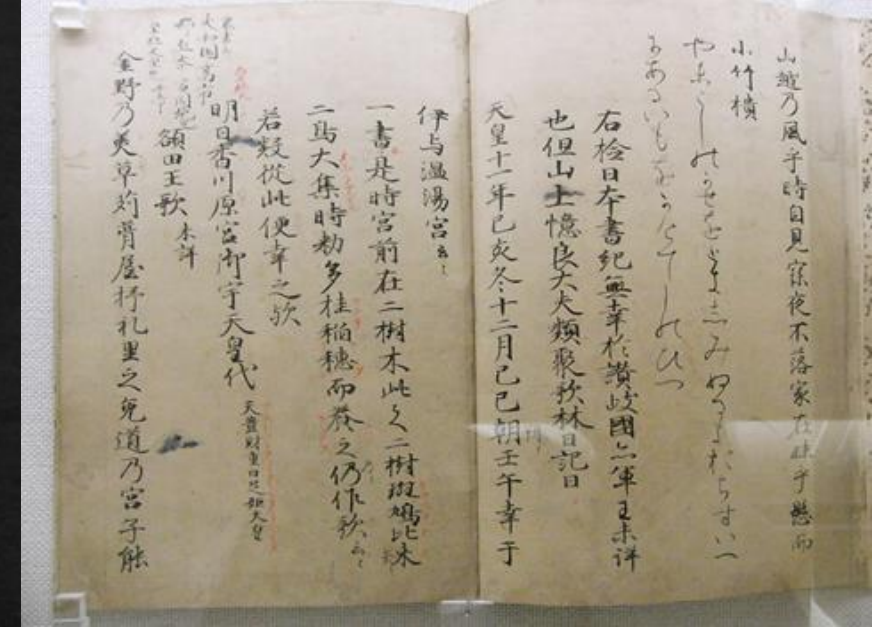
Gardens



Architecture



Art



Language and writing



Tea

In 607, Prince Shotoku sent the first of three missions to China. His people studied Chinese civilization firsthand. Over the next 200 years, the Japanese sent many such groups to learn about Chinese ways.



Borrowing from China

Religion: Without an organized religion of their own, there was a strong appeal for both Buddhism and Confucianism when the two cultures met. Though many people in Japan still follow their older Shinto beliefs, there is a large Buddhist following still in Japan today. Even within the native Shinto practice, the art of building permanent shrines and temples came from the Chinese approach to Buddhism.

Prince Shotoku's Constitution – Class activity

- ◆ When Prince Shotoku returned to Japan he brought back some of China's philosophy and made it part of Japanese government. Look over the 4 different parts of the constitution and see how it relates to Chinese culture



Buddhist Temples and Shrines



Temples store sacred Buddhist objects. food offerings are left for the Buddha and the temple is surrounded by gardens









Shinto Shrines



What Is The Ancient Japanese Religion Shinto?

- ◇ While the video plays write down 5 characteristics of the Shinto religion
- ◇ How is Shintoism and Buddhism able to coexist?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LoQqxdAbRS0>

Religion – Activity in groups

- ◆ In 1247 Hojo Shigetoki, a leading samurai in Japan, wrote down major teachings of Bushido to his son try and see what the main idea of these beliefs and what religion influenced these samurai values.

