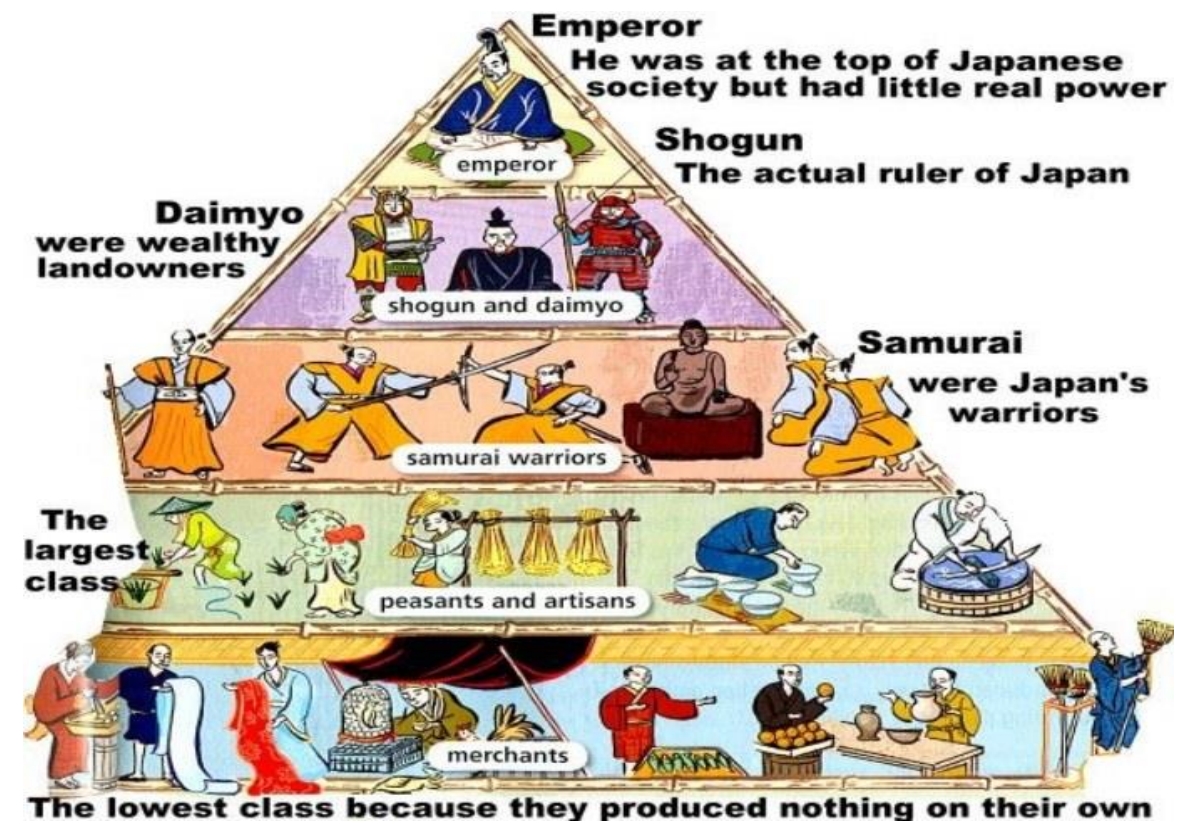
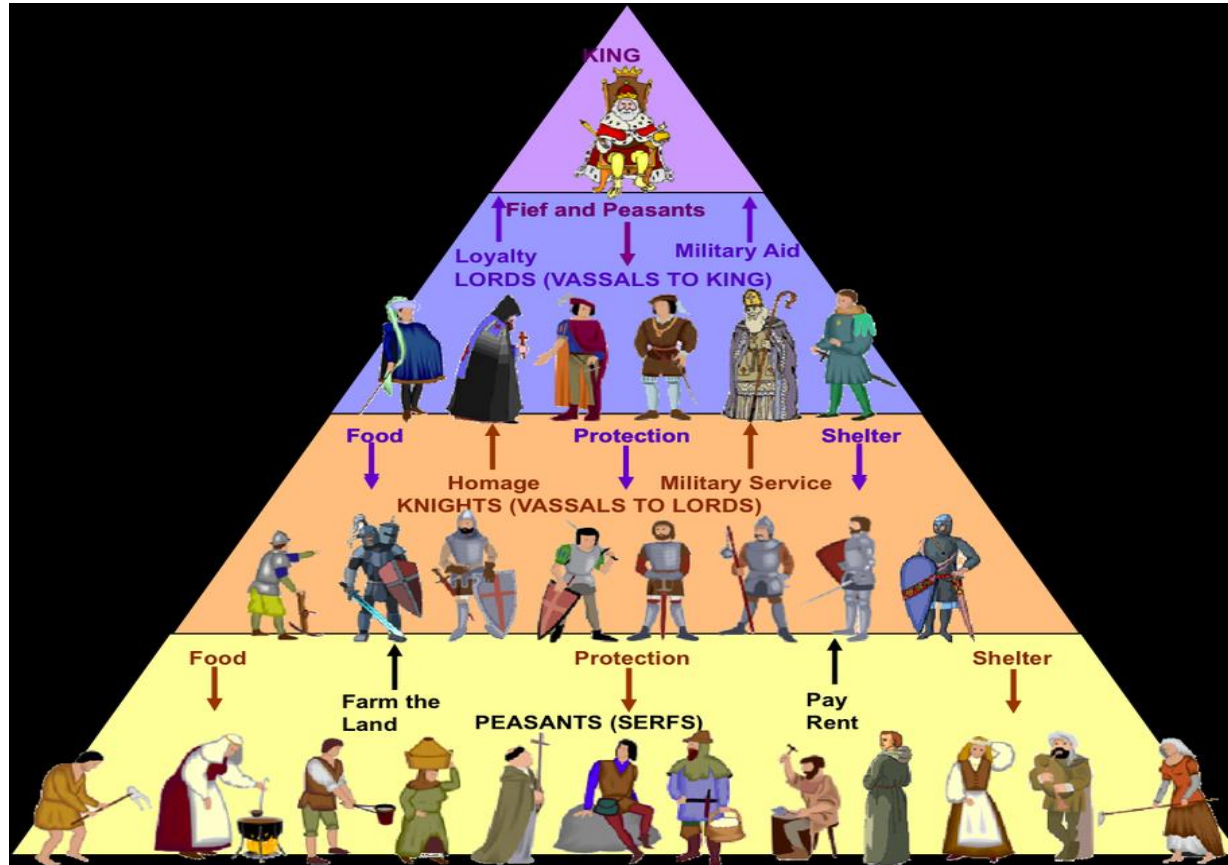


Japanese Feudalism

Aim: How was Japanese Feudalism different than European Feudalism?



Do Now: What were the positives and negatives of Feudalism in Middle Ages

1. The Power of Local Lords Grows

- A. As the court became less effective, the power of landowners outside of the capital grew.
- B. Like European feudalism, peasants and non-nobles sought protection from lawlessness by trading land for security.
- C. DAIMYO** (“Dime-Yo”) - Feudal lords were the landowners
- D. The Daimyo began to keep private armies, made up of professional soldiers – **THE SAMURAI.**

II. The Emergence of the Shogun in the 1100s

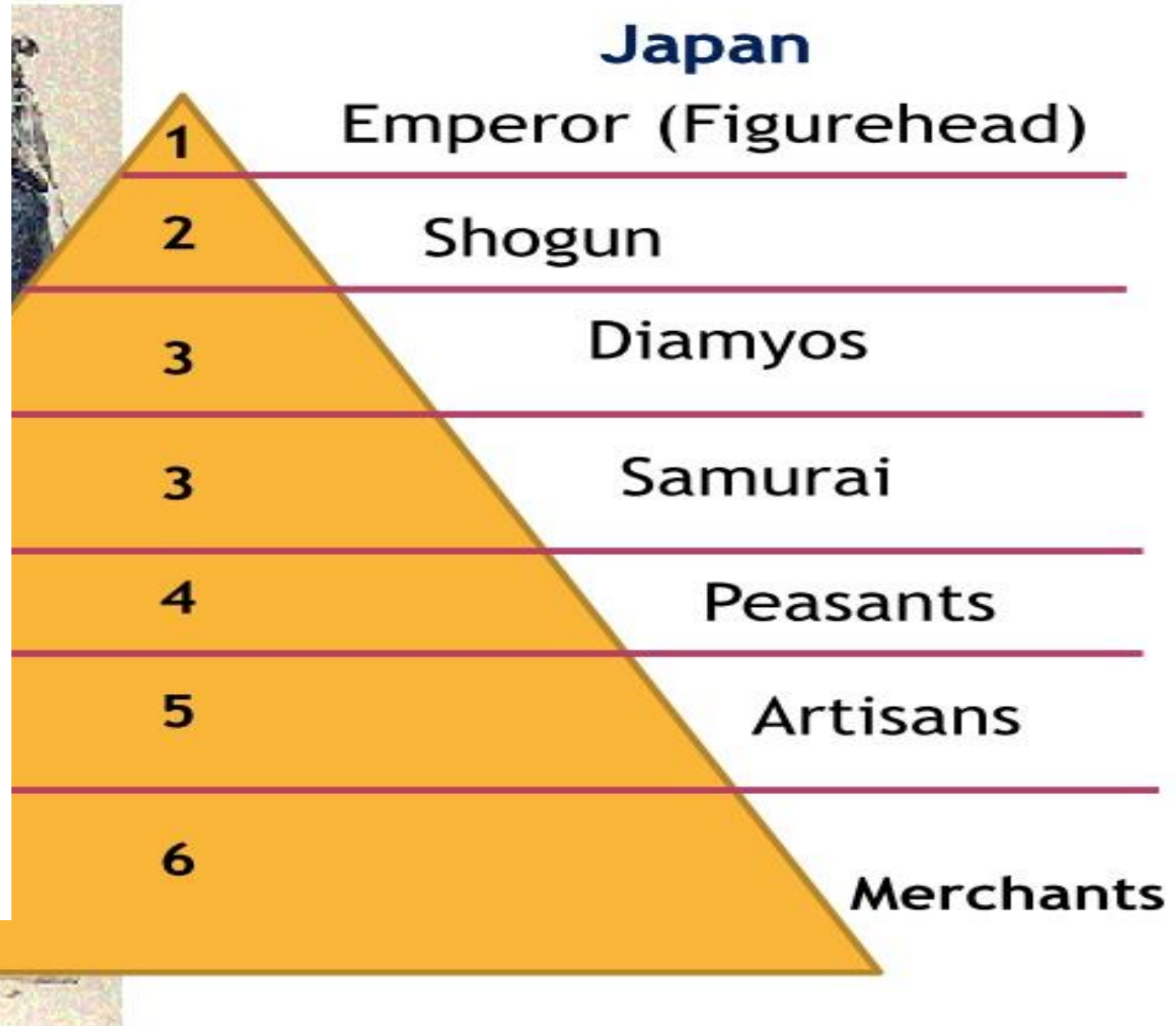
- A. Two major clans fought against each other for 30s years.
- B. The leader of the victorious clan was given a new title by the emperor – **SHOGUN** (“supreme general of the emperor’s army”).
- C. While not royal, the shogun had the powers of a military dictator.
- D. Powers of the shogun passed down through the shogun’s family.
- E. Shogunates – Dynasty in Japan
- F. Emperor – was strictly a figurehead, didn’t have political power

1) What does the term figurehead mean?

2) Who really has the most power in feudal Japan?

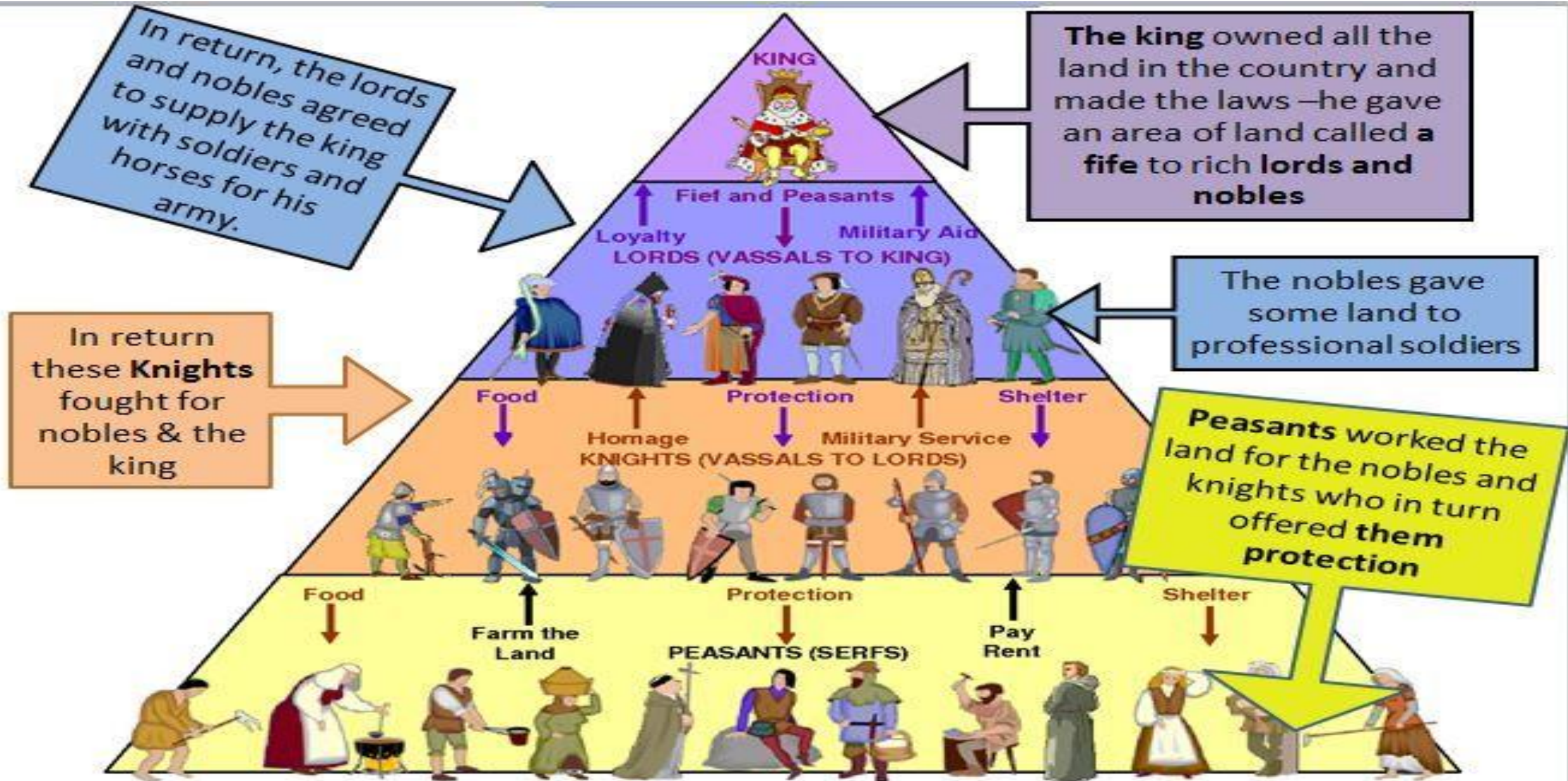
3) Why do you think the merchant class is at the bottom?

4) What do you think the role of the Samurai will be?



FEUDALISM

Feudalism

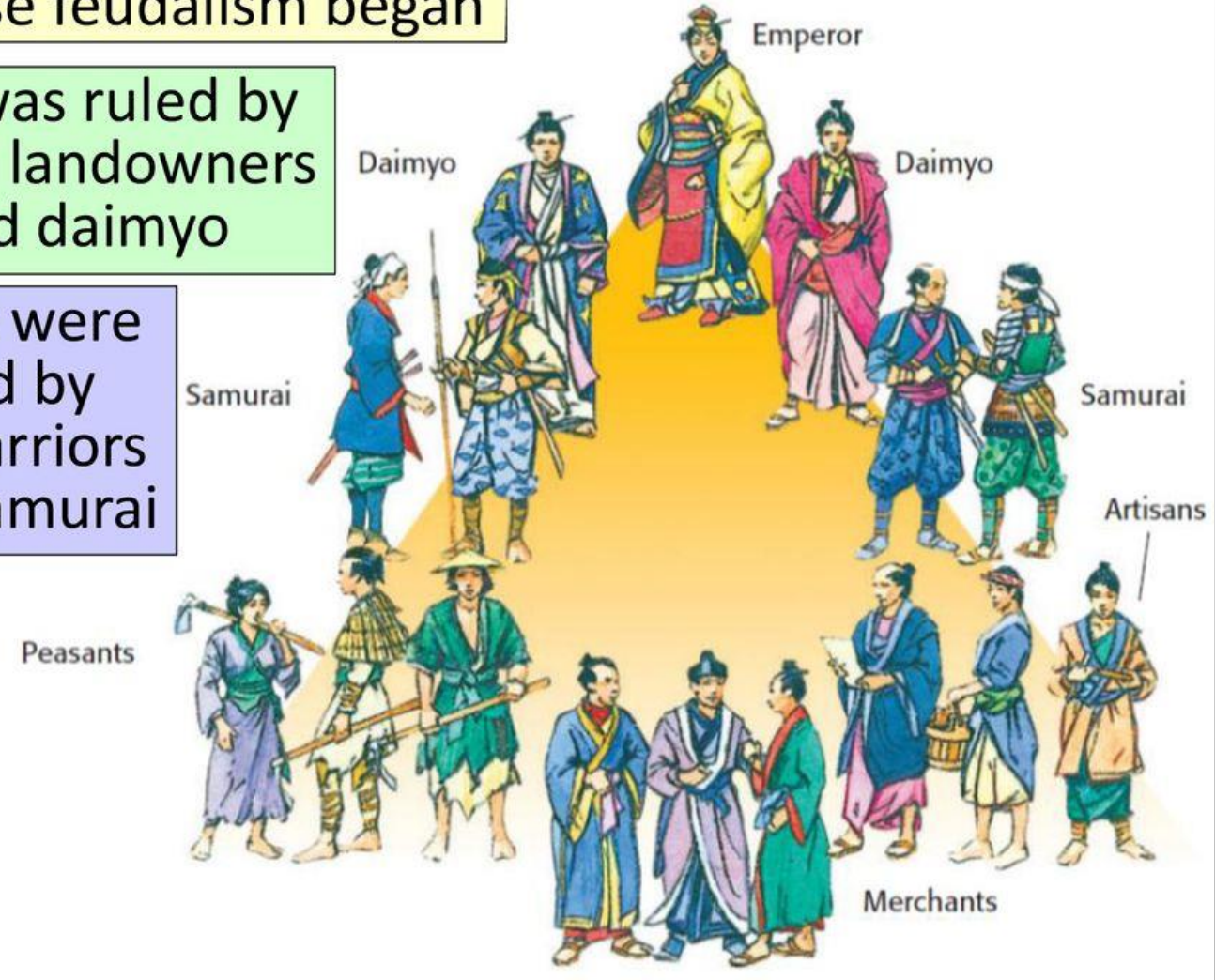


By the mid 11th century,
Japanese feudalism began

Emperor had little power

Japan was ruled by
regional landowners
called daimyo

Daimyo were
served by
loyal warriors
called samurai





<https://www.thoughtco.com/feudalism-in-japan-and-europe-195556>

- What Is Feudalism?
- The Feudal Eras in Japan and Europe
- Class Hierarchy
- Moral and Legal Frameworks
- Land Ownership and Economics
- Role of Gender

Knights - The arming sword was worn by a knight even when not in armor, and he would be considered 'undressed' for public if he were without it.





Daiymo would go to war with other Daiymo and the winner would become a Shogun

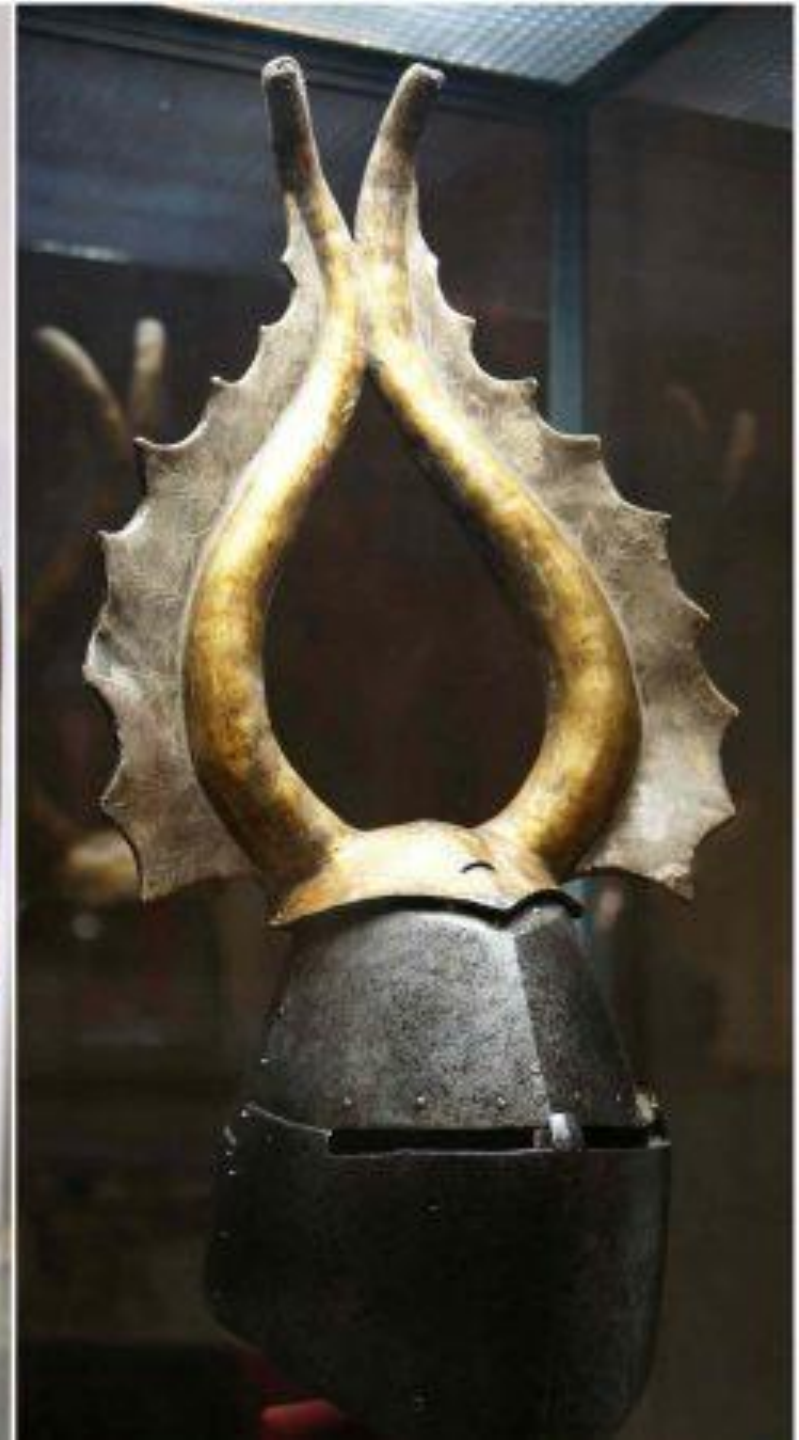
Check for Understanding

The traditional Japanese concept of the role of the emperor and the Chinese belief in the Mandate of Heaven were both based on

- (1) the democratic election of rulers
- (2) a division of power between the nobility and the emperor
- (3) the belief that political power comes from a divine source
- (4) a constitution that defines individual rights

During the feudal period of Japanese history, the emperor had mainly symbolic authority. Which statement best explains the reason for this situation?

- (1) Power had been granted to shoguns and daimyos.
- (2) Communist guerillas had destabilized domestic political institutions.
- (3) A democratic constitution prevented the emperor from centralizing authority.
- (4) American occupation forces had undermined the belief in the emperor's divinity





The Kamakura Shogunate

- Minamoto family emerged victorious. In 1192, the emperor gave a Minamoto leader named Yoritomo the title of shogun, or “supreme general of the emperor’s army.” In effect, the shogun had the powers of a military dictator. The Kamakura shoguns were strong enough to turn back the two naval invasions sent by the great Mongol ruler Kublai Khan in 1274 and 1281. However, the Japanese victory over the Mongols drained the shoguns’ treasury. Loyal samurai were bitter when the government failed to pay them. The Kamakura shoguns lost prestige and power. Samurai attached themselves more closely to their local lords, who soon fought one another as fiercely as they had fought the Mongols.

HELMET

- A kabuto, or helmet, was an important part of samurai armor. Though made for battle, it might also include lightweight decorative elements, like papier-mâché animals or lacquer symbols. These colorful additions helped warriors identify one another in battle. They also made for an impressive sight when armor was displayed inside a warrior's home. The helmet shown here is decorated with the figure of a kami, a protective bird-like spirit within the Shinto religion. The form of this particular kami was influenced by legendary creatures from Chinese and Buddhist traditions.

Knights helmets
from the 14th
century







Swords

- Samurai were skilled at using a variety of weapons, with swords being the most significant. Both forging a sword and wielding it correctly took years of practice. Sword makers in Japan underwent decades of training to perfect their craft. Samurai sword blades had to be firm but flexible to allow agility and speed. For samurai, swordsmanship was a precise martial art. Even the motion used to take the sword from its sheath (case) was a specific technique that was carefully studied and practiced.
- **Katana - was the samurai's most important sword.** It is widely agreed that the Katana is the single most perfect sword ever developed. The steel of the blade would be forged by master craftsmen, heated and folded over 200 times. Although the Katana was very powerful, it was also much lighter than European swords and could be handled with confidence and grace. A samurai was to never be without this weapon.
- **Wakizashi - used for close quarters fighting,** to behead a defeated opponent, and sometimes to commit **“seppuku,”** a ritual suicide.















Station 2: Japanese Samurai

- Comparing Japanese Samurai and their code of Bushido to European Knights and their code of Chivalry



KNIGHTS VS. SAMURAI



KNIGHTS:

- Code of Chivalry
- Had a better rank than a serf
- Had 10 rules as a Knight

If I could choose, I would rather be a knight. I say this because Samurais mostly fought for their masters and I would want to help the community.

SAMURAI:

- Bushido Code
- Would kill themselves when their master died
- Had the seven virtues of a Samurai

CHIVALRY-The code of chivalry was what the knights followed. It had 10 rules and it was about respect and protecting their people.

BUSHIDO-Samurais followed this code. It had the seven virtues that they had. They were samurais for their masters and their life goal was to protect them.