

A Brief History Japanese Civilization

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this fascinating history tells the story of the people of japan from ancient teenage priest queens to teeming hordes of salarymen a nation that once sought to conquer china yet also shut itself away for two centuries in self imposed seclusion first revealed to westerners in the chronicles of marco polo japan was a legendary faraway land defended by a fearsome kamikaze storm and ruled by a divine sovereign it was the terminus of the silk road the furthest end of the known world a fertile source of inspiration for european artists and an enduring symbol of the mysterious east in recent times it has become a powerhouse of global industry a nexus of popular culture and a harbinger of post industrial decline with intelligence and wit author jonathan clements blends documentary and storytelling styles to connect the past present and future of japan and in broad yet detailed strokes reveals a country of paradoxes a modern nation steeped in ancient traditions a democracy with an emperor as head of state a famously safe society built on 108 volcanoes resting on the world s most active earthquake zone a fast paced urban and technologically advanced country whose land consists predominantly of mountains and forests among the chapters in this japanese history book are the way of the gods prehistoric and mythical japan a game of thrones minamoto vs taira time warp 200 years of isolation the stench of butter restoration and modernization the new breed the japanese miracle

preface part i beginnings and foundations 1 early japan 2 the impact of continental civilization part ii aristocrats monks and samurai 3 the heian period 4 the kamakura period 5 the ashikaga shogunate integration and disintegration part iii late traditional japan 6 the formation of a new order 7 the tokugawa shogunate the middle years part iv japan in the modern world 8 endings and beginnings from tokugawa to meiji 9 the emergence of modern japan 1874 1894 10 imperial japan 18951931 11 militarism and war 12 the new

japan afterword suggestions for further reading index

the task for the historian of japan is to capture the essence of successive ages while preserving human drama and illuminating the themes and patterns of society's development in japan before perry professor totman examines the origins of japanese civilization and explores in detail the classical medieval and early modern epochs the historical facts are woven into interpretations of the major themes in japanese history while studying these epochs he also describes the gradual emergence of increasing numbers of people onto the historic stage the long term transformation of the economy and the society the spread of cultural sophistication and the ultimate rise of japanese nationhood

the interminable history of japan is a fascinating tale of perseverance and hardship but also of beauty art and triumph japanese culture way of life and other aspects of the society draw in a lot of interest from folks all over the world and this country has become something of a focal point for many connoisseurs of popular culture as is the case with every other country everything japan is today was shaped by historical events and in japan's case these events frequently affected other countries and even the entire world this country's long history can demystify many things that you may not understand about the nation the japanese mindset the country's past decisions current path and its future are all inseparably intertwined with the country's intricate history by the time you've acquainted yourself with japan's past you will likely find that many dissociated pieces of the puzzle will come together to form a clearer picture of many aspects of japanese culture this book will delve deeper into japanese history in chronological order it will cover each period through discussions of important events personalities and the corresponding impacts that transform japan into what it is today read on and find out more about the intriguing history of japan

this compelling text explores the development of japan through its art religion literature and thought as well as through its economic political and social history this author team combines strong research with extensive classroom teaching experience to offer a clear consistent and highly readable text that is accessible to students with no previous knowledge of the history of japan

a short history of transport in japan from ancient times to the present is a unique study the first by a western scholar to place the long term development of japanese infrastructure alongside an analysis of its evolving political economy drawing from new institutional economics black offers a historically informed critique of contemporary planning using the example of japan s historical institutions their particular biases and the power they have exerted over national and local transport to identify how reformed institutional arrangements might develop more sustainable and equitable transport services with chapters addressing each major form of transport black examines the predominant role of institutions and individuals from seventeenth century shoguns to post war planners in transforming japan s maritime infrastructure its roads and waterways and its adoption of rail and air transport using a multidisciplinary comparative and chronological approach the book consults a range of technical cultural and political sources to tease out these interactions between society and technology this spirited new contribution to transport studies will attract readers interested in institutional power the history of transport and the development of future infrastructure as well as those with a general interest in japan

japanese history has intriguing and interesting aspects right from its legendary and mythical beginnings to the advanced modern day period the intrigues of royalty the conflicts between gods and kami the political strife and battles for power are the mainstays in the history of japan why did the us bomb nagasaki and hiroshima how did japan achieve such greatness in such a short time who were the samurais did such magical heroes really exist what about the ninjas what was the meiji restoration all about all the above and many many more questions about japanese history emperors and people are answered in this book the book follows a seamless flow as it covers each period through discussions of important events personalities and the corresponding impacts read on and find out more about the intriguing history of japan

this edited volume contains 24 different research papers by members of the history and heritage working group of the southeast asian astronomy network the chapters were prepared by astronomers from australia france germany india indonesia japan malaysia the philippines scotland sweden thailand and vietnam they represent the latest understanding of cultural and scientific interchange in

the region over time from ethnoastronomy to archaeoastronomy and more gathering together researchers from various locales this volume enabled new connections to be made in service of building a more holistic vision of astronomical history in southeast asia which boasts a proud and deep tradition

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