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|  | 8000 – 600 CE | 600 – 1450 CE | 1450-1750 CE | 1750 – 1914 CE | 1914 - Present |
| Politics | China: Dynasties with emperors- mandate of heaven  Start of bureaucracy/meritocracy; in China: Shang, Zhou, Warring States, Qin, Han | Japan: Sinification from China which increased bureaucracy, tributary system , emperor in early years w/ Taika Reforms then daimyos/ shoguns feudal period for rest of post-classical; China: Sui, Tang, Song restorations & Golden Age, Yuan (Mongol interlude), start of Ming; Korea Sinification | China: Fall of Ming from internal/external – Manchus form Qing  Japan: Warring States Period to Tokugawan Shogunate  Centralized rule | China: Taiping Rebellion by peasants, Boxer Rebellion against foreigners; Abdication of Qing, unification of China  Fight for control with Mao  Japan: abolishes feudalism, Civil code, regional govs  Nationalism = huge force; Meiji Constitution | China: republic then Communism; All: decolonization from Europe, nominally democratic, tensions- China and West, USSR/China split  Japan: military gov’t then parliamentary capitalism after WWII |
| Economy | Lots of money flowing in from Silk Roads  Otherwise agricultural | China: Paper money, credit or “flying money,” building Grand Canal, high taxes cause peasant revolts; Serfs bound to land in most East Asia countries; Ming explore then turn to internal issues only | China: trade with Europeans in Qing; strong silver influx; Japan: manufacturing, merchant class get wealth and power , urbanization, population growth w/out western interference (under Tokugawan Shogunate) | China: suffers from Opium Wars, not balanced w/ West as far as trade; Japan:  Meiji Restoration- quickly industrialized in Japan | China: setbacks due to Civil War, Jap. invasion, Mao’s failures but recent booms; Japan: aggressive expansion for industrial materials then post WWII focus on modernization, high-tech; Modernization of Japan, Taiwan, South Korea  less affected by global depression but still need natural resources |
| Social Class/Gender | All areas: Patriarchal w/  Confucian principles,  Women only power in court; China: social hierarchy is Scholars/ officials (Shi class) 🡪 military 🡪 artisans; Few live in cities | Japan: Code of Bushido- chivalry; Women lost freedom; China: Neo-Confucianism reasserts male dominance although Yuan dynasty more positive toward women | China: Foreigners allowed in China; Manchus higher than Chinese  Japan: hierarchy becomes unbreakable, samurai at top  lower class women more free – upper obey or die | Japan: Rigid Tokogawa hierarchy ended, Middle class grows in power but  Lower classes- horrible conditions, taxed a lot; China: | 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 | China: Bronze then Iron Age; modernized army; accurate sundials/calendars, agriculture improvements (plow), Han dynasty leads w/ technology | China: Gunpowder for military; creation of the junk; good  Navigation, paper & block printing; continued agricultural improvements (wheel barrow) | China: Gunpowder more prevalent  Tokugawan Shogunate: not much inventiveness | Japan: Westernization after 1860s- steamships/ railroads, also leads to a communication revolution | Atomic bombs dropped on Japan; post WWII specialties in computer, internet, biotechnology and genetic science |
| Art/Architecture | Brush painting  Palaces  Bronze, jade, stone pottery  Infrastructure under Han | China: Infrastructure (roads, inns, postal stations), Tang-Song Golden Age; Japan: Tale of Genji, haiku; All: pencil sketches, ink sketches, tea ceremony | Japan: kabuki theatre; All: Woodblock prints, borrowed Korean ceramics and western oil painting | Artistic styles change more rapidly and radically than ever before – influences of West seen | Theme for literature: resisting US but also embraces new styles like cubism; movie industry  develops |
| Empire | Korea (Silla) dominated by Han but Khmers (Vietnam) fight off Han; Collapse of empires in China from internal problems – economic depression, natural catastrophe, social unrest (dynastic cyle) | Korea: periodically influenced/controlled by Japan, China then Yi Dynasty formed until 1910;  Mongol empires – conquer China, but fail in Japan | Japan: empire centralized under Tokugawan Shogunate and mostly isolated; China: Fall of the Ming empire, interaction with west isolated; Vietnam dominated by Trinh then Nguyen families | China: fall of Qing – from opium wars, internal rebellions (Taiping), external pressures, Boxer Rebellion; Japan: imperialism- Taiwan, Korea, Russia in particular | Japan: WWII- invades Manchuria, China, Siberia – taking over Southeast Asia, forms Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, bomb Pearl Harbor – brings US into war 🡪 atomic bomb 🡪 US occupies Japan; no more empire after this; China: after Civil War, focus on Chinese Communism, no empire |
| Religion | All: Polytheism, animism ancestor worship prevalent early on; then Confucianism, Legalism  Daoism, also spread of Buddhism from India to China | Buddhist missionaries to rest of East Asia, Shinto religion in Japan, Neo- Confucian thought | New sects of Buddhism from China to Japan  Neo- Confucianism increase  (ethnocentric, historicism, rationalism) | Continuing traditions of Shinto, Daoism, Confucianism, Buddhism but decreasing in power | Scientific/secular world becomes dominant, especially in China (Communism’s influence) but personal practice of major religions still very evident |

**Chapter summaries to read**: **1** (River Valley civilizations in China), **2** (all), **5** (decline in China, spread of Buddhism), **12** (all), **13** (all), **14** (Mongol interlude – Yuan Dynasty), **22** (all), **26** (Qing China), **27** (Japanese industrialization), **28** (Women in Asian and African nationalist movements), **29** (Revolution, Civil War, Guomindang vs. Mao), **34** (all)