

Regional Outline for East Asia (China, Japan, Korea, Vietnam)

	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 Shogunate Centralized rule	Abdication of Qing, unification of China Fight for control with Mao Japan: abolishes feudalism, Civil code, regional govts Nationalism = huge force	Decolonization from Europe Nominally democratic Tensions- China and West USSR/China split Birth of Chinese Republic Japan: parliamentary capitalism
Economy	Lots of money flowing in from Silk Roads Otherwise agricultural	Paper money Credit 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/mines Meiji Restoration- quickly industrialized in Japan	Modernization of Japan, Taiwan, South Korea Post- industrial/high-tech Less affected by global depression Need natural resources
Social Class/Gender	Patriarchal Confucian principles Women only power in court Scholars/officials → military → artisans Few 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 top lower 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- suffrage Women went worked WWII Foot binding outlawed
Science/Inventions	Iron Age Modernized 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 bombs Nuclear 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 US New 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 empire Interaction 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