Capital info

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| * Capital of Japan from 794 to 1868, still sorta is   + brief interruption in 1180 | * Capital of Islamic world until Feb 10 1258 (sacked by Mongols). * Interruptions:   + Capital relocated to Samarra 808-819, 836-892 |

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| * Chief political center till 1185   + Samurai Minamoto clan defeated Taira clan (Genpei war), moved national affairs to Kamakura, established Kamakura Shogunate | * See 2 down |

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| * Remained site of Imperial Court, seat of Imperial power, remained official capital | * See below |

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| * Seat of imperial power moved to Tokyo in 1868, no law saying Tokyo new capital, so legally/officially Heian-Kyo still sorta capital | * Fell under british mandate 1920, capital of kingdom of Iraq in 1932, converted to republic in 1958. |

Sacking

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| * Almost half the city burned down in Onin war * Upper kamigyoo lower shimogyoo split after | * Kept getting sacked:   + Largest city worldwide at beginning of 10th c. CE   + Then started to decline   + Destroyed by Mongol invasions in 1258   + Rebuilt under Ilkhanid rule   + Didn’t rise to same glory   + Sacked by Timur in 1401, then under Turkic rule   + Taken by Safavid Persia in 1508   + Fell to Ottoman empire in 1534   + Ottoman empire disolution -> under British mandate in 1920   + Independant Kingdom of Iraq in 1932   + Converted to republic in 1958 |

Construction info

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| * Built by emperor Kanmu, as advised by Wake no Kiyomaro (advisor) | * Built by Abbasid caliph Al-Mansur, 762–767 |

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| * Construction marked start of Heian period of Japan | * Followed Abbasid victory over Umayyad Caliphate * Replaced Sassanid capital of Seleucia-Ctesiphon 35 km to SE |

Numbers

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| Layout & units:   * Square city by geomancy principles * Jō basic measurement unit ~3.03m * 40sq Jō -> chō (121.2 m/side | Layout:   * Circle 2 km across, tribute to teachings of Euclid |

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| * Rectangle for city boundaries: 4.5k EW, 5.2km NS   + Followed Heijō-Kyō layout | * Circular design, built 762-767 CE about 2 km diameter |

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| * Like Changan (Xi’an), but no city walls | * New design, wall 30 m high, 44 m thick at base, deep moat, battlements |

Design

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| * Modeled after Tang Xi’an | * New design |

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| * Palace built first at far north * City built around palace * Palace visible from other parts of the city | * See 4 down |

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| * Imperial palace at center of north city limits | * Golden Gate Palace (Caliph’s home) and Great Mosque at the center |

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| * Suzaku Avenue went down center, split into left sakyō (east) and right ukyō (west) | * Four gates, two intersecting streets at right angles, pointed towards other cities: Basra, Kufa, Khurasan, Damascus |

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| * In central part of what is now Kyoto | * Near what is now Baghdad |

Water

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| * To fight flooding, get water, two canals built in city: horikawa, nishi horikawa * No natural in city river | * Surrounded by deep moat * River nearby (Tigris) |

Living there

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| * Wetlands to right, conditions there worsened, aristocracy moved to west, poor settled in east, started to use it as farmland, that formerly forbidden in city rules, city gradually expanded east | * Inner wall protecting Caliph’s children, royal servant homes, kitchens, barracks for horse guard, state stuff * Other living quarters, commercial buildings in ring between outer, inner walls |

Place

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| * Place chosen because of   + Beautiful mountains, rivers   + Convenient place to assemble from four corners because had good land and sea links | * Place chosen because of   + Central point between trade routes   + Could act as regional trade hub for revenue |

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| * Higashiyama, kitayama, nishiyama made city look like castle | * Deserts around it made it stand out |

Function

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| * Yodonotsu, Ooitsu built (ports) * Forwarding place: goods collected from country, forwarded to city * Stable food and goods supply, encouraged pop growth | * Major trade hub * Forwarding/distribution area: goods brought to it from locals, sent long distances, vice versa * Stable source of income |

Other

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| --- | --- |
| * Takamikura (special emperor throne) remains there even though emperor not there * Emperor’s residence there still preserved * Emperor hasn’t returned * Backup capital |  |
|  | * Eclipsed Ctesiphon (Persian capital) 30 km to SE (deserted in favor of Baghdad) * Babylon (deserted since 2nd c.) 90 km to south |