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**IDX G9 HISTORY S+ STUDY GUIDE ISSUE 5**

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12.1 Two Golden Ages of China

1. The Tang Dynasty Reunifies China
   1. After the Han dynasty collapsed in 220, China remained divided for nearly 400 years. During the brief period of the Sui dynasty (589-618), China was unified by the South and North, but the glory was not restored until the emergence of the Tang dynasty in **618**.
   2. The Tang Build an Empire
      1. The first emperor of the Tang dynasty, Li Yuan, was originally a general under the Sui dynasty. Sought the throne encouraged by his ambitious 16-year-old son, Li Shimin.
      2. After Li Yuan ruled the Tang dynasty for 8 years, Li Shimin compelled his father to give up the throne, and having Li Shimin ruling the dynasty. Then, Li Shimin took the name Tang Taizong.
      3. Li Shimin was a brilliant general, government reformer, historian and master of calligraphy.
      4. Li Shimin expanded the territories into Central Asia and forced neighboring lands to become **tributary states**.
      5. Spread culture to neighboring countries.
   3. The Government and Economy Grow
      1. Tang Rulers restored the Han bureaucracy & enlarged the civil system.
         1. Allowed the government to recruit more talented people.
         2. Trained in Confucian philosophy.
         3. Develop schools to prepare for the exams.
         4. Created a new law code.
         5. Instituted system of **land reform.** 
            1. Redistributed land held by local authorities/large agricultural holdings allow peasants to get a fraction of land.
            2. Strengthened central power by weakening the landowners’ economic power.
            3. Increased government revenue, more peasants pay tax.
   4. The Tang Dynasty Declines
      1. The Tang dynasty eventually lost territories in Central Asia and to the Arabs.
      2. In 907, a rebellion occurred and overthrew the Tang dynasty.
2. The Song Dynasty
   1. In 960, a scholarly general named Zhao Kuangyin ruled China and formed the Song dynasty.
      1. Lasted for 319 years.
      2. Gained fewer territories than the Tang dynasty.
      3. Faced constant threats from invaders from the north.
      4. In the early 1100s, the Song dynasty retreated to the south of the Huang River.
   2. Eventually, in the late 1200s, Song was overthrown by the Mongols.
   3. Song dynasty developed the economy and culture.
      1. People created new farming methods during the Song dynasty. Another type of rice was imported from Southeast Asia, which allowed people to harvest more crops.
      2. The more crops allowed people to use it to sell for money, at the same time enhanced the economy and provide surplus resources to let people discover other matters, such as arts and commerce.
   4. The Song dynasty constructed canals.
      1. E.g. the Grand Canal, transported grain from south to northern China.
   5. Foreign Trade flourished. Trade routes with India, Persia, Arabia, etc., had opened.
3. China’s Ordered Society
   1. The Gentry Value and Education
      1. Gentry: Wealthy landowning class
      2. Most scholar-officials came from the gentry. They studied Confucian classics for years to pass the civil service exam.
      3. Gentry often served as allies of the emperor’s officials.
      4. Gentry valued learning more than physical labor. Supported the revival of Confucian thoughts. Take Confucian officials as the ones that are wise and clever in the society.
   2. Peasants Work the Land
      1. Many of the Chinese depended on crops to live their life, but some of them made small handicrafts and sold them to increase their earning.
      2. People lived in small villages, where they depended on each other rather than believing in the government.
      3. When arguments took place, a village leader and a council of elders would come to solve the problem.
   3. Merchants Have Lowest Status
      1. According to Confucian traditions, merchants had a lower social status than peasants since their wealth came from the labor of others.
      2. Merchants needed to be educated to enter the gentry.
   4. The Status of Women
      1. Women had a relatively high status in the Tang and early Song dynasties compared to later periods.
      2. Women in families tended to run family affairs, such as managing servants and family finances.
      3. A male’s status is still higher than a female’s. When women got married to men, they could not keep their dowry and could never remarry.
      4. The tradition of **Foot Binding** emerged in the late Song dynasty. Acted as a symbol of nobility and beauty.
4. The Tang and Song Dynasties Develop a Rich Culture
   1. Artists Paint Harmony
      1. Triumph in landscape painting during Song dynasty. Painters aimed to capture the spiritual essence of nature.
   2. Architect and Porcelain.
      1. The Indian stupa evolved into the Chinese pagoda, a multistoried temple with eaves that curve up at the corners.
      2. Created statues of Buddha.
   3. Chinese Writing
      1. Libai, Dufu, etc. Y’all know this.

10.3 Korea and Its Traditions

1. Geography of the Korean Peninsula

* Living among mountains and seas
  + Low but steep mountains
  + Taebaek mountain range
  + Farming was difficult
  + Most people lived along the western coastal plains
  + Thousands of islands
  + Depended on seafood for protein in their diet
* Location impacts Korea
  + Received many cultural and technological influences from China
  + China extended political control over the Korean peninsula in history
  + The cultural bridge linking China and Japan
  + Adapted and transformed Chinese traditions, then passed them on to Japan
  + Evolved their own ways of living before the Chinese influence
  + Wudi invaded Korea and set up a military colony there
    - Confucian traditions
    - Chinese governmental ideas
    - Chinese writing
    - Farming methods

1. Development of the Silla and Koryo Dynasties

* Three kingdoms: Koguro, Paekche, and Silla
  + Shared same language
  + Shared same cultural background
  + Warred with one another or with China
  + Chinese cultures influenced them
  + Missionaries spread Buddhism
    - Korean monks travelled to China and India to learn more about Buddhism
  + Silla Kingdom united the Korean peninsula
  + Had only three dynasties
* Silla Dynasty united kingdoms
  + Became a tributary state under China
  + Preserved its independence
  + Confucian ideas affected the rights of women
    - Before
      * Women had the right to inherit property
      * Upper-class women held public roles
    - After
      * Can’t inherit properties
      * Subordinate family roles
  + Modified Confucian ideas
    - Conflicts between peasants and the aristocrats led to the overthrow of the Silla dynasty
* The Koryo dynasty
  + Confucianism and Buddhism were both influential
    - Used woodblock printing for Buddhist texts
    - Improved Chinese inventions
      * Learned to make porcelain (celadon)
        + *Celadon: porcelain with an unusual blue-green glaze*

1. The Choson Dynasty Rules for Over 500 Years

* Mongols invaded Korea and rule collapsed
* Yi Song-gye set up the Choson dynasty
  + Longest dynasty among the three
  + Reduced Buddhist
  + Confucian government
* Korea creates alphabet
  + King Sejong
    - Replace the Chinese writing system
    - Developed hangul
      * Increased literacy rate
* Japan invades

12.4

I. Geography Sets Japan Apart

- Archipelago: Japan is a chain of islands (Hokkaido, Honshu, Kyushu, Shikoku) located 100

miles off the Asian mainland.

- archipelago: A chain of islands.

- Geographic Features:

- Mountains: 4/5 of Japan is mountainous, limiting farmland.

- Climate: Mild climate and sufficient rainfall support agriculture in narrow river valleys

and coastal plains.

- Seas: Protected Japan from invasion but also isolated it, allowing selective borrowing from

China and Korea.

- tsunami: Killer tidal waves caused by underwater earthquakes.

- Ring of Fire: Japan is prone to volcanic activity and earthquakes.

II. Early Traditions

- Yamato Clan:

- Dominated Japan by A.D. 500, claiming descent from the sun goddess Amaterasu.

- Established Japan’s first and only dynasty.

- Shinto:- Shinto: "The way of the kami," a religion honoring natural forces and spirits.

- Shrines are located in natural settings like mountains, waterfalls, and ancient trees.

- Korean Influence:

- Korean artisans and metalworkers brought advanced skills.

- Buddhism introduced to Japan in the 500s via Korea, along with Chinese writing and

culture.

III. Japan Looks to China

- Prince Shotoku:

- Sent nobles to study in China during the Tang Dynasty (600s-800s).

- Adopted Chinese ideas on government, including the title "Heavenly Emperor" and a

centralized bureaucracy.

- Selective Borrowing:

- Japan adopted and modified Chinese culture, rejecting the civil service exam but keeping

Confucian ethics.

- Developed kana: Phonetic symbols for writing Japanese.

- kana: Japanese phonetic symbols representing syllables.

- Nara Period:

- Capital at Nara modeled after Chang’an (Tang China).

- Nobles adopted Chinese fashion, food, and tea ceremonies.IV. The Heian Period (794-1185)

- Heian Court:

- Capital moved to Heian (Kyoto).

- Fujiwara Clan: Married daughters to emperors, gaining real power.

- Culture:

- Elegant court life with strict etiquette and elaborate dress.

- Women’s Influence:

- Sei Shonagon: Wrote The Pillow Book, detailing court life.

- Murasaki Shikibu: Wrote The Tale of Genji, the world’s first novel.

- bushido: The samurai code of honor, emphasizing loyalty, bravery, and self-discipline.

1. The Tokugawas Unite Japan
   1. After the Mongol invasions, the Kamakura shogunate crumbled. New power took place in 1338, and warfare in 1450. Daimyo gave arms to peasants and samurai, causing chaotic conflicts.
   2. By 1590, Toyotomi Hideyoshi had brought most of Japan together. Failed to conquer China and Korea.
   3. In 1600, the daimyo Tokugawa Ieyasu became the master of Japan. Three years later, named shogun.
   4. The Tokugawa Shogunate ruled Japan until 1868.
   5. Central Government Imposed
      1. The Tokugawa shoguns ended feudal warfare.
         1. Maintained outward forms of feudal society but imposed central government control on all of Japan.
         2. ^ Called **Centralized Feudalism**.
      2. Tokugawa needed to control the daimyo.
         1. Daimyo needed to live in Edo (nowadays Tokyo) every other year. Daimyo’s family needed to be living in Edo full time.
         2. Shoguns forbade Daimyo from repairing castles or marrying without permission.
         3. New laws had strict social hierarchy. Only samurai were able to serve in the military or hold government jobs.
            1. People in the lower class were forbidden to wear luxuries.
   6. The Economy Booms
      1. New tools for agriculture emerged, allowing for more crop production. Hence, it supported population growth.
      2. Trade flourished, and roads connecting cities were built.
      3. Japanese merchants gained social status despite the influence of Confucian thoughts.
   7. Zen Buddhism Shapes Culture
      1. A Buddhist sect from China called Zen had been widely accepted by the samurai in Japan. It emphasized self-resilience, **meditation**, and devotion to duty.
2. Artistic Tradition Changed
   1. In the 1300s, feudal culture had produced Noh plays performed on a square, wooden stage without scenery.
   2. 1600s, towns developed a drama called Kabuki.