

Taoism/Daoism: living in harmony with the Tao (Dao)

Tao denotes something that is both the source and the driving force behind everything that exists.

Naturalness: regarded as a central value in Taoism. Associated with spontaneity and creativity. To attain naturalness, one has to identify with the Tao; this involves freeing oneself from selfishness and desire, finally achieve simplicity.

Three treasures: Compassion, Moderation, and Humility. It is also translated into kindness, simplicity, and modesty.

Buddhism in Japan has been practiced since at least 552, it has had a major influence on the culture and development of the culture. Due to syncretism in Japan, many Buddhists also profess adherence to Shinto. For many people in Japan, they take Shinto as a culture feature rather a religion.

Zen Buddhism is closely connect with the samurai class in Japan.

During the Meiji period, the government adopted a strong anti-Buddhist attitude, and a movement to eradicate Buddhism and bring Shinto to ascendancy arose throughout the country due to the strong connections of Buddhism to Shoguns.

Shinshukuo: new religious. Have exists since Tokugawa, but became prominence after WWII, helps find resolve with people lost after the devastation of the war. The main idea is to live as easily as possible. It has become wars of understanding the rapid advancements in technology mixed with spiritual guidance in the environment that the economic boom, many people get lost about the large sum of money, and they are looking for a moral correction. The most well-known Japanese cult is the Aum Shinrikyo leading by Shoko Asahara. And this finally lead to the underground terrorist attack in 1995. Asrin gas demonstrates a problem with religious cults that had really sprung up during the 1980s.

House and Family System

The Meiji period:

- The civil code
- Samurai family of 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- Indigenous system + Neo-Confucian ideology
- An imperial rescript
- 1090: 98% for elementary school

The post WWII period:

- The 1947 constitution
- Family system as the basis of the Confucian ideology
- Coexistence/evolution

House: taking precedence over individual  
Ancestral worship

Shame: it referring to the sense of failing to meet the expectation placed but the 'value system'.

Not-necessary the blood relation: adopted member are also part of the "home".

Changes in society/values:

Divorce rate increased in the 90's, then sky-rocketed in 1997.

Different attitude toward the elderly.

- Nuclear family
- Better services for the elderly, even they are not part of the family member

The population demographic: top heavy

Unemployment: financial support by the children.

Why growing rate of divorce but a relative low rate: no religious restriction, shame culture