

## European Influence (1543 - 1630): Guns, Catholics

### Sengoku Period

- ? Warring states period
- ? Many daimyo defend and attack other domains as they vie for leadership of Japan
- ? This period throws Japan into an era of chaos and war
- ? Eventually concludes with the success of 3 primary daimyo:
  - ? Oda Nobunaga
  - ? Toyotomi Hideyoshi: failure with invasion Korea (Ming)
  - ? Tokugawa Ieyasu (Weapon Ban)

### Edo (Tokyo now) Period

- ? Beginning in 1603 AFTER Tokugawa Ieyasu's forces are triumphant at the Battle of Sekigahara and solidify his leadership over the other Daimyo.
- ? Becomes the era known as the 250 years of peace.
- ? The Tokugawa family remains in power from 1603 until 1868.
- ? The period became known for its artistic endeavors, relaxed ethics, and rise of the merchant classes.

### Sakoku Policy of 1635

- ? Issued by Tokugawa Iemitsu in 1635
- ? Policy in place to remove foreign elements from Japan, especially Catholicism
- ? Closes the country to any foreign nation with the occasional exception of China, Korea and the Dutch

### Shimabara Rebellion

- ? Occurs from approximately late 1637 until early 1638.
- ? Growing frustration with the people of Shimabara over the construction of a new castle in which the town's people are heavily taxed.
- ? Catholics also become heavily persecuted at this time period.
- ? Many of these Catholic townsmen and ronin begin a rebellion.
- ? Tokugawa government sends forces to put down the rebellion.
- ? Approximately 30,000 people from Shimabara are killed and executed.

### Shimabara Con't

- ? One of the rare moments in the Tokugawa period which results in violence to settle matters.
- ? Christianity continues to be persecuted until the end of the period.
- ? Rebels beheaded in order to send a message to remaining Christians.
- ? At this point, anti-Christian policies are put into practice.

### Floating World:

- ? Male/Female ratio in Edo = 2:1

- ☐ “entertainment” service industry
- ☐ Yuukaku (Pleasure District)
  - ☐ Yoshiwara in Edo, etc.
  - ☐ Does not simply mean “Brothels”
    - ☐ Arts and entertainment components, as well.
- ☐ Street Walkers (Yotaka)
- ☐ Tea rooms, etc.

Fast Foods: Yatai vendors (Food truck): a way of making quick money .

Samurai becomes no wars to fight for, and entertained themselves with wine,

Warrior/Academic – Farmer – Artists/Craftsman – Merchant: ranking from Confucious from China.

Merchants are at the bottom since they produce nothing.

However, during this time, Samurais are having less income since it is no longer a turbulence time. So, they switch to other occupations such as farmers, merchants, policies or even selling their sword.

Ukiyo-e (Woodblock Prints)