

Chapter Summary

Section 1: Two Golden Ages of China

The Tang dynasty reunified China and ruled for 300 years. It was followed by the Song dynasty. Both led to great cultural achievements, growth in the economy, and order in society.

Section 2: The Mongol and Ming Empires

The Mongols, led by Genghis Khan, conquered much of Asia in the 1200s and ruled a vast empire. When the Mongols were finally expelled from China, the Ming empire was founded.



Chapter Summary (continued)

Section 3: Korea and Its Traditions

Korea was influenced by its powerful neighbor China, but also had its own unique culture. The Silla dynasty united the kingdoms of Korea. Its capital was known as the “city of gold.”

Section 4: The Emergence of Japan and the Feudal Age

Japan was cut off from the rest of Asia by the ocean. Despite this separation, Japan experienced a period in which Chinese influences were popular. A feudal age emerged during the 1200s and created a very hierarchical society.



Chapter Summary (continued)

Section 5: Diverse Cultures of Southeast Asia

The cultures of Southeast Asia were shaped in part by neighboring India and China. The Pagan kingdom, Khmer empire, and Srivijaya empire existed here. The impressive temples at Angkor Wat were built in the 1100s.



Objectives

- Summarize how the Tang dynasty reunified China.
- Explain how the Song dynasty grew rich and powerful despite military setbacks.
- Understand how China created an ordered society.
- Describe the cultural achievements of the Tang and Song dynasties.



Terms and People

- **Tang dynasty** – an empire in China that emerged in 618 to unify the region
- **Tang Taizong** – China's most admired emperor, who took the throne eight years after the Tang dynasty began; he was a brilliant general, government reformer, and master of calligraphy
- **tributary state** – independent state that has to acknowledge the supremacy of another state and pay tribute to its ruler

Terms and People (continued)

- **land reform** – the process by which large agricultural holdings were broken up and redistributed to peasants
- **Song dynasty** – a unifying empire in China that began in 960 and ruled for 319 years
- **gentry** – a wealthy landowning class
- **dowry** – the payment that a woman brings to a marriage
- **pagoda** – a multistoried temple with eaves that curve up at the corners



Describe the political, economic, and cultural achievements of the Tang and Song dynasties.

The Tang and Song dynasties brought unity and cultural achievement to China.

These dynasties each lasted about 300 years and created growth in the economy and order in society.

The **Tang dynasty** was forged in China in 618.

- Li Yuan crushed rivals with his son, Li Shimin, and became the first Tang emperor.
- Eight years later, Li Shimin took the throne as **Tang Taizong**.

The Tang dynasty united China for the first time in 400 years.

- Tang rulers built a sizeable empire, forcing neighboring lands to become **tributary states**.
- Empress Wu Zhao and other Tang emperors restored uniform government throughout the empire and set up schools.

Tang rulers instituted **land reform** to strengthen central government and weaken large landholders.



They broke up large land holdings and redistributed tracts to peasants.

The Tang dynasty ended in 907. In 960, the **Song dynasty** was founded.

- It was forged by a general named Zhao Kuangyin.
- It lasted for 319 years, but controlled less territory than the Tang.
- It was a time of great wealth and cultural achievement for China.

The economy grew under the Song dynasty for many reasons.



- Its emperors had an **open border policy** that encouraged foreign trade and imports.
- **Farming methods improved** and farmers produced two crops a year, creating a surplus.
- Use of the Grand Canal linking the Huang River to the Chang River reached its height during this time.

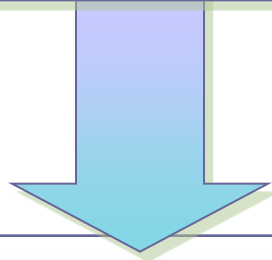
China was a very ordered society under both the Tang and the Song dynasties.

The **two main classes** were the **gentry**, or landholders, and the peasants.

The gentry studied to pass the civil service exam.

The peasants worked the land and produced handicraft items such as baskets.

Some merchants became wealthy in the market towns of China.



However, they had lower social status than peasants.



This was due to Confucian tradition.

Families in China valued boys more than girls, and women had a subordinate position in society.



Women often managed a household's servants and finances, but they could not keep their **dowry**.

The painful custom of foot binding was widely practiced and greatly limited a woman's ability to leave the home.

A rich culture developed under the Tang and Song and was expressed in painting, architecture, porcelain, and poetry.

- The gentry learned to paint and do calligraphy and **sought to express balance and harmony with nature** in their works.
- In architecture, the Chinese **pagoda** evolved. **Sculptors expressed Buddhist themes.**



Tang and Song writers produced prose and poetry as well as works on philosophy and history.

Poetry was the most respected form of Chinese literature. The greatest Tang poet was Li Bo.

He wrote 2,000 poems about the passage of time and harmony with nature.

Objectives

- Summarize how Mongol armies built an empire.
- Describe China under Mongol rule.
- Understand how the Ming restored Chinese rule.
- Explain why the Ming explored the high seas for only a brief period.



Terms and People

- **steppe** – a vast, treeless plain or grassland
- **Genghis Khan** – a brilliant Mongol chieftain who united warring Mongol clans in the early 1200s and conquered a vast empire in Asia
- **Kublai Khan** – Genghis Khan's grandson, who toppled the last Song emperor in China in 1279 and ruled all of China, Korea, and Tibet
- **Yuan** – the Chinese name Kublai Khan adapted for his dynasty

Terms and People (continued)

- **Marco Polo** – the Italian merchant who visited China during the Yuan dynasty and spent 17 years in Kublai's service
- **Ming** – a new Chinese dynasty founded in 1368 by Zhu Yuanzhang, who toppled the Mongols
- **Zheng He** – a Chinese admiral and diplomat who voyaged overseas to promote trade and collect tribute



What were the effects of the Mongol invasion and the rise of the Ming dynasty in China?

The Mongols came out of Central Asia and conquered a huge empire in around 1200, **imposing their rule on China.**

After Chinese toppled the Mongols in 1368, the Ming dynasty was founded.

The warring tribes of Mongols were united by **Genghis Khan** in the early 1200s, and went on to conquer a vast empire in Asia.



The Mongols conquered the **steppes** first with a force of skilled horsemen.

- To attack walled cities in China, they used cannons.
- Though **Genghis Khan did not finish the conquest of China**, his heirs expanded the Mongol empire and dominated Asia for 150 years.

Once Mongols conquered a territory, they ruled tolerantly and established peace and order.



- Khan respected scholars and artists and listened to their ideas.
- During the 1200s and 1300s, **Mongols maintained order**, a period now called the *Pax Mongolica* by historians.
- Political stability led to **economic growth and flourishing trade**. Cultures mixed as tools and inventions spread.

Genghis Khan's grandson **Kublai Khan** completed the task of conquering China when he toppled the Song dynasty in 1279.

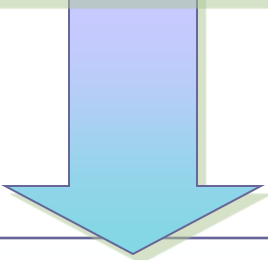


- He ruled China, Korea, and Tibet from his capital at Khanbaliq, modern Beijing.
- He decreed that only Mongols could serve in the military.
- Kublai Khan adopted the Chinese name **Yuan** for his dynasty.


One of the visitors to China at this time was the Italian merchant **Marco Polo**.

- He left Venice in 1271 and spent 17 years in the service of Kublai Kahn.
- Polo returned to Italy and wrote of his time in China, describing its wealth and efficient mail system.
- His writing **sparked European interest in Asia**.

When Kublai Kahn died in 1294, the Yuan dynasty declined.



There were frequent uprisings due to heavy taxes and corruption.



A peasant leader, Zhu Yuanzhang, created a rebel army and toppled the Mongols.

The **Ming** dynasty was founded in 1368 by the rebel leader.



- Ming rulers worked to restore Chinese greatness.
- They restored the civil service exam, restored the primacy of Confucianism, and rooted out corruption.
- Under the Ming, the economy once again grew, thanks to improved farming methods and trade.

Ming China fostered a revival of the arts.

- Ming blue and white porcelain vases became the most valuable Chinese products exported to the West.
- A new form of popular literature, the novel, emerged. One example, *The Water Margin*, was about ending injustice.

Ming emperors sent fleets of Chinese ships to distant places.

- **Zheng He** traveled as far as East Africa. One notable voyage included 262 vessels and 28,000 sailors.
- The goals of these expeditions were to **promote trade, collect tribute**, and show local rulers the power of the Chinese.

In 1435, the Ming emperor banned the building of seagoing ships.

- Historians think he may have done so because fleets were expensive or because **Confucian scholars wanted to preserve ancient Chinese culture** without outside interaction.
- Fewer than 60 years after this decision, **Christopher Columbus sailed** and made Spain a major power.

Objectives

- Describe how geography affected life on the Korean peninsula.
- Understand the influence of China and Buddhism on Korea.
- Explain the major achievements of the Choson dynasty.



Terms and People

- **Silla dynasty** – a Korean dynasty that lasted from 668 until 935; among the most advanced in the world
- **Koryo dynasty** – a dynasty in Korea that ruled from 918 until 1392; established a new capital at Songak
- **celadon** – porcelain with an unusual blue-green glaze
- **Choson (Yi) dynasty** – the ruling dynasty in Korea from 1392 to 1910.

Terms and People (continued)

- **King Sejong** – Korea's most celebrated ruler; replaced the complex Chinese system of writing with a Korean phonetic alphabet
- **hangul** – the Korean phonetic alphabet
- **literacy rate** – the percentage of people who can read and write



How are Korea's history and culture linked to those of China and Japan?

Despite the influence of China to the north, **Korea maintained a separate, unique culture.**

The Silla dynasty united the kingdoms in Korea. It was the first of three dynasties that shaped the country's history.



Korea is located on a peninsula that juts out from Asia south of China.

- This unique location has played an important role in the culture's development.
- China has had both cultural and political influence in Korea for a long time. During the Han dynasty, emperor Wudi set up a military colony in Korea.

Local rulers in Korea set up three kingdoms between 100 B.C. and A.D. 676.

- Koguryo was located in the north, Paekche in the southwest, and Silla in the southeast.
- Though they shared a common language, **these kingdoms were often at war.**

The Silla kingdom defeated Paekche and Koguryo in 676 with the help of the Chinese Tang emperor.

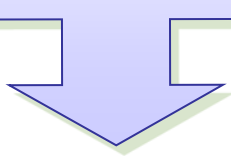
The **Silla dynasty** lasted until 935.

During this time, Korea flourished and its civilization was very advanced.

The Silla capital of Kyongju was an important center of culture during this time.

- Many temples were built as Buddhism became a powerful force.
- Korea traded with China and was influenced by its neighbor's written language and culture.
- Kyongju was considered the "city of gold" due to its advances in many fields, including medicine, metal casting, and astronomy.

Conflict between peasants and aristocrats led to the overthrow of the Silla dynasty. It was replaced in 918 by the **Koryo dynasty.**



- A new capital city was built at Songak.
- Both Confucianism and Buddhism flourished during this dynasty.
- Korean inventors created moveable metal type for printing texts.

Another advance made by Koreans during the Koryo dynasty was perfecting the process for making **celadon**.

- Vases and jars made by Koreans were prized.
- The secret of making celadon was lost when the Mongols overran Korea.



Many years after the Mongols invaded Korea in 1231, the general Yi Song-gye overthrew them. He founded the **Choson dynasty** in 1392.

General Yi set up a government based on Confucian ideals.

This was Korea's longest-lived dynasty. It was also its last.

King Sejong, Korea's honored ruler, replaced the Chinese system of writing in 1443.

He had his experts create **hangul**, the Korean phonetic alphabet.

무궁화미용실

Its use spread quickly and led to a high **literacy rate** in Korea.

Japan invaded China through Korea in the 1590s.

- They burned and looted the peninsula.
- To stop them, the Korean Admiral Yi Sun-shin used armored ships called “turtle ships” to sail into the Japanese fleet. Japan withdrew after six years.

Objectives

- Explain how geography set Japan apart.
- Understand how China influenced Japan, and describe the Heian period.
- Summarize the Japanese feudal system.
- Explain how the Tokugawas united Japan.
- Identify how Zen Buddhism shaped culture in Japan.



Terms and People

- **archipelago** – a chain of islands
- **tsunami** – a very large, damaging tidal wave launched by an undersea earthquake
- **Shinto** – the worship of the forces of nature in Japan
- **selective borrowing** – the process of choosing to accept some aspects of another culture, while discarding or modifying others

Terms and People (continued)

- **kana** – phonetic symbols representing syllables in the Japanese system of writing
- **samurai** – member of the warrior class in Japanese feudal society
- **bushido** – a code of values, or the “way of the warrior” shared by samurai, which emphasized honor, bravery, and loyalty to one’s lord
- **Zen** – a Buddhist sect widely accepted by samurai; emphasizes self-reliance, meditation, and devotion to duty



What internal and external factors shaped Japan's civilization, and what characterized Japan's feudal age?

The Japanese people were influenced by China in much the same way that Koreans were.

However, like Korea, **Japan maintained its own distinct identity and culture** throughout its long history and feudal age.



Japan's unique geography set it apart from the Asian mainland.

- The country is located on an **archipelago** and consists of four main islands. Most people live in valleys or on the coasts.
- Japan's island location has **protected it from being conquered by China.**

The Japanese people had great respect for nature—its resources as well as its power.

- The Inland Sea was a link between the nation's islands.
- The ocean provided food as well as trade routes.
- However, Japan lies in the Ring of Fire, a chain of volcanoes, and has been subject to terrible **tsunamis**.

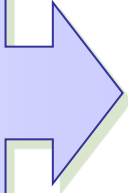
The earliest Japanese people migrated from the Asian mainland over 2,000 years ago. They lived in a society divided into *uji*, clans.

- Some clan leaders were women.
- The **Yamato clan** formed Japan's first and only **dynasty** by A.D. 500. They claimed descent from the sun goddess.
- The current emperor traces his roots to the Yamato clan.

The traditional Japanese religion was **Shinto**, worship of the forces of nature.

- There are hundreds of Shinto shrines in Japan.
- Dedicated to special sites such as mountains or ancient trees, they are usually located in places of natural beauty.

Japan and Korea were in constant contact with each other for centuries.

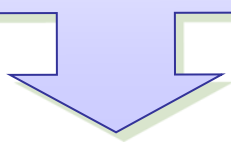


- A consequence is that the Japanese language is related to Korean.
- Korean missionaries introduced Buddhism to Japan in the 500s.



- This sparked Japanese interest in China.

Between the early 600s and early 800s, many Japanese nobles, students, and traders visited the Tang court in China.



- When the visitors returned, they **spread Chinese technology, arts, and ideas about government.**
- Many Chinese customs, such as the tea ceremony, became popular and influential in Japan.

Eventually, the thirst for everything Chinese slowed.

- The Japanese used **selective borrowing**, choosing which Chinese ways they wanted to keep.
- In this way, **Japan preserved its own culture.**
- The Japanese revised the Chinese system of writing, adding **kana**. They also developed their own artistic styles.



During the Heian period, women shaped the court, and an elegant culture emerged.

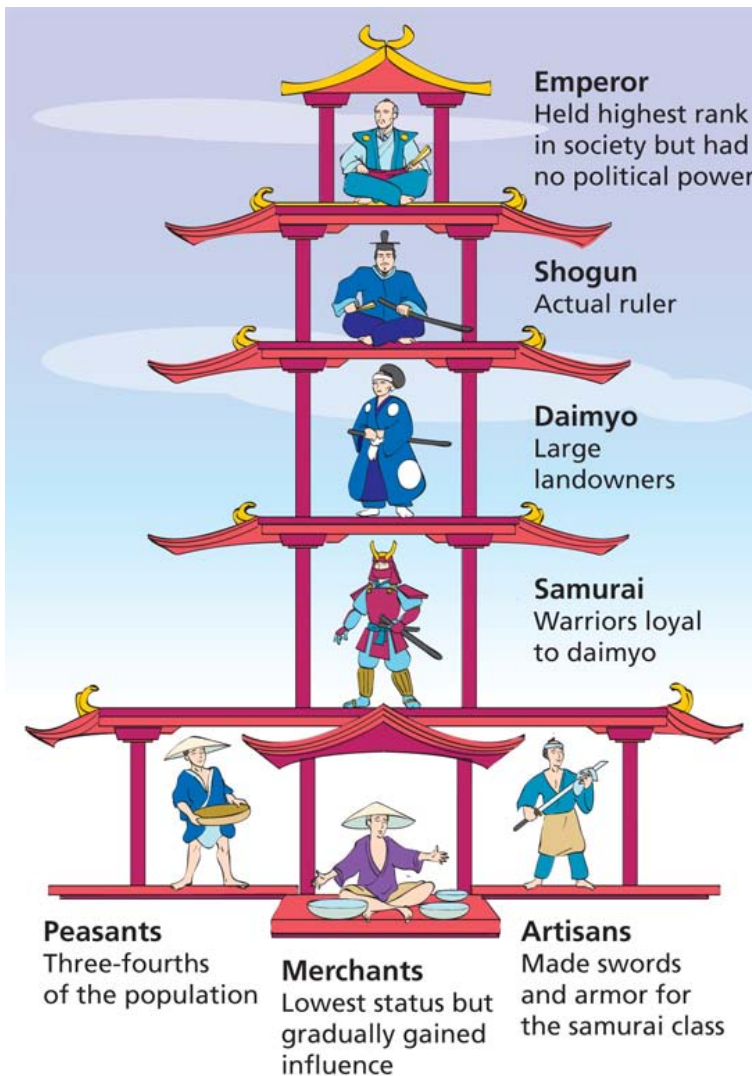
- Nobles lived in a fairy-tale setting and dressed in silk.
- **Women produced important works** of Japanese literature during this period.

The world's first full-length novel, *The Tale of Genji*, was written during the Heian period by Lady Murasaki.

- The novel tells about the life of a fictional prince and his son.
- The main event is a Chinese poetry contest, which Prince Genji wins.
- The tone of Heian writing is melancholy, lamenting the passage of all things.

During the 1400s, rival clans battled for control of the Japanese countryside. A new culture arose—the feudal system.

- The **emperor became powerless** as the shogun, or military commander, took over, setting up a military dynasty.
- The shogun **gave land to the daimyo, who granted it to lesser warriors called samurai**. These fighting aristocrats developed a code of values called **bushido**, the “way of the warrior.”



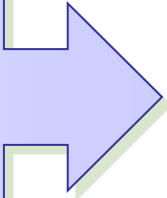
Feudal society in Japan was very hierarchical during this age.

- Noblewomen lost status and inheritance was limited to sons in this period.
- Peasants, artisans, and merchants were at the bottom of the ladder, under the samurai.

During this period, Japan held off Mongol invaders—twice.

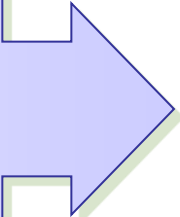
- Both times the Japanese were aided by typhoons, which destroyed Mongol fleets.
- The fact that the Mongols failed made the Japanese feel they enjoyed special protection from the gods.

The level of warfare increased in Japan after 1450, and daimyo gave arms to peasants.



- Finally the general Toyotomi Hideyoshi united most of Japan by 1590.
- Next, Tokugawa Ieyasu defeated rivals and established rule that would last until 1868.

The Tokugawa rulers created an orderly society. They were determined to end feudal war.



- They created a strong central government.
- They required that the daimyo live in the capital at Edo every other year.
- They reinforced the social hierarchy.

Once peace was restored, the Japanese economy boomed.

A Buddhist sect called **Zen became popular among the samurai during the feudal age.**

- Zen Buddhists believed that people could seek enlightenment through meditation and through the precise performance of everyday tasks.
- Zen **influenced Japanese culture**. Landscape paintings express its reverence for nature, and the tea ceremony reflects the Zen value of peace.

The arts changed as Japan began to embrace an urban culture.

- **Noh plays gave way to Kabuki theater.** Puppet plays called bunraku became popular.
- **Colorful woodblock prints were created in the 1600s** and depicted the joys of town life.

Objectives

- Describe the geography of Southeast Asia.
- Understand the impact of India on the history of Southeast Asia.
- Summarize the characteristics of the new kingdoms and empires in Southeast Asia.
- Explain the emergence of Vietnam.



Terms and People

- **matrilineal** – familial inheritance through the mother
- **stupa** – a dome-shaped shrine
- **paddy** – a field for growing rice



How was Southeast Asia affected by the cultures of both China and India?

The region known as Southeast Asia, located between China and India, was **strongly influenced by its neighbors**.

Southeast Asia also **retained its own unique identity**. For example, the great temple complex at Angkor Wat, built by the Khmer empire, revealed the glory of its culture.



Southeast Asia is made up of two regions—the mainland and the islands.

- They are separated from most of Asia by mountains.
- The four main river valleys in Southeast Asia **were home to early civilizations.**

Southeast Asia was at the crossroads of trade for centuries.

- Sea traders going between China and India passed through its straits.
- Monsoons shaped trade patterns, and merchants often harbored their boats in Southeast Asian ports. Early on, the **chief exports of the region were spices.**

The people in this region of the world developed their own cultures long ago.

- In Thailand, archaeologists have found 5,000-year-old jars and bracelets.
- Many of the ancient societies were built around the nuclear family.
- Women had greater equality here than in other parts of Asia—they could become traders and even rulers. **Matrilineal** descent was an accepted custom in Southeast Asia.

Indian culture spread to Southeast Asia, reaching its peak of influence between 500 and 1000.



- Traders and monks from India came to the region first.
- In turn, people from Southeast Asia visited India.
- **Indians also brought Islam to Southeast Asia.**

The kingdom of Pagan arose in 1044 in present-day Myanmar.

- King Anawrahta united the region and brought Buddhism to the Burman people.
- He had beautiful **stupas** built all over his capital city. **Pagan lasted over 200 years** and the fell to the Mongols in 1287.

The Khmer empire reached its peak in the region between 800 and 1350.

The Khmer rulers adapted Indian writing and were Hindus.

In the 1100s, the Khmer king built the temple at Angkor Wat.

Angkor Wat



The empire called Srivijaya flourished in Indonesia from the 600s to the 1200s.

- It controlled the key trading Strait of Malacca.
- Although both Buddhism and Hinduism reached this empire, **the local people blended Indian beliefs with their own.**
- Later, **Islam spread here,** creating a bond with other Muslim trading centers.

Indian influence outweighed Chinese influence in most of Southeast Asia, but this was not the case in Vietnam.

- The Red River delta, which was full of fertile rice **paddies**, was invaded by Han armies in 111 B.C. It remained under Chinese control for 1,000 years.
- The Vietnamese nevertheless maintained a sense of their own identity and in 939 were able to break free.