The Ming Dynasty (1370-1644 CE)

- Centralized Ming government brings China into new era of greatness
  - Civil service exam
  - Nationwide school system
  - Abundant manufactured goods
- Ming constructed Imperial City (Forbidden City) in Beijing, made Beijing the new capital
- Portugal arrived in China 1500 CE; first direct contact between Europe and China in centuries
- China fascinated by European inventions like eyeglasses; Europe fascinated by Chinese printing and architecture
太和殿
Qing Dynasty

- Founded by the Manchu people who overthrew the Ming
  - Manchus ruled China but were ethnic minority
    - Manchus worked to maintain unique identity
- Qing reach peak under Emperor Qianlong (1736-1795 CE)
- Europeans sought more trade with China; China refused
  - Qianlong limited all European trade to a single island
“Yesterday your Ambassador petitioned my Ministers to memorialise me regarding your trade with China, but his proposal is not consistent with our dynastic usage and cannot be entertained. Hitherto, all European nations, including your own country's barbarian merchants, have carried on their trade with our Celestial Empire at Canton. Such has been the procedure for many years, although our Celestial Empire possesses all things in prolific abundance and lacks no product within its own borders.

Your request for a small island near Chusan, where your merchants may reside and goods be warehoused, arises from your desire to develop trade... Consider, moreover, that England is not the only barbarian land which wishes to establish... trade with our Empire: supposing that other nations were all to imitate your evil example and beseech me to present them each and all with a site for trading purposes, how could I possibly comply? This also is a flagrant infringement of the usage of my Empire and cannot possibly be entertained.”
CHAPTER 20.2

REUNIFICATION OF JAPAN
Political Changes in Japan

- End of 15th century, Japan was in chaos
- Oda Nobunaga begins reunifying Japan under one government
- Tokugawa Ieyasu finalized Japanese reunification; took control of Japan as shogun (1603 CE)
- European traders initially welcomed in reunified Japan
  - Japanese enjoyed tobacco, guns, glasses
- Jesuits arrived and converted thousands of Japanese
  - Jesuits disrespected Japanese culture; Christianity banned
  - European traders banned shortly after
JAPAN IN THE AZUCHI-MOMOYAMA PERIOD

- Land of the Oda clan, 1560
- Area conquered by Oda Nobunaga and Toyotomi Hideyoshi by 1582
- Main Daimyo opposed to Hideyoshi in 1582

Other areas:
- Castle town
- Town
- Battle

Ukiha Daimyo house

Map of Japan showing various regions and cities.
Tokugawa Era

- **Daimyos** (heads of noble families) technically ruled Japan's territories; in reality, shogun controlled daimyos through a hostage system
  - **Hostage system**: When the daimyo left home on business, the daimyo's family was held by the shogunate until he returned

- Samurai gradually cease to be a warrior class

- The Japanese studied Western ideas and technology brought by the Dutch
  - Medicine
  - Astronomy
  - Language