Japanese History

Heian Period, 794 — 1185

Kamakura Period, 1185 — 1333

Muromachi Period, 1336 — 1573

Azuchi-Momoyama Period, 1573 — 1600

Edo Period, 1603 — 1868

Meiji Period, 1868— 1912

Taisho Period, 1912— 1926

Showa Period, 1926— 1989

1052
Oldest surviving printed book is published—a collection of Buddhist teachings.

1100's
Kamon begins to be used by Japanese nobility.

1192
Minamoto no Yoritomo becomes the first Shogun of Japan and unites the country under one unified leadership.

1221
Jokyu War: Rebellion against the ruling shogun in an attempt to restore power to the emperor and the imperial court.

1420
The Rennaissance begins in Italy.

1420's
The era of colonialism begins with Portugal claiming territories on the African coast.

1467
The Era of Warring States begins with the Onin War—a civil war between ruling families over who would succeed the ruling shogun. The war resulted in the Hosokawa clan—a family of samurais —taking power.

1543
The first Europeans to set foot in Japan are Portugese traders who introduce guns and Christianity.

1590
The first non-religious book—a dictionary of Chinese and Japanese terms—is printed.

1593
Movable type is introduced to Japan during the Korean invasion. First book printed with the system is *Kobun Kokyo, Classic of Filial Piety*.

1603
Tokugawa Ieyasu becomes the ruling Shogun after the Battle of Sekigahara.

1612
Christianity banned in Japan.

1622—24
The Hikone Screen—the oldest surviving painting in the Ukiyo-e style—is created.

1635
Sakoku begins.

1680's
Moronobu's first Ukiyo-e prints begin to appear.

1715
The Age of Enlightenment begins in Europe.

1744
Multi-color woodblock printing begins to develop in Japan.

1760
The Industrial Revolution begins in England.

1853
Sakoku ends.

1867
Ukiyo-e artists are featured at the International Exhibition in Paris .

1868
Japan is again brought under imperial rule under the Meiji Resoration.

1876
Japan claims territories in Korea.

1880's
Art Nouveau begins in Europe.

1894
First Sino-Japanese War

1914—18
World War 1

1937
Second Sino-Japanese War

1939—45
World War 2

1050 1100 1150 1200 1250 1300 1350 1400 1450 1500 1550 1600 1650 1700 1750 1800 1850 1900 1950