

Influences on Japan

I. Internal factors

- A. Geography both protected and isolated Japan
- B. Forces of nature were feared and respected
- C. Early society was divided into clans
- D. Shinto worship was practiced
- E. Inherited status through family position was the tradition
- F. Feudal system evolved; shogun had the real power, not the emperor
- G. Tokugawa shoguns ran the government in the 1600s
 - 1. Closed Japanese borders from visitors and forbade trade with Europeans.
 - 2. Resulted in isolation from the western world for 200 years.

II. External Factors

- A. Korean missionaries introduced Buddhism
- B. Nobles sent to study in China brought back Chinese thought, arts, architecture and writing
- C. Confucian ideas and ethic took root
- D. Zen Buddhism was widely accepted
- E. Landscape painting was influenced by Zen values of nature