

***Ancient China, India, and Japan***



*Ancient China*

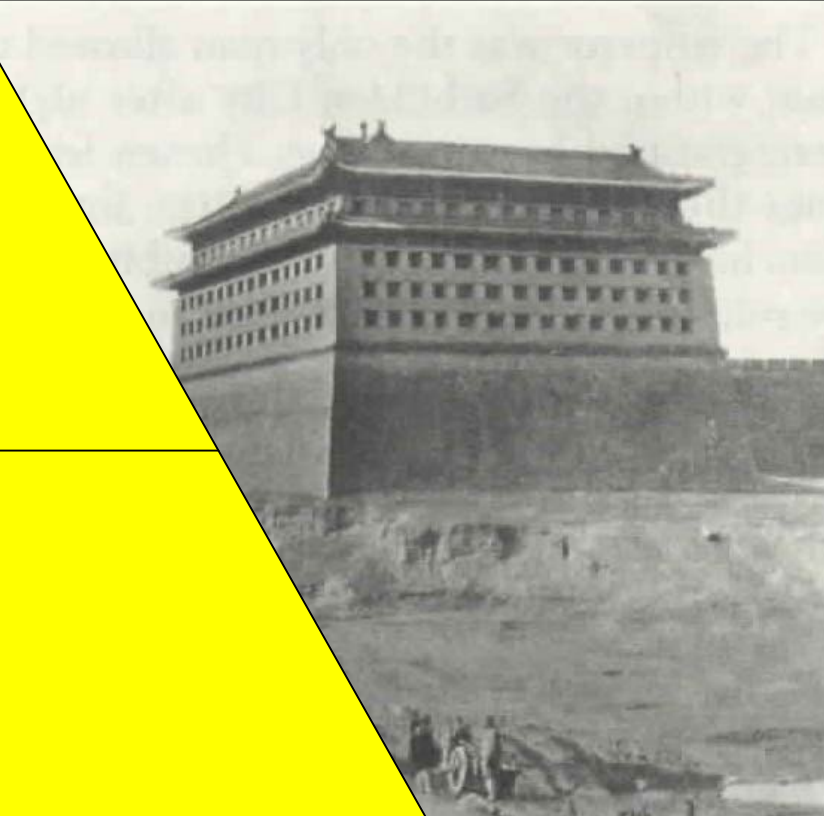
# Social Classes in Ancient China

**Gentry**

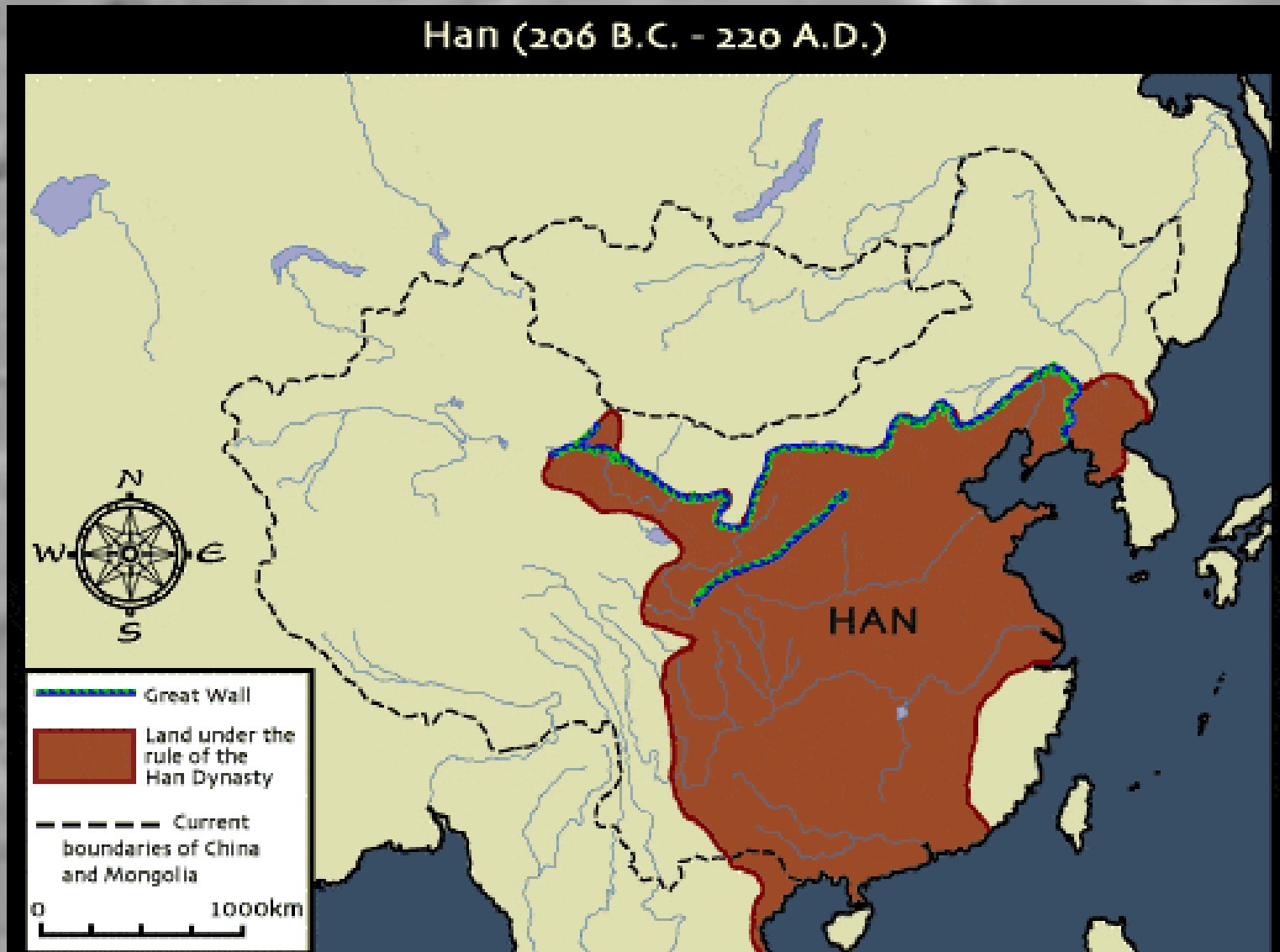
(wealthy landowners)

**Peasants,  
Laborers, &  
Soldiers**

**Merchants &  
Artisans**



# Han Dynasty: (206 BC-220 AD)



# Han Dynasty: (206 BC-220 AD)



- *Background*
  - Restored order after years of civil war
  - Power of nobles weakened
  - *Confucian ideas advocated*
  - Land redistributed to peasants

# Han Dynasty: (206 BC-220 AD)

- Silk Road

- Trade routes between Mediterranean Sea and China
- Sent silk, bronze, and iron goods west to Romans for gold, glass, and ivory (*Cultural Diffusion*)
- Promoted the growth of merchant class



# Han Dynasty: (206 BC-220 AD)

- Achievements

- *Civil Service:*

- Used difficult examinations to find the best qualified person for government jobs
    - Ended control of these jobs by nobles
    - Created a bureaucracy

- **Other:**

- Developed road and messenger systems
    - Excluded outsiders with army and Great Wall  
(beginning of ethnocentrism – Chinese culture is better than anyone else's)

# Tang Dynasty: (618-907 AD)





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- Background

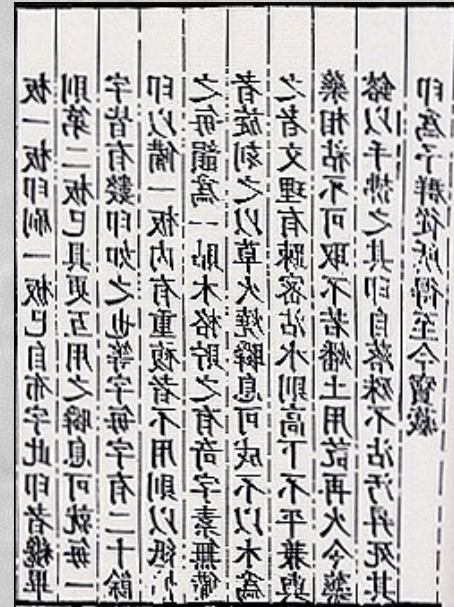
- Time often called the “Golden Age” of China
- Expanded China’s borders



# Tang Dynasty: (618-907 AD)

## • Achievements

- Took careful census (population counts)
- Civil service continued
- *Block printing* developed to make copies of Confucian texts
- Porcelain, mechanical clocks, and gunpowder developed
- Dug the *Grand Canal* connecting the Yellow & Yangtze Rivers (*resulting in better trade and communications*)



# Song Dynasty: (960-1126 AD)

Northern Sung (960 - 1126)



# Song Dynasty: (960-1126 AD)

- Background

- China's borders contracted
- Merchants, craftspeople, and scholars lived in cities (caused them to move up in the social class order)
- Peasants lived in rural areas
- Dynasty ends when Mongols invade



# Song Dynasty: (960-1126 AD)

- Achievements

- **Magnetic compass** invented allowing for sea travel across open water
- Traded by sea with other parts of Asia & Africa

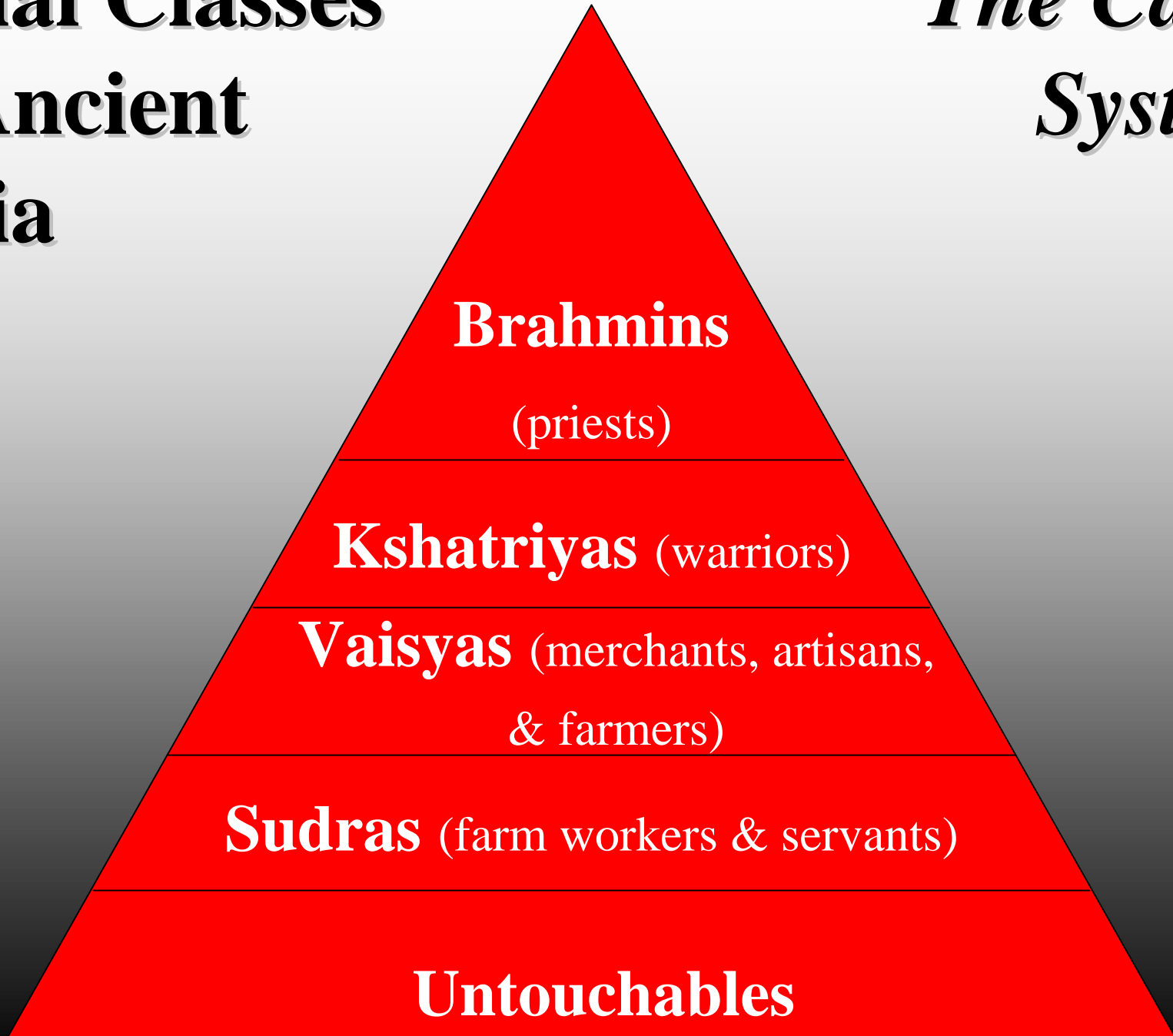




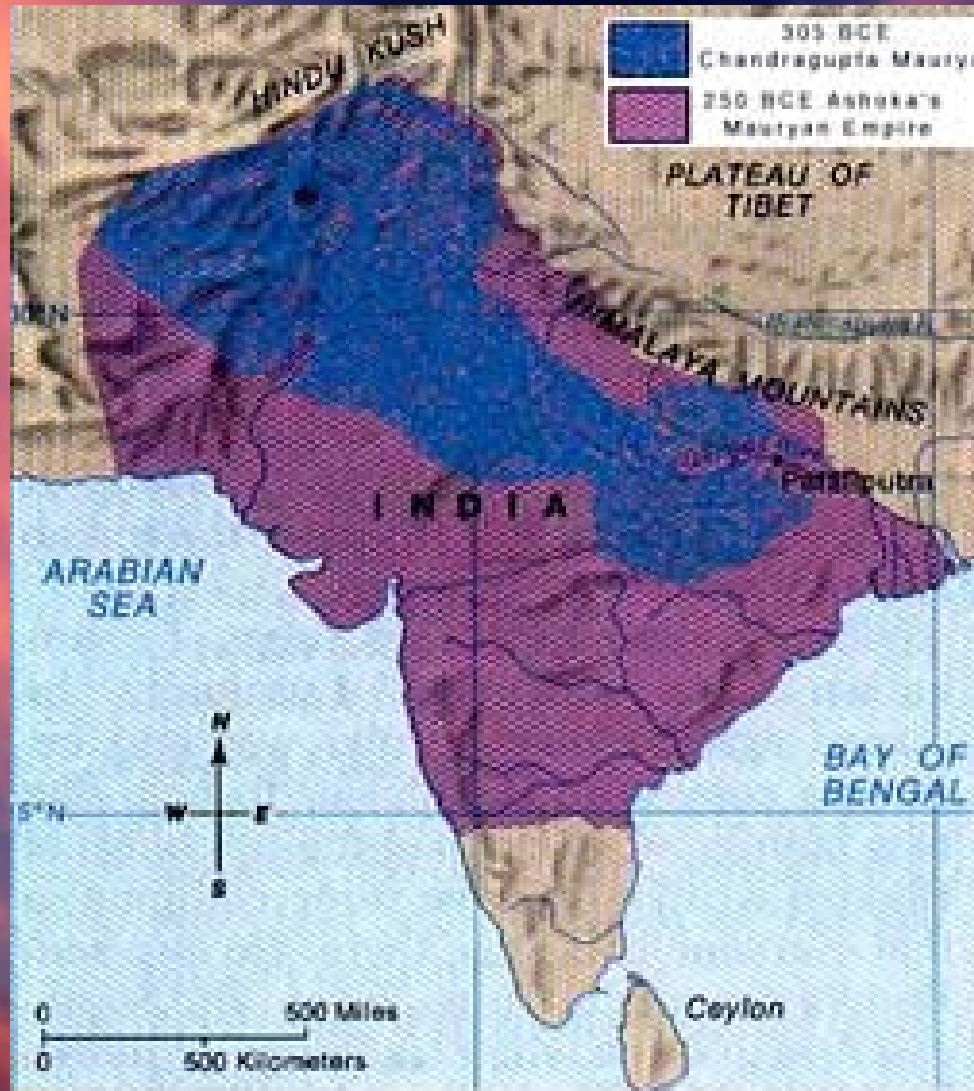
*Ancient  
India*

# **Social Classes in Ancient India**

# ***The Caste System***



# Mauryan Empire: (321 BC-232 AD)





# Mauryan Empire: (321 BC-232 AD)

- Background

- Founded by Chandragupta
- Conquered most of northern India
- Weak rulers followed after Asoka & lead to the downfall of the empire



# Mauryan Empire: (321 BC-232 AD)

- Achievements

- Spread Buddhism throughout India the region
- Improved roads & education
- Built hospitals

- Asoka

- Grandson of Chandragupta
- Was a conqueror
- Treated his people with kindness after conversion to Buddhism



King Asoka offering meal to young novice Nigrodha



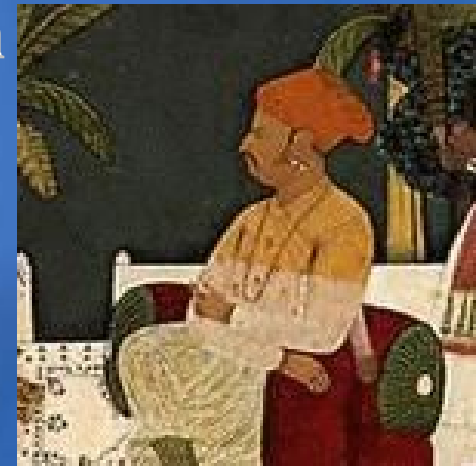
# Gupta Empire: (320-535 AD)



# Gupta Empire: (320-535 AD)

- Background

- United northern India
- Promoted trade with other nations
- Called “Golden Age of Hinduism”
- Increased influence of the Caste System on Indian society (further dividing society)
- Empire broken up during Hun invasion



# Gupta Empire: (320-535 AD)

- Achievements

- *Developed the “Zero” (0), infinity, and decimal numbers*
- Wrote plays & poems in *Sanskrit*
- Traded with Chinese, Persians, Byzantines, and Romans
- *Created vaccines for diseases*

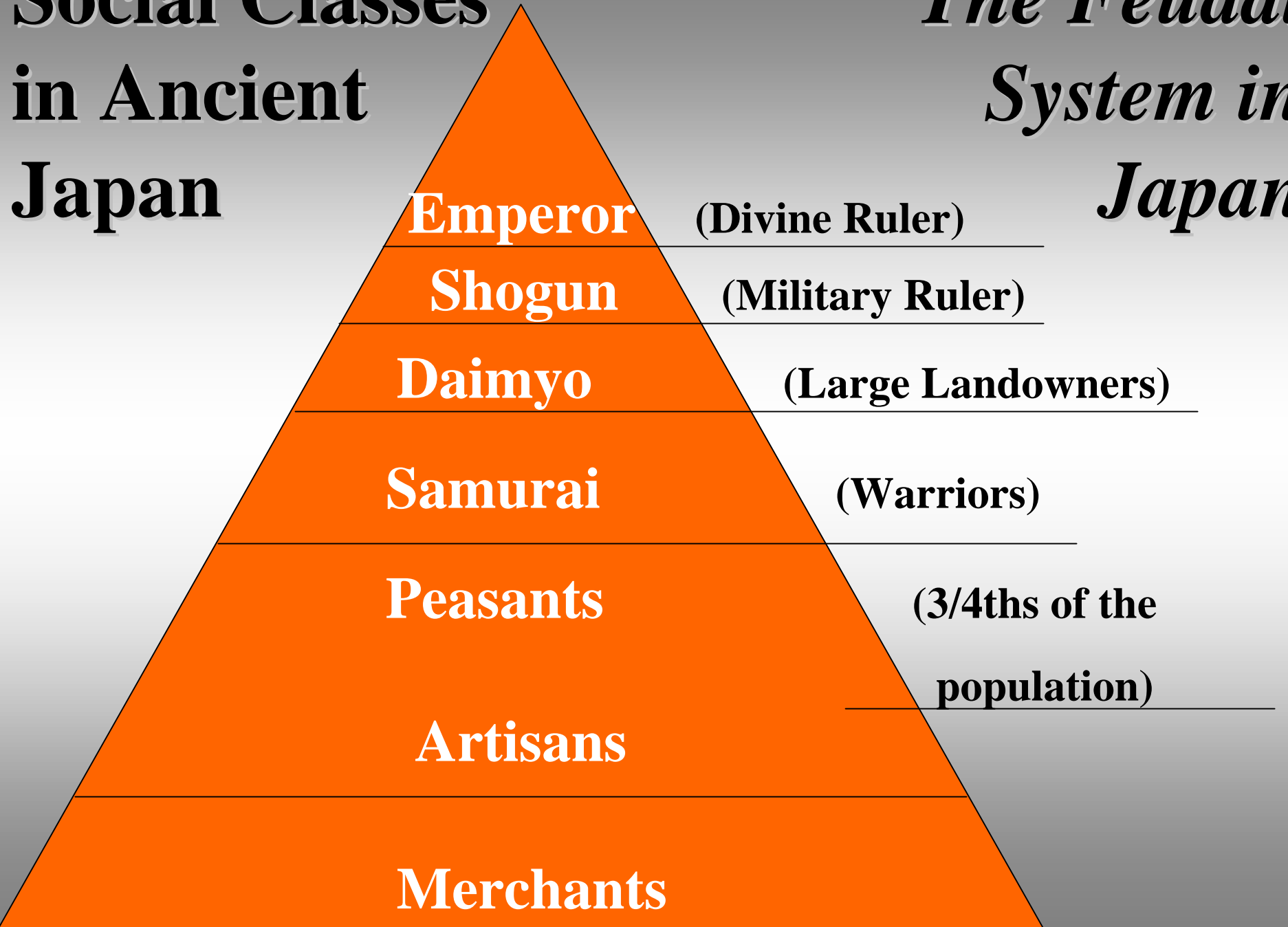


*Ancient  
Japan*



# Social Classes in Ancient Japan

# *The Feudal System in Japan*



# Heian Period: (794-1185AD)





# Heian Period: (794-1185AD)

- Background

- Japan's "Golden Age"
- Daimyo gained more land from the emperor
- People practiced Shintoism (mix of nature & ancestor worship)
- Emperors claimed to descend from the Yamato Clan and the Sun God



# Heian Period: (794-1185AD)

- *Achievements*

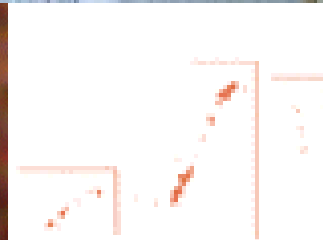
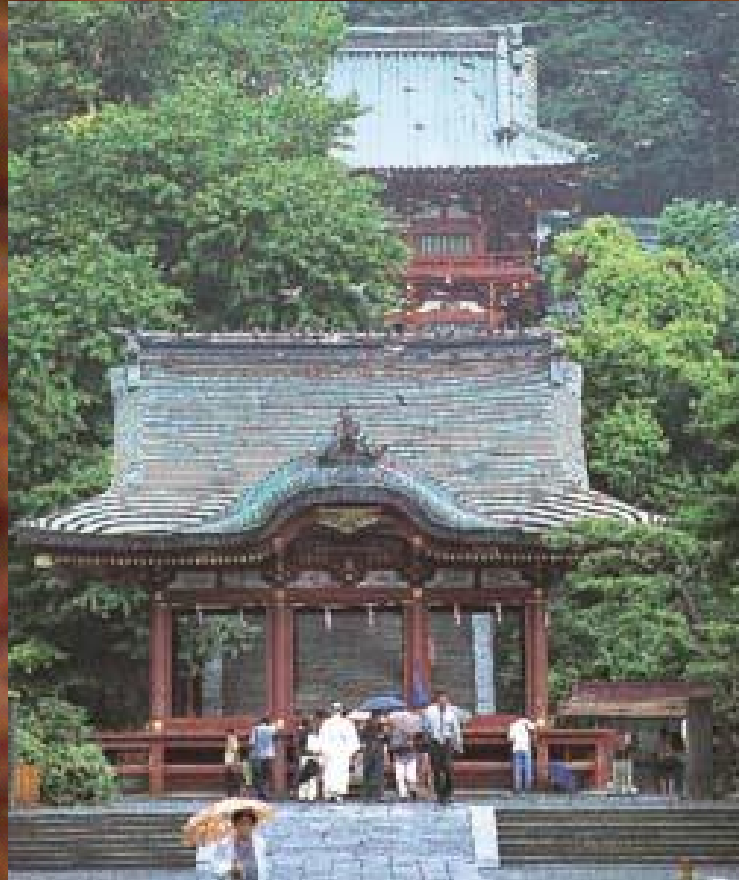
- *Arts & literature flourished*
- **Efficient tax system established**
- **Lady Murasaki wrote “The Tale of Genji”  
(world’s 1<sup>st</sup> novel)**

- *Chinese Influence*

- *Close location to China allowed for cultural diffusion*
- *Art, writing, Confucianism, silk, rice, and government borrowed from China*



# Kamakura Shogunate: (1192-1275AD)



# Kamakura Shogunate: (1192-1275AD)

- Background

- Daimyo fight over land
- Emperor's power further weakened as “Supreme Military General” or *Shogun* takes power



- Achievements

- Feudal system fully developed
- “*Bushido*” (warrior code) developed

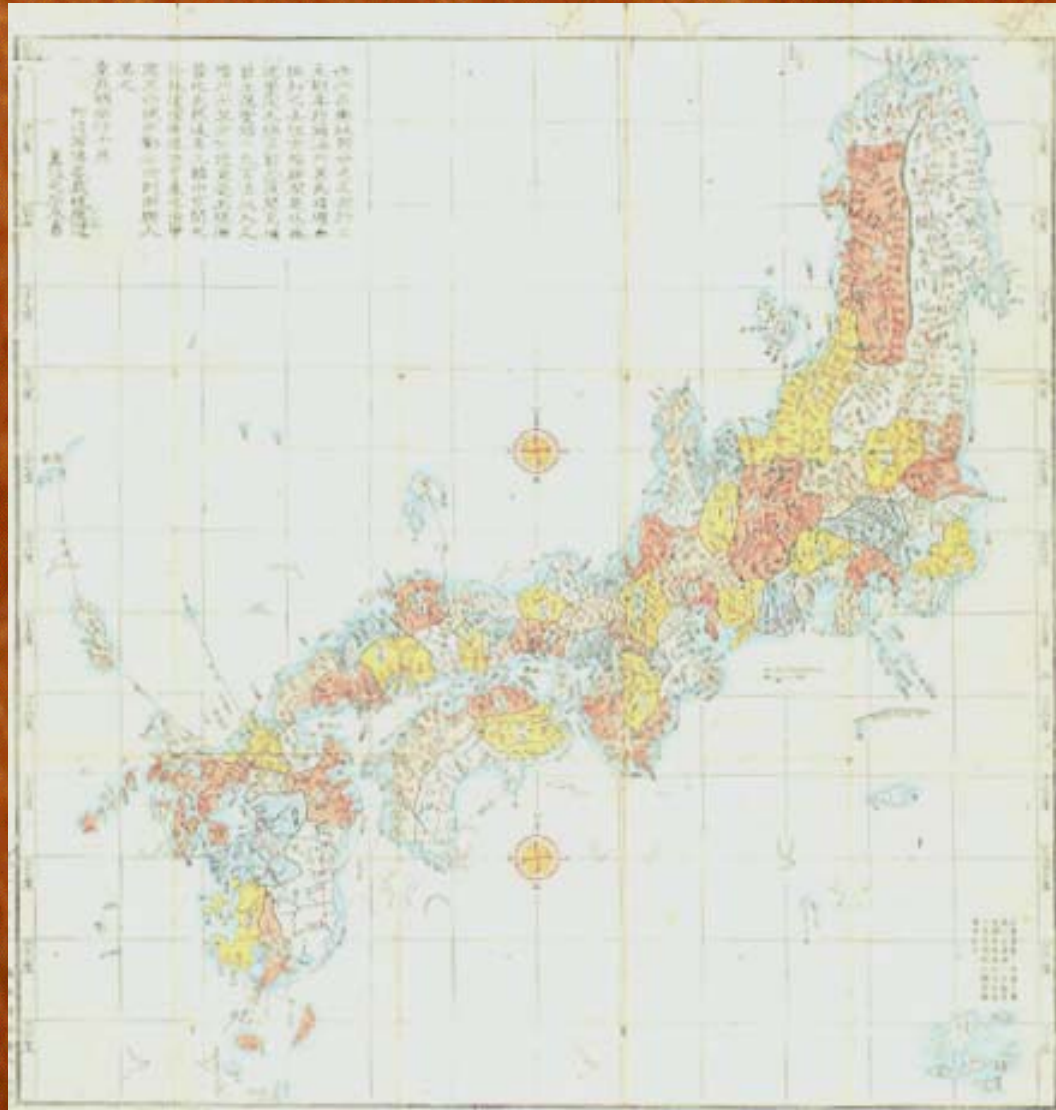
# Kamakura Shogunate: (1192-1275AD)

- Mongol Invasion

- Kublai Khan sent a Mongol invasion fleet to attack Japan
- Emperor called for prayers to stop invasion
- Large storm came and sank most of the invasion fleet
- Storm called “Kamikaze” or “Divine Wind”



# Tokugawa Shogunate: (1603-1868AD)



# Tokugawa Shogunate: (1603-1868AD)



- **Background**
  - Tokugawa shoguns end civil war
  - Forced Daimyo to leave families in Edo (the capital) as hostages when they leave so they will not revolt
  - ***Ended outside trade and forbid foreigners under penalty of death***
  - ***Travel outside Japan forbidden***

# Tokugawa Shogunate: (1603-1868AD)

## • Achievements

- Brought over *200 years of peace*
- Kabuki theater developed using stories from history
- Haiku poetry created
- Tea ceremony and landscaping became popular art forms
- Internal trade and city size increased
- New farming techniques improved crops





# *Cambodia*

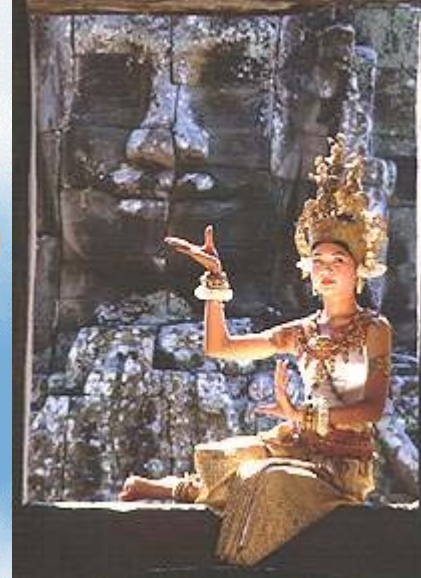
## *Khmer Empire: (700s-1300AD)*

- *Background*

- Influenced by both India & China
- Sea traders

- *Achievements*

- Built canals & irrigation systems
- Increased the number of rice crops grown a year
- Built large religious city/temples (like Angkor Wat) to Hindu gods



# Korea

*Koryu Dynasty: (932-1392AD)*

- Background

- *Heavily influenced by China's government & culture*
- Maintained power during Mongol occupation
- Gives modern-day Korea it's name



- Achievements

- Produced pottery
- Wrote history of Korea
- Printed all of the Buddhists texts
- *Served as a cultural bridge between Japan and China*

