







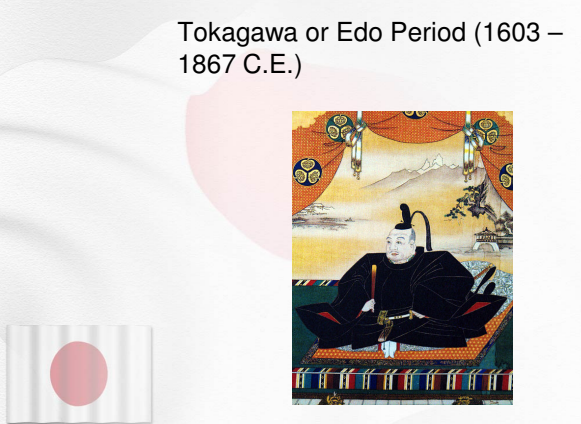
Prince Shotoku's Constitution 604 C.E. Includes Confucian Principles:

Article #3: Do not fail to obey the commands of your Sovereign. He is like Heaven, which is above the Earth, and the vassal is like the Earth, which bears up Heaven.

Article #4: The Ministers and officials of the state should make proper behavior their first principle, for if the superiors do not behave properly, the inferiors are disorderly; if inferiors behave improperly, offenses will naturally result.

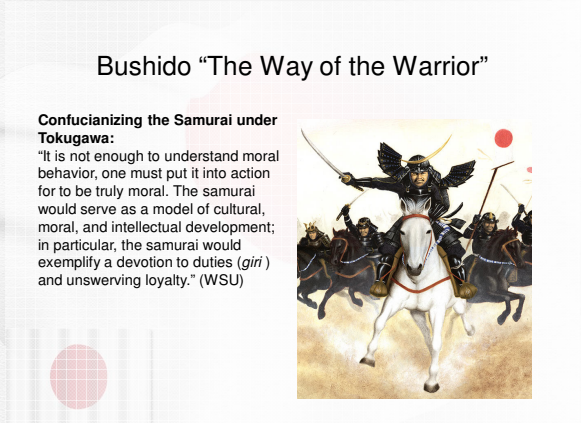


Tokugawa or Edo Period (1603 – 1867 C.E.)



Bushido “The Way of the Warrior”

Confucianizing the Samurai under Tokugawa:
 “It is not enough to understand moral behavior, one must put it into action for to be truly moral. The samurai would serve as a model of cultural, moral, and intellectual development; in particular, the samurai would exemplify a devotion to duties (*giri*) and unswerving loyalty.” (WSU)



Tokugawa Neo-Confucianism

The most important philosophy of Tokugawa Japan was **Neo-Confucianism**, stressing the importance of morals, education and hierarchical order in the government and society: A strict four class system existed during the Edo period: at the top of the social hierarchy stood the samurai, followed by the peasants, artisans and merchants. The members of the four classes were not allowed to change their social status. Outcasts (eta), people with professions that were considered impure, formed a fifth class. (Japan-Guide.com)



Kanegasaki Samurai Village



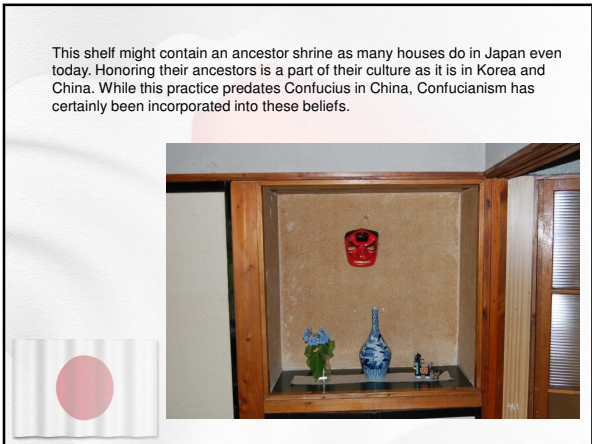
Kanegasaki is located in northern Japan (Honshu Island) and contains families that trace their lineage to the Samurai. This is a restored house of a Samurai.











Loyalty over Filial Piety – China v. Japan

- Loyalty is our duty to our ruler, and filial piety is our duty to our parents.
- In China, when there is a conflict between the two, our duty to our parents usually overweighs that to the ruler
- In Japan, the Japanese do not acknowledge this tension or contradiction: one is a filial child only if one gives loyal service to one's superior. Therefore, loyalty is expressed in unquestioning slave-like obedience and implies total selfless devotion to one's lord. In other words, loyalty in the Japanese culture usually take precedence over filial piety.

Chinese v. Japanese Ranking of Confucian Virtues:

<u>China:</u>		<u>Japan:</u>	
Love	仁	Loyalty	忠
Ritual	礼	Ritual	礼
Justice	义	Courage	勇
Wisdom	智	Sincerity	信
Sincerity	信	Wisdom	智

Koshi-byo Confucian Shrine – Built 1893







