

Samurai Timeline

NARA-Period (710 - 794)

No military class. Conscript army based on Chinese model. Conscription system eliminated in 792.

HEIAN Period (794-1185)

Early use of the word "samurai" to describe imperial guards. Military houses begin to emerge.

Military Actions:

Early Nine Years' War (begins 1051) in the far north of Honshu against Abe Yoritoki and his sons

Later Three Years' War (1083-87) against the Kiyohira family in northeastern Honshu.
(prominence of Minamoto in East)

Hôgen Rebellion (1156) Taira Kiyomori and Minamoto Yoshitomo vs. Minamoto Tameyoshi and other sons.

Heiji Rebellion (1159-1160) Taira Kiyomori vs. Minamoto Yoshitomo

Gempei War (1180-1185) Taira Kiyomori's sons vs. Minamoto Yoritomo

KAMAKURA Period (1185-1333)

Imperial court confers on Yoritomo the title of shogun (1192)

Mongol invasions (1274,1281)

MUROMACHI Period (1333 -1568)

Muromachi district of Kyoto becomes base for Shôgun Ashikaga Takauji's new military government.
Rise in military power of provincial lords

Onin War (begins 1467)

WARRING STATES Period (approx. 1476-1568)

Firearms introduced by shipwrecked Portuguese soldiers (1543)

Battle of Sekigahara (1600)

EDO or TOKUGAWA Period (1600 -1868)

Japan enters an age of peace and national isolation.

Miyamoto Musashi (1584-1645); *The Book of Five Rings* (1643-45)

47 Rônin Incident (1703)

Yamamoto Tsunetomo (1659-1721), *Hagakure* (1716)

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