

# Brief History of Japanese Religions and Religious Landscapes in Kyoto

<b>Jomon</b> 11,000?-300 B.C.E.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Animism, belief in all sorts of spirits</li> </ul>
<b>Yayoi</b> c. 300 B.C.E.-c. 200 C.E.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Belief in kami spirits established</li> <li>•Ancestor worship spreads</li> </ul>
<b>Yamato</b> c. 200-c. 500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Queen Himiko</li> <li>•Confucianism and Taoism introduced by Korean and Chinese immigrants</li> </ul>
<b>Asuka</b> c. 500-710	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•538 Introduction of Buddhism from Paekche</li> </ul>
<b>Nara</b> 710-784	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Nara Buddhist schools flourish</li> <li>•752 Dedication of the Great Buddha at Todaiji temple</li> </ul>
<b>Heian</b> 794-1192	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Founding of Tendai sect at Mt. Hiei and Shingon sect at Mt. Koya</li> <li>•Faith in Amida's Paradise and the practice of <i>nenbutsu</i> spreads</li> </ul>

<b>Kamakura</b> 1192-1333	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Period of great religious leaders:Honen (Jodo), Shinran (Jodo-shinshu), Eisai, Dogen (Zen), Nichiren</li> </ul>
<b>Muromachi</b> 1336-1573	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Development of "Kamakura Buddhism"</li> <li>•Zen Buddhism pervades the arts</li> </ul>
<b>[Sengoku]</b> Waring States Period c. 1460-1573	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•1549 Francis Xavier introduces Christianity</li> <li>•1571 Oda Nobunaga attacks Mt. Hiei</li> </ul>
<b>Azuchi-Momoyama</b> 1573-1603	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•1589 Toyotomi Hideyoshi prohibits Christianity and burns a Catholic church in Kyoto</li> </ul>

<b>Edo</b> 1603-1867	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Persecution of Christians</li> <li>•Blooming of Confucian and other ethical schools</li> </ul>
<b>Meiji</b> 1868-1912	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•1868 Separation of Shinto and Buddhism</li> <li>•Shinto chosen as national faith</li> <li>•1873 Ban on Christianity lifted</li> <li>•1875 Doshisa founded in Kyoto</li> </ul>
<b>Taisho</b> 1912-1926	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Marxist ideology becomes popular; suppressed by government</li> </ul>
<b>Showa</b> 1926-1989	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•State Shinto elevated to national faith</li> <li>•Soka Gakkai, Rishso Koseikai and popular sects emerge</li> <li>•1945 Postwar dismantling of State Shinto</li> </ul>
<b>Heisei</b> 1989-present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•1995 Sarin gas attack on Tokyo subway by Aum Shinrikyo members</li> </ul>



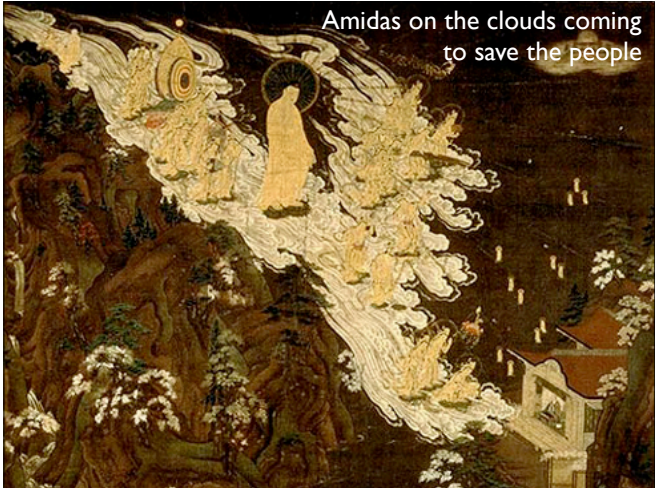




**Toji**

Founded in 796  
Founder : Emperor Kanmu  
School : Shingon  
World Heritage Site

Kukai was given this temple by the emperor Saga in 823 and he made it a center for Shingon school.



Amidas on the clouds coming to save the people

**Chionin**

Founded in 1175  
Founder : Honen (1133-1212)  
School : Jodo (Pure Land)





## Higashi Honganji

Founded in 1602

School : Jodo-Shinshu

The founder of Higashi (East) and Nishi (West)  
Honganji is Shinran (1173-1263).



## Shokokuji

Founded in 1382

Founder: Ashikaga Yoshimitsu

School: Rinzai sect of Zen Buddhism

Golden and Silver Pavilion are  
the branch temples of Shokokuji.