

Brief History of Japanese Religions and Religious Landscapes in Kyoto

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

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

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



Ohmon Gate
(National Treasure)



Kamigamo Shrine

Founded in 678

Main god : Wake-ikazuchi
(thunder god)

World Heritage Site



Konpon Chudo
(National Treasure)

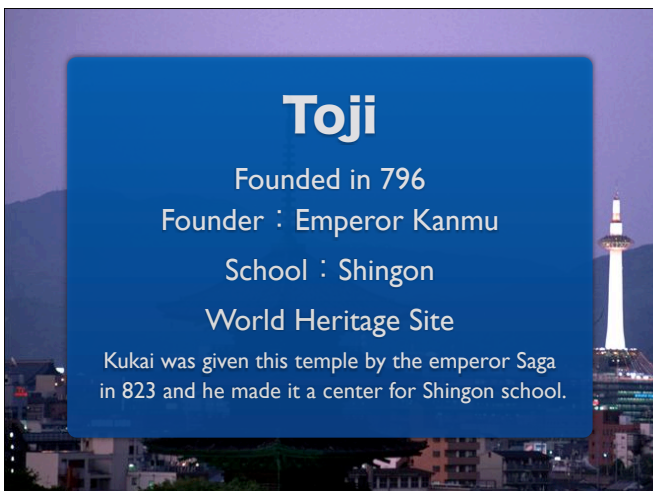


世界宗教者平和の祈りの集い
The Interreligious Gathering of Prayer for World Peace



Enryakuji

Founded in 788
 Founder : Saicho (767-822)
 School (denomination) : Tendai
 World Heritage Site



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.



Sanmon Gate (National Treasure)

Amidas on the clouds coming
to save the people

Chionin

Founded in 1175

Founder : Honen (1133-1212)

School : Jodo (Pure Land)

Goeido (main temple)



Higashi Honganji

Founded in 1602

School : Jodo-Shinshu

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

Hodo (Important Cultural Property)



Shokokuji

Founded in 1382

Founder: Ashikaga Yoshimitsu

School: Rinzai sect of Zen Buddhism

Golden and Silver Pavilion are
the branch temples of Shokokuji.