

# Japan: Memoirs of a Secret Empire

## Part II

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_

### The Will of the Shogun

1. Who was William Adams? Take a few notes about him.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Englishman to arrive 1600; shipwrecked
- Protestant – not interested in converting Japanese
- became interpreter for Tokugawa Ieyasu and builds ships for Ieyasu
- carries two swords of samurai, marries Japanese woman, given large estate with servants

### Lords and Vassals

2. How did Tokugawa Ieyasu keep tight control over those he ruled?

- expelled missionaries; capable advisors
- restricts what certain classes can wear; obey Confucian social order
- daimyo must help build Edo & castle there; daimyo must approve all castles, marriages, ship construction

### He Spared No One

3. What was “alternate attendance?”

- daimyo must live in Edo on alternate years – expensive for the procession to Edo – therefore no funds to raise an army that would rebel against shogun

4. How was the role of samurai changing?

- peaceful time – no wars to fight – change for soldier to bureaucrat

### Disturbing Difficulties

5. How was travel difficult in this time period?

- checkpoints (inspection barriers); many rules and regulations; needs a passport
- penalties if caught trying to avoid checkpoints

6. How was travel made easier in this time period?

- roads improved and safer; rest stops; travel diaries become bestsellers – increase interest in travel
- \*begin to think about Japan as a nation

### On Penalty of Death

7. How did Iemitsu view Christianity? How do you know this?

- against it (believed it evil, subversive – undermining authority); rewards for telling where priests/Christians were located, foreign missionaries were deported

### The Final Revolt

8. What role did taxes play in the lives of peasants?

- taxes on windows, shelves, hole tax to bury dead, head tax on newborns; taxed in rice (can't eat what they grow)-collected by daimyo to support processions to Edo and the samurai class

9. During the Shimabara Rebellion, who rebelled?

- harvest was bad, led to drought and famine; severe punishment for nonpayment of taxes; daughter of farmer who hadn't paid taxes was tortured, farmer killed the governor as a result and the whole town rebelled; Christians join farmers and it becomes a Christian rebellion; women and children are barricaded in castle, shogun concerned that the rebellion will spread; for 4 months rebels hold off government attacks; Dutch use canons to avoid losing trade with Japan; castle falls and people within starve or are slaughtered

10. What happened as a result of this rebellion?

- start of closed door policy-no Japanese can leave Japan, no Japanese who were overseas could return to Japan; Japan is cut off from all Christian influence to preserve Japanese society

# Japan: Memoirs of a Secret Empire

## Part II

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_

### The Will of the Shogun

#### 1. William Adams

- 1<sup>st</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ to arrive 1600; shipwrecked
- Protestant – not interested in converting Japanese
- became interpreter for Tokugawa Ieyasu and builds \_\_\_\_\_ for Ieyasu
- carries \_\_\_\_\_ swords of samurai, marries Japanese woman, given large estate with servants

### Lords and Vassals

#### 2. Tokugawa Ieyasu kept tight control over those he ruled:

- expelled missionaries
- capable advisors
- restricts what certain classes can wear; obey Confucian social order
- daimyo must help build Edo & castle there; daimyo must approve all castles, marriages, ship construction

### He Spared No One

#### 3. Alternate attendance:

- daimyo must live in Edo on alternate years – expensive for the procession to Edo – therefore
- 

#### 4. Changing role of the samurai:

- peaceful time – no wars to fight – change for soldier to \_\_\_\_\_

### Disturbing Difficulties

#### 5. Travel was difficult because...

- checkpoints (inspection barriers); many rules and regulations; needs a passport
- penalties if caught trying to avoid checkpoints

#### 6. Travel was easier because...

- roads improved and safer; rest stops; travel diaries become bestsellers – effect? \_\_\_\_\_

### On Penalty of Death

#### 7. Iemetsu's view of Christianity:

- against it (believed it evil, subversive – undermining authority); rewards for telling where priests/Christians were located, foreign missionaries were deported

### The Final Revolt

- taxes on windows, shelves, hole tax to bury dead, head tax on newborns; taxed in \_\_\_\_\_ (can't eat what they grow)-collected by daimyo to support processions to Edo and the samurai class

#### 8. Shimabara Rebellion:

- harvest was bad, led to drought and famine; severe punishment for nonpayment of taxes; daughter of farmer who hadn't paid taxes was tortured, farmer killed the governor as a result and the whole town rebelled; Christians join farmers and it becomes a Christian rebellion; women and children are barricaded in castle, shogun concerned that the rebellion will spread; for 4 months rebels hold off government attacks; Dutch use canons against rebels to avoid losing trade with Japan; castle falls and people within starve or are slaughtered

#### 9. Effect of rebellion:

- start of closed door policy-no Japanese can leave Japan, no Japanese who were overseas could return to Japan; Japan is cut off from all Christian influence to preserve Japanese society

## About the Document

Tokugawa Ieyasu was granted the title of shogun in 1603 after defeating his rivals by using guns brought into Japan by the Europeans. His successors, however, began to fear that the growing trade with the West and influence of Christianity would directly challenge the Japanese value system. Below is an excerpt from a shogun's edict (law) intended to force foreign trade and missionaries out of Japan. Japan remained an isolated country for the next two hundred years, until the Americans opened relations with Japan in 1853.

### CLOSED COUNTRY EDICT OF 1635

1. Japanese ships are strictly forbidden to leave for foreign countries.
2. No Japanese is permitted to go abroad. If there is anyone who attempts to do so secretly, he must be executed. The ship so involved must be impounded and its owner arrested, and the matter must be reported to the higher authority.
3. If any Japanese returns from overseas after residing there, he must be put to death.
5. Any informer revealing the whereabouts of the followers of **padres** must be rewarded accordingly. If anyone reveals the whereabouts of a high ranking padre, he must be given one hundred pieces of silver. For those of lower ranks, depending on the deed, the reward must be set accordingly.
7. If there are any **Southern Barbarians** who propagate the teachings of padres, or otherwise commit crimes, they may be incarcerated in the prison. . .
8. All incoming ships must be carefully searched for the followers of padres.
9. No single trading city shall be permitted to purchase all the merchandise brought by foreign ships.
10. Samurai are not permitted to purchase any goods originating from foreign ships directly from Chinese merchants in Nagasaki.

You are hereby required to act in accordance with the provisions set above. It is so ordered.

Padres – priests

Southern Barbarians – westerner