Who Held Power?

Military force, religion, and imperial rule in East Asia

SS24.8.16 "Describe the governing policies in East Asia during the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries, including those of China and Japan. 16a Trace the rise of militarism in Japan and explain how it led to the invasion of Korea..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two ways rulers tightened control in Japan, circle a religious policy and its effect, and number three turning points in China's imperial rule. Use your marks to trace how rulers gained, used, or lost power.

Power Across East Asia

1. In the late 1500s, rival warlords fought for control of Japan. Oda Nobunaga and Toyotomi Hideyoshi built larger armies and brought many regions under central control. Once Hideyoshi had unified most of Japan, he ordered an invasion of Korea in 1592. He hoped to conquer Korea and then Ming China, and he sent soldiers across the sea again in 1597. Korean defenders, including Admiral Yi Sun-sin's navy, and Ming forces resisted. The costly campaigns ended after Hideyoshi died in 1598. Military unification had turned Japan's armies toward expansion abroad.

2. After 1603, Tokugawa shoguns governed Japan while the emperor held little political power. Shoguns made regional lords, or daimyo, stay in Edo part of each year and leave their families there when away, limiting rebellion. Japan's social order ranked warriors above farmers, artisans, and merchants. In France, Louis XIV ruled as king, relying on nobles and clergy instead of daimyo. Shinto rituals and Buddhism shaped Japanese life; Buddhist temples registered households for officials. Fearing foreign influence, shoguns banned Christianity, and temple records helped officials identify converts.

3. Across the sea, Ming emperors ruled China through officials chosen partly by examinations. In the 1600s, financial strain, rebellions, and Manchu attacks weakened the Ming. The Manchus took Beijing in 1644 and founded the Qing dynasty. Qing rulers kept much of the imperial bureaucracy and expanded their territory, especially during the 1700s. But by the 1800s, corruption, uprisings, and pressure from foreign powers weakened Qing control. A revolution began in 1911; the last emperor abdicated in 1912. China moved from one dynasty to another, then ended imperial rule.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did military unification in Japan help lead to the invasions of Korea?

2. How did religion help Tokugawa leaders monitor society and limit foreign influence?

3. Compare who held power and which groups supported or answered to rulers in Tokugawa Japan and Louis XIV's France.

4. Why did the Ming dynasty fall, and how was the end of Qing rule different from that earlier change?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a five-sentence speech for an exhibit called "Who Holds Power?" Explain how Japanese leaders used both military and religious policies, compare Tokugawa rule with Louis XIV's rule, and contrast the Ming-to-Qing shift with the end of China's empire. Finish with a claim about whether strong rulers can always keep power, supported by a detail from both Japan and China.

ANSWER KEY

Who Held Power?

GRADE 8 · SS24.8.16

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two ways rulers tightened control in Japan, circle a religious policy and its effect, and number three turning points in China's imperial rule. Use your marks to trace how rulers gained, used, or lost power. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did military unification in Japan help lead to the invasions of Korea?	**After Hideyoshi unified most of Japan, he could send its armies across the sea to invade Korea as part of his plan to conquer Korea and Ming China.**
2	How did religion help Tokugawa leaders monitor society and limit foreign influence?	**Buddhist temples registered households, and officials used temple records to identify Christian converts. Shoguns banned Christianity because they feared foreign influence.**
3	Compare who held power and which groups supported or answered to rulers in Tokugawa Japan and Louis XIV's France.	**Tokugawa shoguns governed while the emperor held little political power, and they controlled daimyo through required stays in Edo. Louis XIV governed France as king and relied on nobles and clergy.**
4	Why did the Ming dynasty fall, and how was the end of Qing rule different from that earlier change?	**Financial strain, rebellions, and Manchu attacks weakened the Ming before the Manchus founded the Qing dynasty. The Qing's fall ended imperial rule rather than replacing one ruling dynasty with another.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Hideyoshi's unified armies invaded Korea, but Korean and Ming resistance helped stop the campaigns. Later Tokugawa shoguns controlled daimyo through required stays in Edo and banned Christianity because they feared foreign influence. Both the shoguns and Louis XIV strengthened central power, but the French king relied on nobles and clergy rather than daimyo. When the Qing replaced the Ming, China still had emperors, but the last Qing emperor's abdication ended imperial rule. Strong rulers cannot always keep power, as Japan's invasions failed and rebellions and foreign pressure weakened Qing control.

Accept other passage-supported explanations and comparisons. For the exhibit speech, look for five sentences that address every requested connection and support the final claim with evidence from both countries.