

Empire Under Pressure

Comparing how Eurasian governments met challenges around 1750.

10.1a "Powerful Eurasian states and empires faced and responded to challenges ca. 1750."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline a challenge in each paragraph. Circle a government response or policy connected to that challenge.

Three Governments, Three Responses

- ① Around 1750, the Ottoman Empire ruled lands in Europe, Asia, and North Africa. The sultan worked through officials, governors, and local elites. Christian and Jewish religious leaders managed some community affairs, although arrangements varied and subjects did not have equal rights. Istanbul linked Mediterranean, Black Sea, and Asian trade. Costly wars and powerful provincial elites challenged central authority. Sultans negotiated with local power holders and relied on established institutions to govern.
- ② The Mughal Empire faced a sharper loss of central control. After Aurangzeb died in 1707, regional rulers challenged imperial authority. In 1739, Nader Shah invaded Delhi and took immense wealth. By 1750, many provincial rulers governed with little direction from Delhi, even while acknowledging Mughal emperors. The Muslim dynasty depended partly on cooperation with Hindu elites to govern a diverse population. Indian cotton textiles continued to attract Asian and European merchants despite political fragmentation.
- ③ Japan's Tokugawa shoguns sought to prevent renewed warfare among regional lords, called daimyo. Many daimyo had to alternate residence between their domains and Edo, the shogunal capital. Travel and residence were costly and helped the shoguns monitor them. Officials enforced rules, but daimyo retained authority within their domains. The shogunate restricted European contact while permitting supervised Dutch and Chinese trade at Nagasaki and other regulated Asian contacts. Around 1750, this combination of shogunal control and regional administration sustained relative internal peace. Japan was neither fully centralized nor completely isolated.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did Ottoman rulers govern religious diversity? Was this equal treatment?

2 Compare political control in the Ottoman and Mughal Empires in 1750. What was one important difference?

3 Give one detail about commerce in Ottoman lands and one about commerce in India.

4 How did alternate attendance help Tokugawa shoguns control daimyo?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

In three or four sentences, compare Ottoman and Tokugawa efforts to maintain authority. Use two details and explain a similarity or difference.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline a challenge in each paragraph. Circle a government response or policy connected to that challenge. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Ottoman rulers govern religious diversity? Was this equal treatment?	Christian and Jewish leaders managed some community affairs under arrangements that varied. Subjects did not have equal rights.
2	Compare political control in the Ottoman and Mughal Empires in 1750. What was one important difference?	The Ottoman sultan still ruled through officials, governors, and institutions, although local elites had gained influence. Mughal emperors had much weaker control because many nawabs governed provinces with little direction from Delhi.
3	Give one detail about commerce in Ottoman lands and one about commerce in India.	Istanbul linked Mediterranean, Black Sea, and overland Asian routes. In the Mughal Empire, Indian cotton textiles attracted Asian and European merchants, while European trading companies expanded influence.
4	How did alternate attendance help Tokugawa shoguns control daimyo?	Costly travel and residence in Edo helped the shoguns monitor regional lords and limit challenges to their power. Daimyo still governed their domains.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Both governments had to manage powerful regional elites. Ottoman sultans negotiated with local power holders and used established institutions. Tokugawa shoguns required many daimyo to alternate residence at Edo, helping monitor them. Both relied on arrangements with regional authorities rather than ruling every locality directly.

Accept evidence-based comparisons with two accurate details. Do not require claims that either empire was fully centralized or that religious accommodation meant equal rights.