

The First Samurai Government

21H.154, Session 7

Tale of Heike

- Completed ca. mid. 13 c.
- Rise and fall of Heike (Taira)



Battle of Dan no ura (1185)



Battle of Ichi no tani (1184)



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Screen painting [right of a pair of Scenes from the Tale of the Heike], mid 17th century, Kanō School (Minnesota Institute of Art)

Genpei War (1180-85)

- 源平合戦
- Japan's first national civil war



Protagonists

- The two sons of Yoshitomo (Heiji infamy)
 - Minamoto no Yoritomo (1147-1199)
 - Older brother, ruler
 - Minamoto no Yoshitsune (1159-1189)
 - Legendary, tragic



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Rise of Kamakura *Bakufu*

- Consolidation of power in Kantō region surrounding Kamakura starting in 1180
- Gain following by confirming land holdings > technically illegal!
- Taira crushed at Dan-no-Ura, 1185
- *Bakufu* (“tent government”): shogunate
- Yoritomo: “Barbarian-subduing generalissimo”
a.k.a. shōgun in 1192

Kamakura Era (1185-1333)

- *Jitō* (land stewards) and *shugo* (military governors)



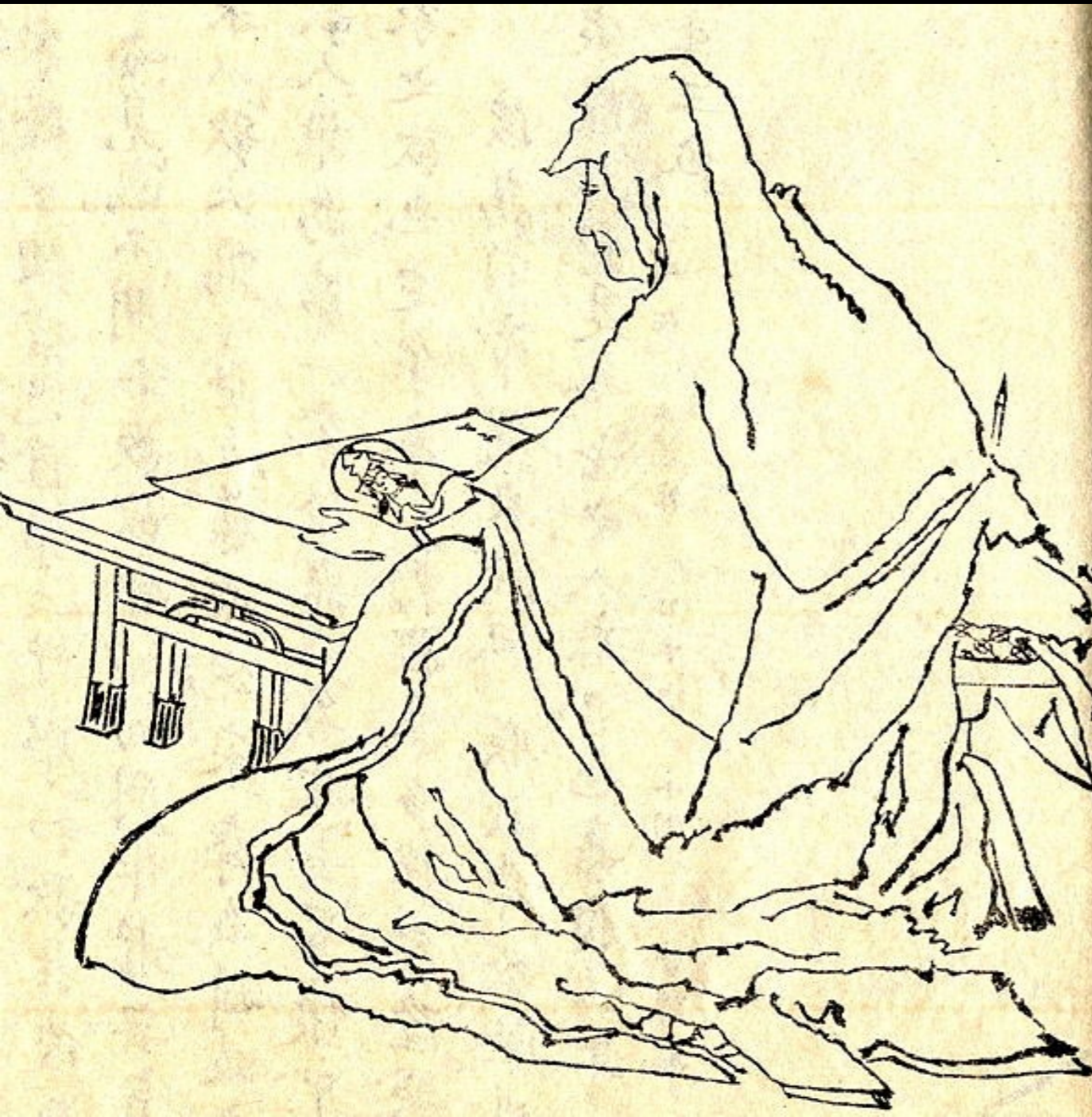
Emperor Strikes Back (Again)?

- Ret. Emperor Go-Toba (*in.* 1198-1229) oppose Hōjō rule
- 1221, Jōkyū War
- Warrior supremacy confirmed



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Hōjō Regency



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- Masako (1157-1225)
 - Wife of Yoritomo
- Tokimasa (1138-1215)
 - Masako's father
- Yoshitoki (1163-1224)
 - Masako's brother

Hōjō Innovations

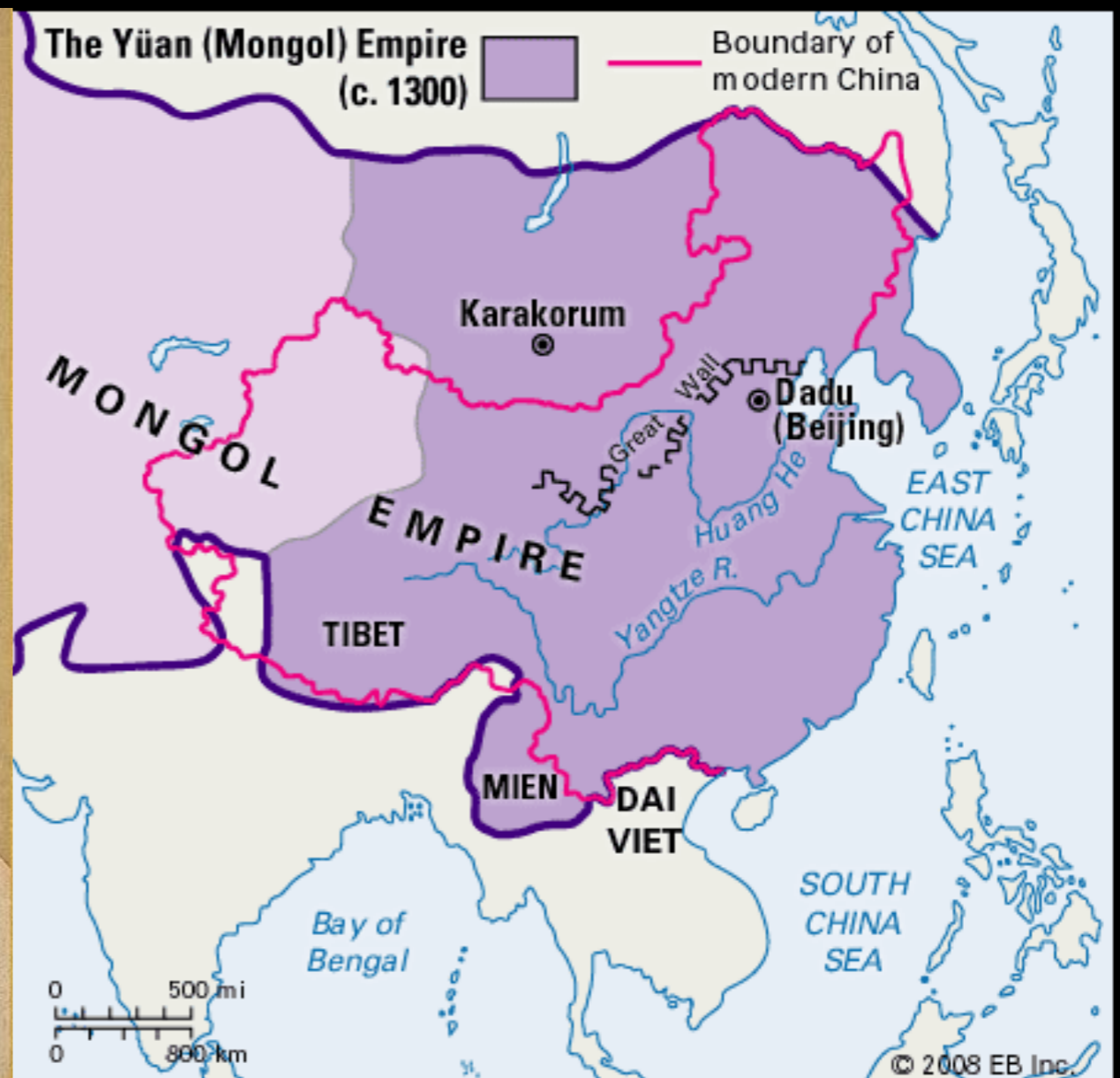
- 1225, Hōjō Yasutoki established Board of Councilors
- 1232, *Jōei* Code (*Goseibai shikimoku*); Lu, pp. 109-116



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Mongols! (1260s~)

- Mongol Empire under Kublai Khan (grandson of Genghis) establish Yuan Dynasty in China (1271)



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Mongol Invasions

1274/10, first invasion

- 900 ships and 40,000 soldiers to Hakata Bay in northern Kyushu

1281, second invasion

- *Kamikaze* (divine wind)???

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The Fall of Kamakura *Bakufu*

- Growing pains of an expanding warrior class
- Discontent with Hōjō rule
- Emperor strikes back (third time's the charm?)



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Emp. Go-Daigo (r. 1318-1339)

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21H.154 / 21G.554 Inventing the Samurai
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