

# Ashikaga Shogunate and the Era of Rival Imperial Courts

21H.154, Session 8

# Today

- Fall of Kamakura Shogunate (-1333) and Rise of Ashikaga Shogunate (1338-1573)
- Thursday: Ōnin War (1467-1477) and the Start of the Warring States Era (1467-1573)

# 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)

# Kenmu Restoration (1333-36)

- Go-Daigo defeats Kamakura with Ashikaga Takauji's help
- Attempts direct rule
- Takauji rebels in 1336
  - 1336-1392: era of rival courts
  - Takauji establishes his own *bakufu* in 1338



# Kusunoki Masashige (Imperial Palace, Tokyo)



# Ashikaga *Bakufu*

- 1338-1573
- In Kyoto (Muromachi): collapse of diarchy
- No land base=reliance on *shugo* (mil. gov.)
- Rise of elite samurai culture
  - Adopt another Buddhist sect: Zen

# Ashikaga and Zen

- *Chán* (Chinese)
- Benefits of a newcomer religion
- Warrior attraction
- Income
- Education
- Extension of Ashikaga power

# Muromachi Pleasures

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- Tea ceremony
  - Reintroduced by Eisai in late 12 c.
  - *matcha* (powdered, green tea)
  - *chanoyu* ('tea ceremony'; late. 14 c.~)



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# Muromachi Pleasures

- Zen gardens, Ryōanji, Kyoto



# Muromachi Pleasures

- Ink paintings (*suiboku-ga*)



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Sesshū (1420-1506)

# Nō Play

- Slow and symbolic
- Both noble and humble origins
  - *sarugaku* ('monkey dance')
- Kan'ami (1333-84) and son, Zeami (1363-1443)
  - 1375, patronage by Ashikaga Yoshimitsu
- "Atsumori"

# Economic Development

- Dramatic increase in rice production
  - New land
  - New tools
  - New methods



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# Emergence of Markets



# Emergence of Guilds (*Za*)

- Demand for specialty products
- Organization of producers from 11 c.
- Protection from elites
- Sake brewers and storage houses=moneylenders
- New trades and crafts for women

# Other Economic Developments

- Monetization of economy
- China/Korea trade
- Emergence of new cities



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- Sakai



# Muromachi Economy

- Trade continue to expand
- Kyoto thrives with exception
- Better transportation
  - *Wakō*, “Japanese pirates”



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# Social Change

- Inheritance practices
- Increased *jitō* pressure on farmers
  - 1260s~70s: peasant bands
  - *ikki* ('leagues')=uprising
  - part of emerging trend of *gekokujō* (lower overturning those above)



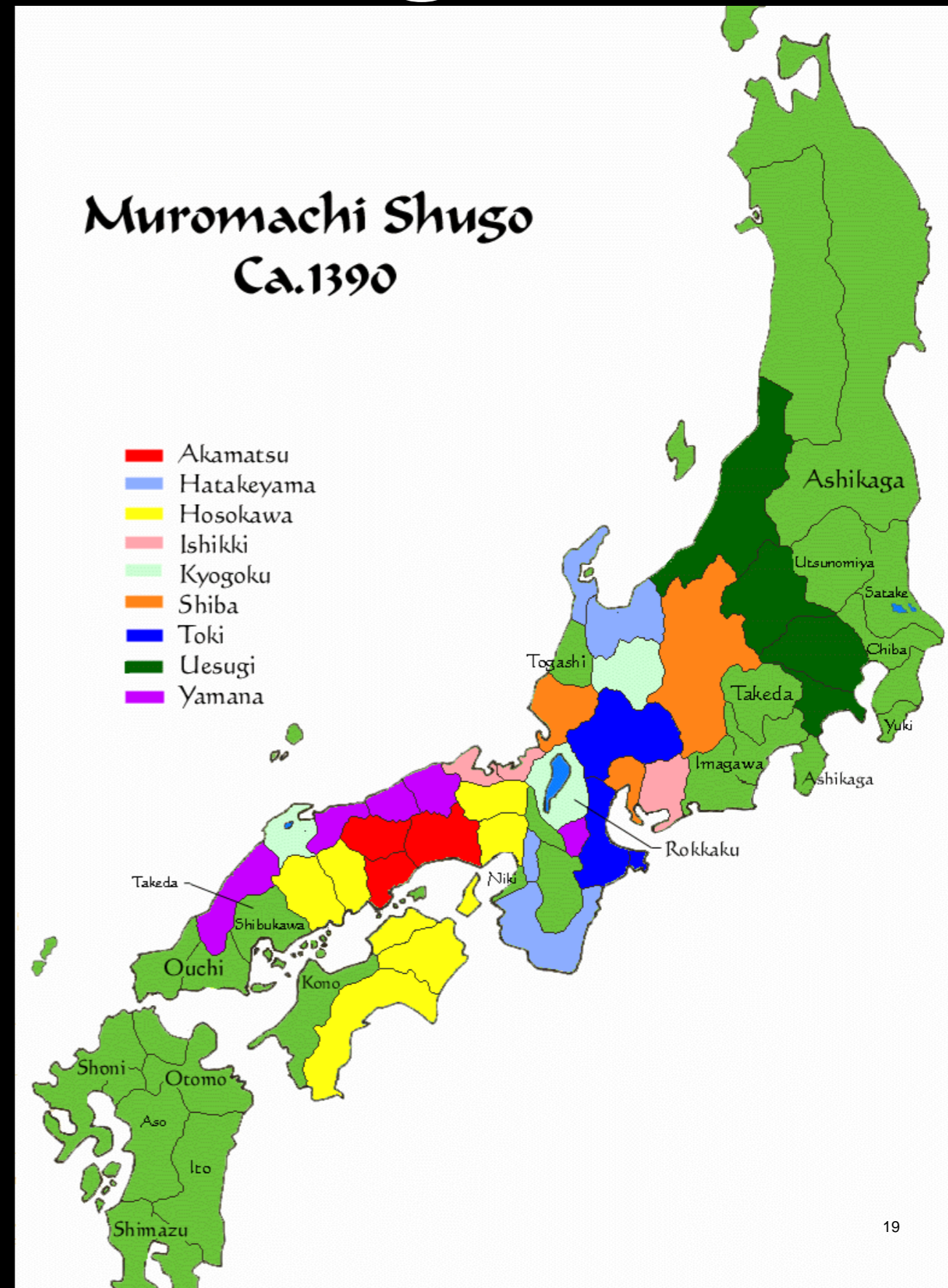
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# Other Forms of *Gekokujō*

- Competition among merchants: new vs. old *za*
  - Independent manufacturing and trade
- Rural communities
  - Stratified inside: *myōshū* > tenant > workers
  - Cultural developments: “monkey dance”
- Marginalized groups
  - *Eta* (‘much uncleanness’)
  - *Hinin* (‘non-people’)
    - Towards the era of “Warring States”

# Decline of Ashikaga Rule

- Reliance on *shugo*
- 1441: shogun #6 assassinated
- Bakufu lose control of *shugo*
- *Shugo* remain in Kyoto



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