Japan: Its History And Culture - W. Scott Morton

If you ask a well-read individual, what is Japan's history and culture that you will discover a variety of information relating to the country's rich history, traditions, and cultural practices. This book aims to provide readers with a comprehensive overview of Japan's past and present, including its political, social, economic, and cultural aspects.

Japanese history and culture are vast and diverse, spanning over a thousand years. From the ancient Heian period to the modern era, Japan has undergone significant transformations, influenced by both internal and external factors.

This book is divided into several sections, each focusing on a specific aspect of Japan's history and culture. It begins with an introduction to Japan's geography, climate, and environment, followed by a brief history of the country's founding, including the establishment of the Yayoi culture and the introduction of Buddhism.

Next, the book delves into Japan's political history, from the rise of the Kamakura and Ashikaga shoguns to the Meiji Restoration and the modernization of the country. It also covers Japan's involvement in World War II and the subsequent post-war period, discussing the country's political and economic reconstruction.

The cultural section explores Japan's traditional arts and crafts, such as calligraphy, ikebana, and tea ceremony, as well as its contemporary culture, including manga, anime, and video games. The book also highlights Japan's contributions to the global economy, such as its technological advancements and export-oriented economy.

Overall, Japan: Its History And Culture - W. Scott Morton is an excellent resource for anyone interested in learning more about Japan's rich history and culture. It provides a comprehensive and accessible overview of the country's past and present, making it an ideal read for students and general readers alike.

Japan: Its History And Culture - W. Scott Morton

In this enlightening book, Japan's history and culture are brought to life through a rich tapestry of historical events and cultural practices. The book begins with an overview of Japan's geography and natural resources, setting the stage for an exploration of the country's complex history.

Throughout the book, the author delves into Japan's political history, tracing the development of its imperial system from its origins to the modern era. The book also covers Japan's involvement in World War II, examining the country's role in the war and its impact on its citizens and the world.

The cultural section of the book is particularly compelling, exploring Japan's unique traditions and practices, from its art and literature to its food and fashion. The author also highlights Japan's contemporary culture, including its role in global pop culture and its contributions to the global economy.

Overall, Japan: Its History And Culture - W. Scott Morton is an engaging and informative read that provides a comprehensive overview of Japan's history and culture. It is an excellent resource for anyone interested in learning more about this fascinating country.
A Brief History of Japan

This fascinating history tells the story of the people of Japan, from ancient teenage priest-queens to teeming hordes of salarymen, a nation that once sought to conquer China, yet also shut itself away for two centuries in self-imposed seclusion.

First revealed to Westerners in the chronicles of Marco Polo, Japan was a legendary faraway land defended by a fearsome Kamikaze storm and ruled by a divine sovereign. It was the terminus of the Silk Road, the furthest end of the known world, a fertile source of inspiration for European artists, and an enduring symbol of the mysterious East.

Recently, it has become a powerhouse of global industry, a nexus of popular culture, and a harbinger of post-industrial decline. With intelligence and wit, author Jonathan Clements blends documentary and storytelling styles to connect the past, present, and future of Japan, and in broad yet detailed strokes reveals a country of paradoxes: a modern nation steeped in ancient traditions; a democracy with an emperor as head of state; a famously safe society built on 108 volcanoes resting on the world's most active earthquake zone; and a fast-paced urban and technologically advanced society where local communities are part of the national fabric.

Among the chapters in this Japanese history book are:

- The Way of the Gods: Prehistoric and Mythical Japan
- A Game of Thrones: Minamoto vs. Taira
- Time Warp: 200 Years of Isolation
- The Stench of Butter: Restoration and Modernization
- The New Breed: The Japanese Miracle

Japan

The emergence of Japan as a political and economic global power has been one of the most remarkable success stories of modern history. Though small in geographic area, the archipelago is the tenth most populous country, with 128 million inhabitants crowded into an area the size of Montana. Its natural resources are almost nonexistent, yet today it ranks only second after the much larger United States as the most affluent and economically productive nation in the world. Its rich cultural heritage and high-tech society are equally vibrant.

For all readers wanting to better understand this dynamic country, this popular and accessible introduction offers an authoritative yet concise overview of two thousand years of Japanese history. Now fully updated to the present, this edition also includes an array of photographs and illustrations. The first half of the book explores the pre-Meiji era up to 1868. The second half traces domestic changes and relevant foreign issues in the modernizing era launched by the Meiji Restoration. Highlighting key historical events, Milton W. Meyer also includes cultural, artistic, and religious milestones. Summaries and datelines at the end of each chapter, as well as a glossary, offer additional essential reference points. With its clear explanations of Japanese traditions, religion, history, economics, politics, and relations with the West, this book provides an indispensible guide for understanding contemporary Japan.

Korean Impact on Japanese Culture

This book probes into subjects still frowned upon in Tokyo; it explores a few “skeletons in the imperial closet.” A half century ago this subject brought authors to prison or death. Using tools such as archaeology, stylistic analysis, Japan’s sacred scriptures themselves, its imperial line is here traced back to Korean origins, its legitimacy established by an iron sword from Paekche kept inaccessible at Iso-no-Kami with a gold inscription, which dates Japan’s founding ruler from 369 A.D., rather than orthodoxy’s widely held 660 B.C. “Japanese culture,” up to the eighth century, derived primarily from Korean society; it was later strengthened by contacts from Korea, China, and eventually Europe. The result is a fascinating, truly Japanese “national treasure” of Japan before Japan became a world power under European influence.

Forms of the Body in Contemporary Japanese Society, Literature, and Culture

Using analytical tools from a wide spectrum of disciplines, this edited collection analyzes the role of the body in contemporary Japanese society, literature, and culture. The contributors explore the body as a site of transformation, growth, creativity, and personal identity.