

CHAPTER
19

Section 3

CONNECTIONS ACROSS TIME AND CULTURES

The Breakdown of Feudal Society

THEMATIC CONNECTION:
ECONOMICS

Many of the changes that took place in Japanese society under the Tokugawa Shogunate mirrored those that took place in medieval Europe. You read about these changes in Chapter 14. Compare the transformations of both societies by answering the questions that follow.

1. The Crusades contributed to the breakdown of Europe's feudal system. What brought about the end of the old feudal society in Japan? _____

2. In medieval Europe, better farming methods caused a spurt of population growth. How did changes in farming affect population growth in Tokugawa society? _____

3. In Europe, as trade and finance expanded, towns grew and flourished. What caused the growth of towns and cities in Japan? _____

4. As towns and cities grew, there was a revival of learning and culture. How did culture under the Tokugawa Shogunate compare with the culture of medieval Europe? _____

5. The development of towns in medieval Europe led to a change in the order of society. How did the social structure of Japan compare with that of medieval Europe? _____

6. The introduction of the longbow in the Hundred Years' War marked the end of chivalry and medieval warfare in Europe. What effect did contact with Europeans have on Japanese warfare? _____

7. In general, what factors do you think spark great changes in society such as those experienced in medieval Europe and in Japan under the Tokugawa shoguns? _____
