

# CHRONOLOGY

## TIMELINE OF FEUDAL JAPAN

### PRE-SAMURAI HISTORY

#### ANCIENT PERIOD (TO 710)



THE LEGENDARY THREE-LEGGED CROW, YATAGARASU, GUIDES JIMMU-TENNO (711 B.C.-585 B.C.) AND HIS ARMY TO THE ENEMY'S CAMP IN YAMATO.

– "Emperor Jimmu" from the series *Stories from Nihonki* (Akiyama Buemon, 1891) by Ginko Adachi

**660 B.C.** -- Jimmu-tenno, great-great-great-grandson of the sun goddess Amaterasu, becomes 1st Emperor of Japan in Yamato.

**ca. 400** -- Wani, a legendary Chinese-Baekje scholar, transmits *Senji-mon* "Thousand Characters Scroll" (used to teach Chinese characters), along with ten books of *Analects* by Confucius, to Japan.

**Mid-6th century** -- Buddhism is introduced in Japan. Seong of Baekje, one of the Three Kingdoms of Korea, sends a mission to Nara with several sutras and an image of Shakyamuni.

### NARA PERIOD (710-794)

**710** -- Imperial capital established at Heijo-kyo (present-day Nara) by Empress Genmei, patterned after the Tang China capital of Chang'an (present-day Xi'an).

**712** -- *Koji-ki* completed, the 1st compilation of Japanese history.

**720** -- *Nihon-ki* written, a collection of ancient chronicles of Japan.

**Mid-8th century** -- *Man'yoshu* compiled, 1st large collection of Japanese poetry.

**784** -- Emperor Kanmu moves the capital to Nagaoka-kyo (Yamashiro), an area with