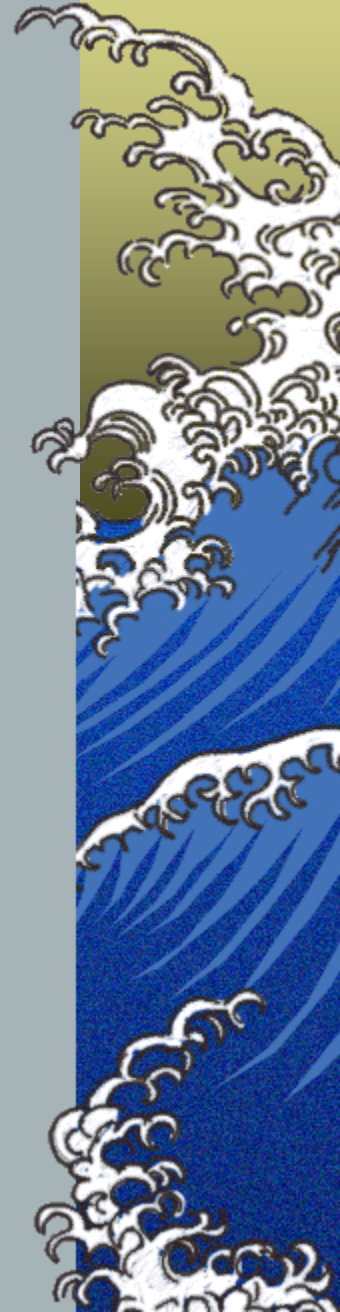


The human problem

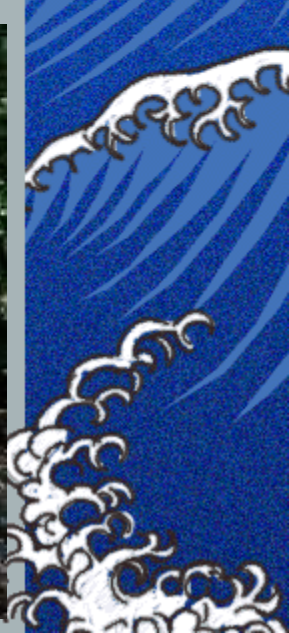
- ▶ *There is no sense of original sin in Shinto (as something inherited)*
- ▶ *There is a sense of moral evil (as opposed to natural evil)*
- ▶ *Evil is an intruder from outside; it does not belong here*



- ▶ *The human problem is defilement or “pollution” (impurities)*
 - ▶ *The sacredness which we have received from the kami has become clouded over*
- ▶ *Some causes of trouble:*
 - ▶ *Thoughts/motivations/actions which may release dangerous kami potency*
 - ▶ *Pride*
 - ▶ *Careless speech*
 - ▶ *The displeasure of the gods/ancestors/kami (don't neglect, be loyal, keep them informed and make offerings)*
 - ▶ *A failure to measure up to our greatest capacity in relation to our ancestors, family, nation, and descendants (Confucian filial piety)*

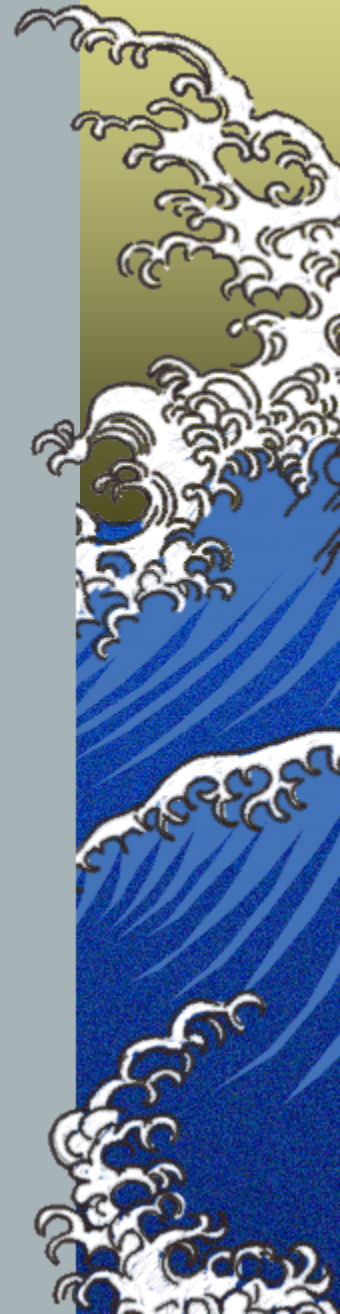
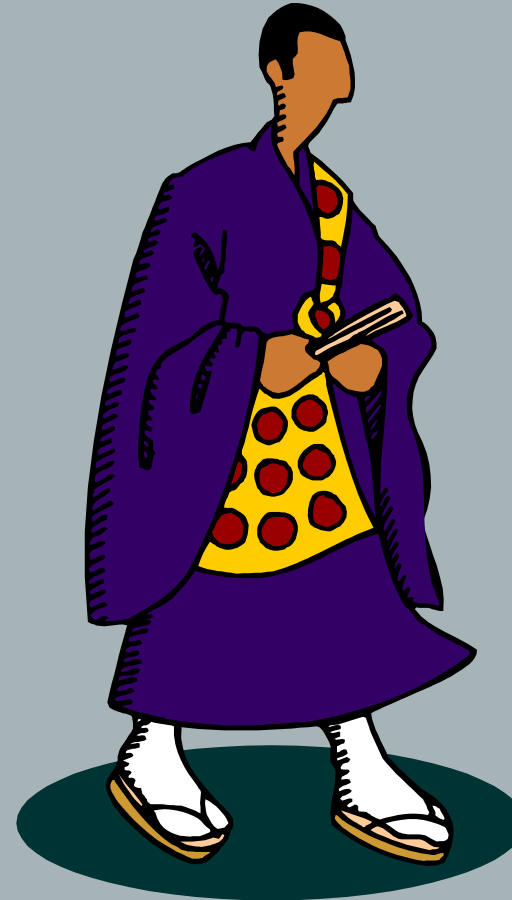


- ▶ *Defilement or pollution calls for ritual purification (based on the creation myth)*
- ▶ *Ceremonial purification is of utmost importance*
 - ▶ *Water, sacred sakaki tree, haraigushi (wooden pole with strips of white paper)*



Worship and Respect of Ancestors

- *Absolute loyalty to family/ancestors is very important.*
- *Tradition and the family are still important. The elder son is often responsible for elderly parents*
- *The main celebrations in Shinto relate to birth and marriage, through which family traditions are preserved.*



✦ *Shinto emphasizes a worshipful attitude toward nature, and toward the beauty of nature*

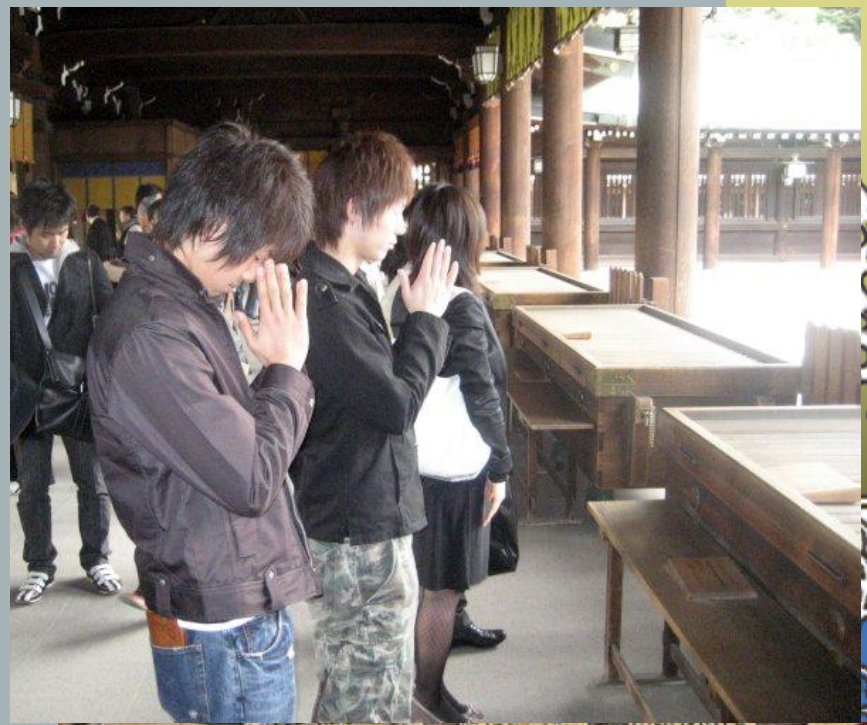


Shinto Shrines

- *Followers build shrines to specific kami or spirit.*
- *When entering a shrine, you pass through a tori or gate.*
- *This gate is the gateway to the gods. It symbolizes leaving the finite world for the infinite world.*



- *Inside the shrine, believers wash hands and rinse out mouths to purify themselves.*
- *They pray, make requests, and make offerings.*



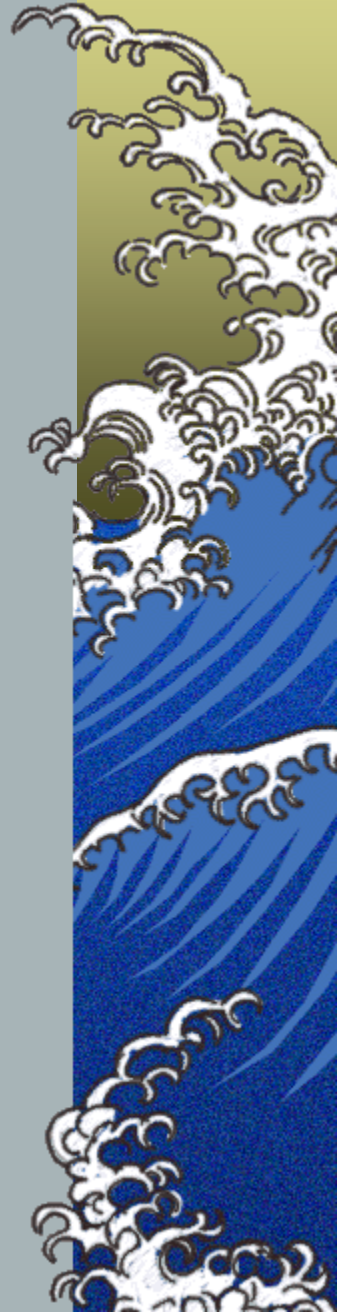
SHINTO SHRINES



SUMO



Shintoism is very open and
therefore, can mix with other
philosophies



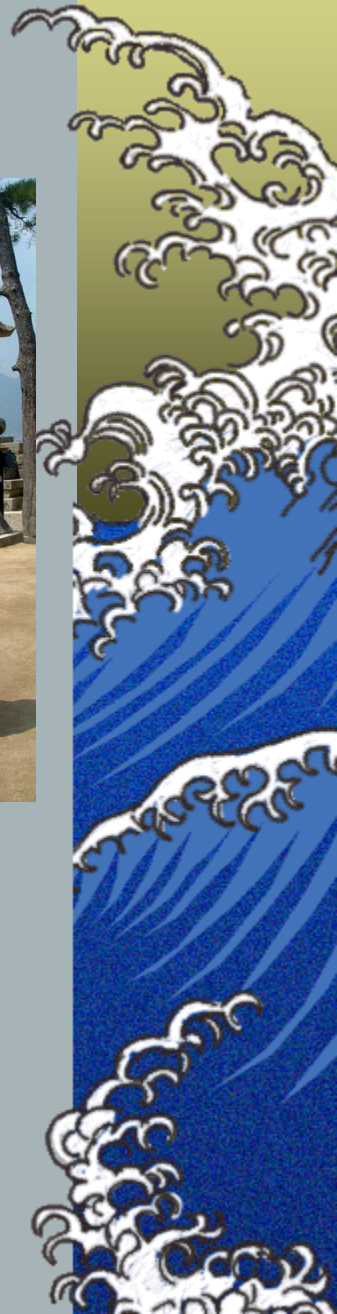
Shinto Wedding



Shinto Wedding



Buddhist Funeral



Japan Borrowed from Chinese Buddhist Traditions



