

Exploring the Religions of Our World YouTube Videos

Chapter 8: Japanese Religions

Chapter 8: Section 1

Japanscape by Empty Mind Films

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-nVYFxZ2xb0>

Time: 4:17

Footage of modern Japanese culture set to music. A good introductory clip to activate prior knowledge and generate questions.

Shinto Documentary – Part 1

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f-mYBmwQ4cc>

Time: 7:14

A documentary introducing core beliefs and origins of Shintoism, the Shinto creation story interwoven with Japan's national origins, and kami.

Buddhist Chanting – Nothing but Everything (Japanese)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2rZNSqS-aw>

Time: 7:43

Japanese Buddhist monks (Shingon Buddhism) chant while calming natural scenes play. Instrumental music added at 2:00. Only a sampling of the video need be watched.

Day in the Life of a Zen Monk – EmptyMind Films

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6pllQ_-ZxEA

Time 4:54

A professionally made video glimpsing daily spiritual and practical life at a Soto Zen monastery and featuring the practice of zazen.

Chapter 8: Section 3

Japan, Kami: The Gods of Shinto

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iOynXOWvkU8>

Time: 2:01

Summary of Kami and featuring of Shinto pilgrimage route.

Butsudan Ritual

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4DqZyZnCPnw>

Time: 1:52

A Japanese woman venerates her ancestors at a butsudan in her home. (A firetruck disrupts the video at about 1:15; it may be stopped before this point.)

Chapter 8: Section 4

Japanese New Year Words in 2010

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rXXLcaFuNyU>

Time: 1:25

An introduction to essential elements of Japanese New Year through Japanese vocabulary and pictures.

Mini Moni – Hina Matsuri

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifLu7N0jCeU>

Time: 3:44

A modern-day video for Hina Matsuri.

N.Y./Region: The Art of Kimono Dressing – NY Times.com/Video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cU56dmikzyU>

Time: 5:07

A video detailing the complicated art of kimono dressing.

Japanese Families Face Children's Day

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tdMzPNCGqAE>

Time: 2:32

A news feature about the celebration of Children's Day in light of the tragic earthquake and tsunami in Kesennuma, Japan. The tone is very sad.

Japan Kindergarten Koinobori Carp Streamers

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sfcwb09GiKY>

Time: 2:34

An amateur, but well-informed tourist shares footage of decorations for Boy's Day/Children's.

Chapter 8: Section 5

Learn Japanese Culture – How to Visit a Shinto Shrine

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f-mYBmwQ4cc>

Time: 4:15

A young Japanese man walks the viewer through the steps of visiting a Shinto Shrine. Important words are highlighted in English and Japanese. Video is in Japanese English subtitles.

Ise Jingu: Root of the sun.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rh9mi0J56sU>

Time: 2:29

Professional video footage of the Grand Shrine at Ise set to music, Japanese narration interspersed.