



TWILIGHT OF THE TOKUGAWA SHOGUNATE, 1837

How does peace, prosperity, and power turn into strife, stagnation, and subjugation?

The zenith of the Edo Period has passed and the Tokugawa Shogunate is approaching an impending twilight to its centuries long rule over the Japanese Archipelago as it faces great internal and external challenges. General dissatisfaction toward Bakufu-Shogunate rule ripens uprisings. The samurai and ronin, warrior hallmarks of the era, begin to dissociate from their 'weakened' rulers. Western imperial powers threaten to pry Japan open as they did with neighboring China. The traditionally dormant Emperor reawakens to restore long forgotten powers. Do not expect peace. Do not expect prosperity. Do expect a struggle for power.

BACKGROUND GUIDE



KIMIKA PADILLA
CHAIR

Kimika Padilla is a second year majoring in Environmental Studies and Public Policy. She is involved with the Energy Policy Institute on campus, the Quest Scholars Network...oh yeah, and an activity called Model UN. She staffed the Tamil Students League committee at ChoMUN XX and is excited to Chair the Twilight of the Tokugawa committee at ChoMUN XXI.

Born near Tokyo, Kimika loves Japanese history and culture. She moved to the United States when she was two, and speaks (or rather, doesn't speak) lamentably bad Japanese. She spends all her money on traveling, and plans to return to Japan for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics. In her free time, she likes to hit the gym, get down on the dance floor, and listen to NPR One.

Feel free to slide into her inbox at kimika@uchicago.edu. Please limit all communications to serious inquiries, memes, or podcast recommendations.



DAVID ZHAO
CRISIS DIRECTOR

David Zhao is a second year in the College, majoring in History, Philosophy, and the Social Studies of Science and Medicine (HIPS), minoring in Biology, and hailing from Chicago. Last year, he staffed the Dawn of Republican China at ChoMUN XX and DISEC at MUNUC XXIX. He is currently the chair of the United Nations Human Rights Council for MUNUC 30 and also travels with UChicago's competitive team. Whatever time is leftover outside of Model UN, David spends researching metabolic disorders in a lab, volunteering for UCEMS (UChicago's Emergency Medical Service), scaring away prospective students, and still turning in homework assignments on time like the punctual student he claims he is. David would like everyone to know that he is open to any and all questions about the committee he is so enthusiastic to help run. You can start a strictly platonic relationship with him by emailing davidxyz@uchicago.edu.



MARISSA MONTOYA
CRISIS DIRECTOR

Marissa Montoya is a fourth year student in the College, majoring in Physics and Economics. Originally from Long Island, New York, she is proud to call Chicago her new home. This will be her third ChoMUN, after staffing the Vikings and Philip Morris committees. She will be one of the Crisis Directors to guide you through the (potential) fall of the Tokugawa shogunate. Outside of Model UN, she's involved with the Energy Policy Institute, the Engineering Society, and is proud to announce herself as Co-Chief Enthusiast for the Society of Lawn Sports Enthusiasts. She also enjoys reading, soccer, rewatching John Oliver clips, and pretending she'll actually follow through on an exercise routine.

Feel free to contact her with any questions at marissanoelle@uchicago.edu. Extra points if it's in code or a runic language.

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