

## Ugetsu Monogatari and Sixteenth-Century Japan

### I. Period of “National Unification” (1568–1600)

#### A. “Ieyasu ate the pie that Nobunaga made and Hideyoshi baked”

1. Oda Nobunaga (1534–1582)
2. Hideyoshi (1536–1598)
3. Tokugawa Ieyasu (1543–1616)

#### B. Social Structure (in order of prestige)

1. Samurai
2. Peasants
3. Artisans
4. Merchants

### II. The Film

#### A. Director: Kenji Mizoguchi (1898–1956)

1. *Shinpa* (New School)
2. Ueda Akinari (1734–1809)
  - a. “Asagi ga yado” (“The House Amid the Thickets”)
  - b. “Jasei no in” (“The Lust of the White Serpent”)
3. Guy de Maupassant (1850–1893)  
“La Decoration” (“How He Got the Legion of Honor”)

#### B. Time: Early Spring 1583

1. Sons of Oda Nobunaga: Nobutada; Nobutaka; and Nobukatsu
2. Grandson: Sambōshi (son of Nobutada)
3. Vassals included
  - a. Toyotomi Hideyoshi
  - b. Niwa Nagahide
  - c. Shibata Katsuie
  - d. Matsudaira Takechiyo, a.k.a. Motonobu, a.k.a. Motoyasu, a.k.a. Ieyasu, a.k.a. Tokugawa Ieyasu