

Karlo Kimer, univ.bacc. paed. et. univ.bacc. hist.
Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

THE GEMPEI WAR IN JAPAN FROM 1180 TO 1185

Summary

The theme of this paper is a historical overview of the first and comprehensive civil war in the history of Japan. It is a war of the Gempei, which was fought from 1180 until 1185. The aim of this paper is to explain what the political situation was during the reign of emperors and why a warrior class emerged, which began to act as a potential political alternative to the imperial ritsuryo system. Furthermore, the aim is also to present the main two participants in the civil war, the Tair and Minamoto clans, as well as provide an overview of the course of the civil war. At that time, the Civil War fundamentally changed Japan, therefore, the aim is to explain how the process of the emergence of a new political system that would mark the history of Japan over almost 700 years has evolved, a shogunate.

Keywords: shogunate; warrior class; civil war; feudalization; militarization; 12th century