

- 11 Assess the impact that ONE change has had on ONE tradition in a country you have studied.

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In Japan, since the end of World War 2, the tradition of living under the rule of the local daimyo (war lord) has completely ceased.

This is mostly due to the Western occupation at the end of the war, which brought with it rapid industrialisation and Westernisation. Formerly feudal peasants were either removed from their traditional land, or voluntarily flocked to the city, seeking the prosperity industrialisation promised.

Those who stayed behind to live in the country continued to exist as subsistence farmers, eating what they have grown themselves.

A new trend, however, is a resurgence of interest in the countryside as a residential location, as the main cities of Japan become more and more overcrowded, making a return to traditional ways of life desirable.