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- Chiang Kai-shek (anti-communist) receives support from U.S.
- Communists are led by Mao Zedong
- Both sides fight against Japan during World War II.
- Anti-Communist forces defeated and forced to Taiwan
- Promise of land reform makes Communists popular; nationalists ignore issue.

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Before the People's Republic



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War leads to economic exploitation without political takeover



- British concessions: immunity from prosecution, low tariffs, port cities
- Other Western nations force similar treaties
- "Spheres of influence"-countries get areas for ports, preferential treatment.

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*Through 1800s, China
interacts with West on
own terms.*



- Long history of contact (2000+ years)
- Chinese demand silver for luxury goods

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*Drugs: opium – product
chosen to correct trade
imbalance*



- Made from poppies, highly addictive
- Purchased in India, sold in China at high mark-up
- Triangle of trade: acquisition of luxury goods without silver drain
- Chinese government tries to prohibit trade
- The British force acceptance – defeat China in Opium Wars (1839-42, 1856-60)

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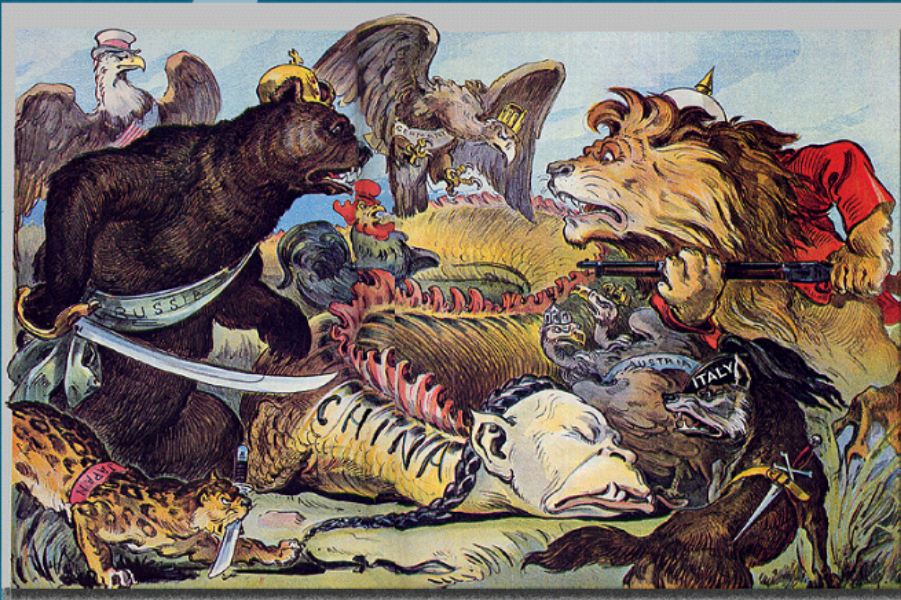
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*Indirect imperialism
results in collapse of the
Chinese government*



- Qing dynasty ruled from 1644-1912
- Imperialism undermined government
- Emperor resigns after rebellion in 1912

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*1912-1949: Struggle between
communist and anti-communist
(nationalist) forces*



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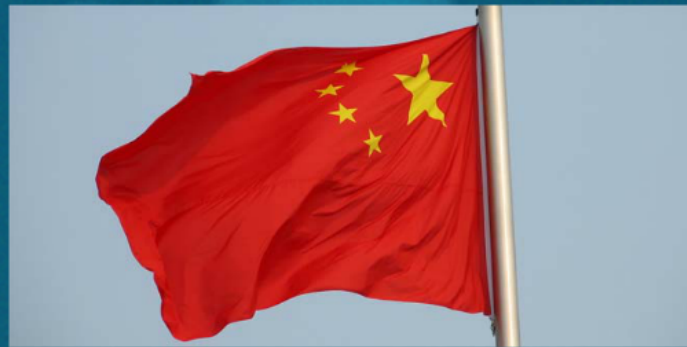
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Government tries to stabilize economy, promote communist policies (1949-1958)



- Land transfer: peasants - "landlord" class gone
- Gradual nationalization of businesses
- Five-year plans (1953-1958) to develop industry

The People's Republic (1949-Present)



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Mao Zedong launches 'Great Leap Forward' (1958-1961)



- Mao Zedong's idea: "let the people's warms steam up the country"
- Great Leap Forward: people asked to produce steel but with just backyard furnaces
- Economic disaster: "Great Leap Forward" failed, caused the "Great Famine"
- 1960-1962: 45 million people died as a result of the famine

Mao Zedong launches the 'Great Cultural Revolution' (1966-1976)



- Launched against "capitalist roaders" inside outside the government
- Started by groups of Chinese teenagers (Red Guards)
- Traditional culture, habits, ideas suspect (and anyone with an education) e.g. scholars, cultural objects destroyed, schools closed, cultural people exiled
- Revolution dies down in early 1970s, ends after Mao's death in 1976

Contemporary Issues



- Aggression in the South China Sea
- String of Pearls Theory
- Hong Kong 'Umbrella' protests of 2014
- Taiwan
- US Tariffs, 2018

Chinese Leaders have rejected democratic reforms (1976-Present)



- People want free elections and individual rights (e.g. freedom of speech, press)
- Movement peaks in May-June 1989 - Democracy in Tiananmen Square
- Government crackdown: thousands killed, government

Chinese leaders adopt capitalist policies to support development (1976-Present)



- Changing Mindset
- Mao Zedong - "Politics is the command" (communist principles determine government policy)
- Deng Xiaoping - "It does not matter whether a cat is black or white as long as it catches mice" (adopt capitalist principles if they work)