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-Confucianism - A conservative philosophy that based society around an ordered hierarchy of harmonious relationships.  
• Not a religion (does not deal with afterlife)

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## Back in the Past!

- Ancient China was one of the strongest, richest empires in existence
- Dynastic Cycles - Long periods of rule by a family punctuated by times of "chaos," when the family lost its power and was challenged by a new, and ultimately successful, ruling dynasty.
- Mandate of Heaven - Legitimacy of rulers based upon divine approval.
- Confucianism - A conservative philosophy that based society around an ordered hierarchy of harmonious relationships.
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## Before the People's Republic of China

- Revolution of 1911
- 1911 The last dynasty, Qing, falls
- 1912 The Chinese Republic is formed but, it does not restore order or sovereignty to China and collapses
  - Led to four decades of political upheaval and continuous warfare mainly due to struggle for National Sovereignty
- 1920's National Party (Kuomintang) and army become a prominent political and military force.
- Sun Yat Sen:
  - A leader of the Chinese Revolution against the Qing
  - First leader of the National Party
  - Three Principles of the People: Freedom, Democracy, and Welfare
- Chiang Kai-shek:
  - Commander-in-Chief of the National Revolutionary Army
  - Massacre of Communists
  - Moved the government to Taiwan

## Before People's Republic of China (cont.)

-1921 Chinese Communist Party

- Helped by Communist International (Comintern)

-1927 Civil War occurs between these two parties

-1934-35 Long March (Communist military retreat)

-1937-45 Second Sino-Japanese War

- Greatly weakened the Nationalists and strengthened the Communists

1949 Communist rise as the victors

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There are three periods:

- 1) 1949-1957: Communist state based on Russia (Comintern)
- 2) 1958-1978: Chinese introduce their own model of revolutionary development, breaking away from the Soviets.
- 3) 1978-Present: Rejected the ideological constraints of Maoism

## The First Period 1949-1957

1949 - Mao Zedong formally inaugurated the People's Republic of China (PRC)

1950 - Alliance with the Soviet Union

1957 - Hundred Flowers Campaign: invited nonparty intellectuals to voice criticism of the communist system.

- Anti-Rightist Campaign
- Led to half a million people persecuted
- Silenced political opposition for 20 years.

1958 - Great Leap Forward: abandoned most material rewards for moral incentives.

- People's communes
- Set output targets incredibly high
- If targets were not met it was due to poor leadership

1959-62 - 27 million people died in the famine

## The Second Period 1958-1978

- Mao further develops his government

1964-76 - Red Book: collection of quotations from Mao Zedong, all people were required to have and read this book.

### Cultural Revolution 1966-1976

- A power struggle, ideological battle, and a mass campaign to transform culture
- Impact on society was devastating
- Chinese could freely organize politically and thus began to persecute its leaders.
- Mao tried to suppress opposition

### 1969 - Red Guard

- Mostly young people and students
- Attacked "Four Olds" of Chinese Society (old customs, culture, habits, and ideas), arrested over 22,000 "counterrevolutionaries" and killed many people.

1969 - Mao called in army

1976 - Mao dies



## Theories of the New Government

Maoism - A form of communism, endorsed centralized power exercised through the top leaders of the party. Stressed the importance of staying connected to the peasants through a process called:

Mass Line - Required leaders to listen to and communicate with the common people, and without it the legitimacy of rulers was questionable.

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