

## **REFORM EFFORTS IN CHINA**

Mid 1800s ÷ over the need to reform China

- imperial court was full of conservatives
- reformers want to adopt Western ways

1860s-reformers launch the **SELF STRENGTHENING MOVEMENT**

- imported western technology
- built shipyards-RR-mines
- set up factories to make modern weapons
- translated western works on science/govt/eco
- \*\*little progress b/c the government didn't support it\*\*
- \*\*at the same time western nations were gaining more power\*\*

## **SINO JAPANESE WAR**

- the island nation of Japan modernized rapidly after 1868
- joined the western imperialists in competition for a global empire

### **1894-SINO-JAPANESE WAR**

- Japan easily defeated China
- Japan gains Korea & the island of Taiwan
- when the two sides met for the peace treaty the Japanese were wearing western style clothing & the Chinese were in traditional robes

### **\*this crushing defeat revealed China's weakness\***

- other Western nations begin to carve out spheres of influence for themselves
- Britain-France-Germany-Russia

- the U.S. feared European nations might shut out American merchants
- 1899-called for an **OPEN DOOR POLICY** in China
- keep Chinese trade open to all on an equal basis

Defeated by Japan & humiliated by the West Chinese reformers looked for a scapegoat

- blamed conservatives for not modernizing China
- argued that Confucius was even a reformer
- can't continue to look to the past but modernize like Japan

1898-launched the **Hundred Days of Reform**

- conservatives crushed the reform movement

## **FALL OF THE QING DYNASTY**

1900-China in turmoil & anger increasing against foreigners

- angered at the presence of foreign troops
- especially resented Christian missionaries who showed little respect for Chinese traditions & Confucius ideas
- foreigners were protected by extraterritoriality
- they ignored Chinese laws
- lived in their own communities

Anti-foreign anger finally exploded in the **BOXER UPRISING**

1899-some Chinese peasants formed a secret society called the **RIGHTEOUS HARMONIOUS FISTS**

**GOAL**-drive the foreigners out of China

- attacked & killed foreigners across China
- the Western powers & Japan formed a multi-national force & crushed the rebellion
- forced China to make even more concessions

**\*\*Now even China's conservatives realized that China needed to westernize\*\***

**The Boxer Rebellion failed but it was successful in spreading nationalism throughout the country**

- reformers want a constitutional monarchy
- some even wanted a republic

**SUN YIXIAN** (SUN YAT-SEN) known as the father of modern China

- young radical formed the REVOLUTIONARY ALLIANCE
- wanted to rebuild China on the **3 Principles of the People**

1.

2.

3.

1908-empress Ci Xi dies→a two year old boy inherits the throne

1911-Sun & his followers start an **uprising** which quickly spreads throughout China with the help of peasants, students, local warlords, & even politicians

1912-the emperor abdicates→the **end of the Qing dynasty**-ending China's 2,000 year old monarchy

→Sun Yixian becomes **president** of the new **Chinese republic** but made little progress

**The new Chinese republic faced many problems**

- constantly at war with itself and dealing with foreign invaders
- most of the Chinese people felt more loyalty to their family/clan than to the nation
- 1912 Sun Yixian steps down as president in favor of a **powerful general YUAN SHIKAI**
  - hoped Yuan could create a strong central government
  - instead he tried to set up a new dynasty

1916-Yuan Shikai dies→China is in even greater chaos & disorder

- local warlords seize power in the provinces resulting in rival armies battling for control
  - the economy collapsed
  - famine
  - peasants suffered

**During this period of upheaval & chaos foreign nations increased their influence in China**

- dominated port cities & extended their influence inland
- During WWI Japanese officials presented China with the **Twenty-One Demands**
  - list of demands that sought to make China a Japanese protectorate
  - China too weak to resist→give in to some of the demands

**1919-Paris Peace Conference**

- the Allies gave Japan control over some former German possessions in China
- increasing Japan's control over China

In response-May 4<sup>th</sup>,1919 **student protests** erupted in Beijing & spread across China

- organized **boycotts** of Japanese goods & businesses
- these protests →set off a cultural & intellectual movement-the **MAY FOURTH MOVEMENT**

**Goal -strengthen China**

- blamed the imperialists' success on China's weakness
- Chinese reformers wanted to learn from the West & use that knowledge to end foreign domination
- many begin to favor western science & ideas like democracy & nationalism
  - women played a key role in the movement campaigning to end traditional practices like footbinding
  - wanted to open doors for women in education & the economy

## **CHINESE COMMUNISM IS BORN**

Some Chinese turned to the **revolutionary ideas of Marx & Lenin**

-the **Russian Revolution** offered a model of how a strong, well-organized party could transform a nation

→Soviet Union trained Chinese students & military officers to become the elite leaders of the communist revolution

→by 1920s a small group of Chinese communists formed a political party

1921-Sun Yixian & the **Guomindang** also known as the **Nationalist Party** established a government in S. China

→Sun planned to raise an army→defeat the warlords→unite China

1925-Sun Yixian dies→**Jiang Jieshi (Chiang Kai-shek)** takes over

-has little interest in democracy or communism

1927-Jiang sees the communists as a threat to his power

-orders the Guomindang to slaughter communist party members→thousands killed

**\*\*the massacre marked the beginning of a bitter civil war between the communists & the Guomindang lasting 22 years\*\***

Among the communists that escaped Jiang's attack was a young revolutionary-**Mao Zedong**

-earlier Chinese communists wanted to seek support from the small urban working class

but **Mao** wanted to **gain support** from the **large peasant population**

**Jiang Jieshi was determined to destroy the "red bandits"**

→led the Guomindang in a series of extermination campaigns against them

→Mao along with 100,000 of his followers fled the Guomindang in an epic retreat known as the LONG MARCH

1934-35-trekked more than 6,000 miles facing daily attacks as they crossed rugged mountains & raging rivers

-only about 20,000 survived

**During the Long March Mao enforced strict discipline**

-treat peasants politely -pay for goods they wanted -avoid damaging any crops

→

**For decades the Long March stood as a symbol of communist heroism**

→**inspired new recruits to follow Mao**

-at the end of the Long March the communists set up a new base in a remote region in northern China

→there Mao built up his forces & plotted new strategies for fighting the Guomindang

**China Faces Japanese Imperialism**

While Jiang was pursuing the communists across China the country faced another danger

1931-**Japan** invaded **Manchuria** in Northern China

→as Japanese aggression increased some of Jiang's generals pushed him to form a united front with the communists against Japan