The Communist Revolution: 1946 - 1949
The Peoples’ Liberation Army, 1949
Taiwan or (Taiwan Province): The Republic of China (Where the Guomindang fled to...)
Jiang Jieshi (1887-1975)
The People’s Republic of China: declared in 1949
Reasons for Communist Success

Mao won support of peasants – land

Mao won support of women

Mao’s army used guerilla war tactics

The Nationalist government was corrupt

The Nationalists allowed foreigners to dominate China.
The Great Leap Forward
1958-1961
Great Leap Forward, 1958

- 5 year plan to increase agriculture and industry

- Communes
  - Groups of people who live and work together
  - Property held in common
  - Production quotas

- Failed due to poor planning, quality of products, poor weather hurt agriculture
China Under Mao

- Industrialized China
- Increased literacy
- Class privileges ended
- Rural Chinese received health care
- Women gained equal rights
The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution
1966 - 1976
A Campaign Against the “FOUR OLDS”

► Old Thoughts
► Old Culture
► Old Customs
► Old Habits
China Under Mao

► Designed to renew revolutionary spirit and establish a more equitable society
► Mao wanted to put “intellectuals” in their place
► Schools shut down – students revolted
► Red Guards – students who attacked professors, government officials, factory managers
A Red Guard
Red Guards
Cult of Personality
Propaganda Poster
Go among the workers, peasants and soldiers, and into the thick of struggle!
1967-1972
Propaganda Poster
Propaganda Poster
Propaganda Poster
“Ping-Pong Diplomacy”:
U. S. Players at Great Wall,
1971
Mao Meets President Nixon, 1972
Power Struggle Upon the Death of Mao in 1976: Reformist Victory

Reformists: Open China to the world

U.S. President Nixon and Zhou Enlai

Maoists: Continue the class struggle and revolution
Communist State; Capitalist Economy
Deng Xiaoping (1905-1997)
De-Maoization

“The 4 Modernizations”
Progress in:

- Agriculture
- Industry
- Science
- Defense

Class struggle was no longer the central focus
GROWING Gap Between Rich & Poor

Deng: If you open a window, some flies naturally get in!
Tiananmen Square protests of 1989


- Led mainly by students and intellectuals, the protests occurred in the year that was to see the collapse of a number of communist governments in eastern Europe.

- The protests were sparked by the death of Hu Yaobang, a Communist Party official known for tolerating dissent, and whom protesters had wanted to mourn. By the eve of Hu's funeral, 100,000 people had gathered at Tiananmen Square.

- The protests lacked a unified cause or leadership; participants were generally against the government's authoritarianism and called for economic change and democratic reforms.
Tiananmen Square, 1989

Calls for democracy
Tiananmen Square, 1989

Student activist, Wang Dan, Beijing University
Tiananmen Square, 1989
Tiananmen Square, 1989

One Lone Man’s Protest
Tiananmen Square, 1989

The People’s Army Moves In
Student Leaders Are Arrested
Three phases in China’s economy reform 1979-present
FIRST PHASE (1979-1985)

Agriculture reform: from commune production to household responsibility system:

• Farmland is still owned by the public.

Production and management given to individual farming households. Farmers pay taxes in-kind and keep surplus produce for themselves to sell in local markets.

The system increased agricultural output, and much rural labor was released to enter village-run factories and township enterprises.
The first phase (1979-1985) (cont’)
The establishment of special economic zones

Zones that offer tax incentives for foreign investors, and greater opportunity for international trade.

These incentives target export markets using low cost Chinese labor.
The second phase (early 80s to mid 90s)

Rapid development of rural industry: the township and village enterprises (TVEs)

• TVEs increased rural incomes, and absorbed rural labor released from farms.

• TVEs helped transform the economy from a planned economy to a market economy
The third phase (mid 90s to present) Expansion of exports

Exports and Imports (Share of GDP)
Poverty remains a challenge

Number of absolute poor in rural China, 1978-1999

Contemporary Communist party-state

Guardianship:

• The Party represents the historical best interests of the people

• The “people’s democratic dictatorship” allows no organized opposition to party leadership
Recent Presidents of the People's Republic of China

Jiang Zemin 1989 - 2002
(He followed Deng Xiaoping)

Hu Jintao 2002 – 2013

Xi Jinping -- present