World History 1450 to Present B

**Unit 5: Asia Since 1945**

**Unit Summary:** In this unit, you will learn about the events that occurred in Asia since 1945.

At this time, changing worldviews shaped how societies interacted with each other. Global interdependence caused the world to be more connected than ever. It also caused old systems of power to collapse and new systems of power to rise.

WWII ended in 1945. With its end came a large reorganization of the world’s borders and systems of governance. This included events like the Chinese Civil War, the Communist Revolution, and the rise of Mao Zedong’s government. During Mao’s rule, events, like the Great Leap Forward, the Cultural Revolution, and the events at Tiananmen Square, changed China’s society forever.

India gaining independence from British rule caused another reorganization of systems of governance. Mahatma Gandhi was one of the leaders of this revolution. His tactics of civil disobedience inspired other independence movements.

The Cold War also affected the continent. It influenced proxy conflicts in Korea and Vietnam, and the rise in nationalism in the region. People also committed mass atrocities, like the genocide in Cambodia.

Despite these challenges, events, like the ending of the Cold War, showed that humanity kept moving forward and used its growing global interdependence for good.

**Unit Timeline:** This timeline provides *some* events included in this unit’s learning. The goal is to assist understanding chronologically.

* 1895 - Japan claimed the island of Taiwan
* 1901 - the Western powers ended the Boxer Rebellion
* 1906 – British proposed a registration of all Indians in the country
* 1911 - the Chinese government went from having an emperor as a leader to having a president
* 1911 – last dynasty of China, the Qing, ended
* 1911 – Chinese Republic founded
* 1915 – Gandhi returned to India
* 1916 – Chinese Republic ended
* 1917 - the Bolsheviks seized power in Russia and deposed the czar
* May 4, 1919 – May Fourth Movement
* 1919 – British passed the Rowlatt Acts
* 1920-1922 – Noncooperative movement in India
* 1921 – Mao Zedong founded the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)
* 1923 – the KMT and CCP joined forces to defeat the warlords
* 1925 - Chiang Kai-shek became the political and military leader of China’s national party
* 1929 – Jawaharlal Nehru was the first president of the Indian National Congress Party
* 1931 - Japan invaded China
* 1937–1945 - The KMT and CCP fought as allies against the Japanese
* 1939 – start of WWII
* 1941 – Atlantic Charter signed
* 1943 - over 2 million Indians in the province of Bengal starved to death
* 1945-1949 – Chinese Revolution
* 1945 - Ho Chi Minh declared Vietnamese independence
* 1945 – WWII ended.
* 1945 - International Court of Justice was established
* 1947 – India gained its independence and the Indian Independence Act was passed
* 1947 - Truman persuaded the United Nations to take over Korea
* 1948 - UN passed a Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide
* 1948 - Sri Lanka gained independence from Britain
* 1948 - Union of Burma granted independence
* 1949 – Mao won Chinese Civil War
* 1949 - North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was formed
* 1949-1972 – China ruled by Mao Zedong as sole leader
* 1949-1975 - Chiang Kai-shek survived ruled Taiwan as sole leader
* 1950 – North Korea invaded South Korea
* 1950 - China became an ally of the Soviet Union
* February 7, 1950 - U.S. formally recognized the French-controlled government in South Vietnam as the legitimate government of Vietnam
* 1953 - North Korea and South Korea reached an armistice
* 1953 - France granted Cambodia independence
* 1954 - French Indochina War ended
* 1954 – Geneva Accords
* 1954 - Battle of Dien Bien Phu in Vietnam
* 1955 - U.S. began to train South Vietnamese forces
* 1955 - Nonaligned Movement started
* 1956 - Geneva Convention Peace Talks
* 1958 – Mao implemented the Great Leap Forward and created the Five-Year plan
* 1960 – Mao ended the Great Leap Forward program
* 1960 – Sharpeville Massacre
* 1961 – Berlin Wall
* 1962- General Ne Win staged a military coup and took control of Myanmar government
* 1962 - United Nations passed a resolution condemning apartheid
* 1965 – India and Pakistan at war
* 1966-1976 – Mao instituted the Cultural Revolution
* 1966-1977, 1980 – Indira Gandhi was prime minister of India
* 1968-1971 – China became a military dictatorship
* 1969 – Ho Chi Minh died
* 1970-1971 - India and Pakistan at war
* 1970 - devastating typhoon (hurricane) hit what is today the country of Bangladesh
* 1972 – Nixon visited China to improve economic relations
* 1973 - U.S. pulled its ground forces in Vietnam
* 1975 - North Vietnam defeated South Vietnam and united the country under communism
* 1975-1979 – Cambodian Genocide
* July 2, 1976 - Ho Chi Minh invaded Saigon
* 1976 - police fired into a crowd of 15,000 school children in who were protesting unequal education in the city of Soweto
* 1977 - the Khmer Rouge launched raids into Vietnam and killed thousands of Vietnamese civilians
* 1978 – Open Door Policy
* 1978 - North Vietnam invaded Cambodia
* 1979 – U.S. and China began a two-decade business partnership
* 1979 – China started the one-child policy
* July 1983 - Sri Lanka civil war known as Black July
* 1984 – Indira Gandhi was assassinated
* 1988 - widespread protests against Ne Win’s regime
* 1989 - The Tiananmen Square protest
* 1989 – Cape Town Peace March
* 1990 - Iraq invaded Kuwait
* 1991 - India’s economy grew at an average of over 6% a year for 25 years
* 1991 - a Tamil nationalist assassinated Rajiv Gandhi
* 2000 - China was the largest producer of steel and concrete in the world
* 2002-2004 - The Bharatiya Janata Party won control of the Indian government
* 2007 – Saffron Revolution
* 2014 - The Bharatiya Janata Party won back control of the Indian government under Narendra Modi’s leadership
* 2014 - China launched an anti-terrorism initiative aimed at stopping extremists, specifically targeting Muslim Uyghurs
* 2015 - Myanmar held free elections for the first time
* 2019 – Narendra Modi – elected prime minister again of India
* December 2021 - North and South Korea, the U.S., and China agreed to declare a formal end to the Korean war
* 2020 – China has the second largest GDP
* 2021 - the Myanmar military overthrew the democratic government and imprisoned Suu Kyi

**Lesson 2 – Rise of Chinese Communism**

**Objective 1:** Explain the causes and effects of the Chinese Civil War.

**Essential Question:** What were the major causes and effects of the Chinese Civil War?

**Big Ideas**: Although several people participated in the Chinese Civil War, there were two significant leaders. These leaders were Chiang Kai-shek and Mao Zedong. Chiang Kai-shek was the leader of the Chinese Nationalist Party, known as the Kuomintang (KMT). Mao Zedong was the leader of China’s Communist Party.

Events and causes that led to the Chinese Civil War:

* 1895 - Japan claimed the island of Taiwan.
* 1898 - Chinese Guangxu Emperor’s economic reforms focused on developing national budgets like Western countries were unsuccessful.
* 1901 - the Western powers ended the Boxer Rebellion.
* 1911 - the Chinese government went from having an emperor as a leader to having a president. Chinese Republic formed.
* 1916 – Chinese Republic ended. Warlords took control of China.
* 1923 - KMT and CCP joined forces to defeat the warlords. Chiang Kai-shek took control and became the leader of China. He created a new government and offered the CCP a place in the new government.
* 1927 - he went against his promise and pushed the Communists out of the government. They retreated to the countryside of China.

Chiang Kai-shek's betrayal was a key cause of the Chinese Civil War. Another cause was the government he made. Under Chiang’s government, the peasants, who made up nearly 90% of the population, got no benefits. This caused financial hardships for many Chinese people.

After a 4-year struggle, the CCP forces beat the KMT and gained control of China. In 1949 Mao Zedong became the sole leader of China. He was in power until his death in 1972. Chiang Kai-shek survived his defeat. He moved the remaining members of the KMT to Taiwan. He was the leader of Taiwan until his death in 1975. There were also many effects from the Chinese Civil War. Most of these effects still impact the world today.

Some effects include:

* Mass Casualties: About 5 million people died due to the Chinese Civil War.
* Organization of Government: The People’s Republic of China was founded on mainland China. The Republic of China was founded in Taiwan.
* Alliances: The alliance between China and the Soviet Union was broken. The U.S.’s pledge to protect Taiwan and other allies in the region has led to tension between China and the U.S. for over 70 years. This included conflicts in both the Korean War and the Vietnam War.
* Agriculture: Zedong implemented the Great Leap Forward in 1958. The Great Leap Forward was an economic and social program established by the CCP to transition China from an agrarian society to an industrialized society. This resulted in a major decline of agricultural output and was responsible for the deaths of millions due to starvation.
* Social and Political Movements: Mao Zedong instituted the Cultural Revolution in 1966. The Cultural Revolution was a social and political movement in China intended to purge capitalist, traditionalist, and Western elements from Chinese society. Mao’s goal was to remove “impure elements” from China to restore the revolutionary spirit from 1949. This movement resulted in the deaths of 1.5 million Chinese people, who did not follow the new order. It also resulted in the destruction of Chinese heritage sites and artifacts.

**Objective 2:** Analyze why the Chinese Civil War occurred and the triumph of the Communist Revolution.

**Essential Question:** Why did the Chinese Civil War and Communist Revolution occur?

**Big Ideas:**



The Chinese Civil War occurred due to the following reasons:

* Government corruption: Nationalist tax collectors used their position to take money from the poor.
* Economic discontent: Chiang Kai-shek’s decision to wage war against the Chinese Communist forces led to high taxes, inflation, and food shortages.
* Inadequate nationalist military: The Chinese Nationalist military was not under a central command.
* Government abuse: Censorship and the mistreatment of political opponents by Chiang caused people in the cities to fight for and support the communist side.
* WWII: The communist fighters gained experience and expertise fighting the Japanese during WWII, which made their military stronger and more organized.

**Objective 3:** Explain the rise of Mao Zedong, his ruling style, and the events of the Communist Revolution using a timeline.

**Essential Question:** How did Mao Zedong’s ruling style allow him to take and maintain power?

**Big Ideas:** In 1966, Mao officially announced the Cultural Revolution. He shut down schools to mobilize young people into paramilitary groups. These groups attacked the Four Olds: old customs, old culture, old habits, and old ideas.

Various groups sprung up, all of them devoted to Mao. The people followed him, not the government. The political rhetoric of the time required revolution against anything foreign or traditional. By the time Mao died in 1976, his legacy had been cemented with violence.

Below is a timeline tracking the sequence of the key events that led to Mao’s rise to power and the Communist Revolution.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1911** | **1919** | **1921** | **1927** | **1931-1934** | **1937** |
| Dynastic rule overthrown, Mao was part of the revolutionary army. | May Fourth Movement in Beijing. | Mao and other members of the May Fourth Movement create the Chinese Communist Party. | Nationalists execute communists after they capture Shanghai from the British. The Chinese Civil War begins. | Chinese soviet in southeastern China is established, with Mao as chairman. | Second Sino-Japanese War begins. Nationalists and communists are both attacking the Japanese. |
| **1943** | **1949** | **1958** | **1966** | **1976** | **1981** |
| Mao becomes chairman of the Chinese Communist Party. He purges elements he considers disloyal.   | Nationalists flee their capital, Nanjing, when the communist army takes it after WWII. The Chinese Civil War is over.   | Mao institutes the Great Leap Forward program to industrialize China; 20 million people die from starvation.  | The Cultural Revolution is implemented and paramilitary groups begin targeting the elderly, intellectuals, and anyone who disagrees with Mao.  | Mao dies. | Views on Mao within China are mixed. His goals were considered noble, but his methods too violent.  |

**Objective 4:** Analyze the political and social upheavals that occurred under the leadership of Mao Zedong and identify multiple perspectives regarding those upheavals.

**Essential Question:** What changes under Mao impacted China’s relationships with other countries?

**Big Ideas:** When Mao became the chairman of the Chinese Communist Party, he purged elements of the party that were not loyal to him. This meant sending them to work camps, exiling them from the country, or executing them. Once he had total control, Mao turned to making changes to China’s economy and society.

Two big initiatives took place under Mao: the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution.

**The Great Leap Forward**

The Great Leap Forward was an economic program meant to rapidly industrialize China. It launched in 1958. Mao’s plan was to industrialize China with human labor. This meant reorganizing both the rural and urban areas of China.

The key to Mao’s plan was to industrialize the agricultural sector and urban industries at the same time. Farms were collected into communes to increase interdependence. Makeshift furnaces were created in neighborhoods to produce iron.

It was a big failure. The communes moved too quickly. Important tools and necessities were melted down to create the furnaces. Those unhappy with the changes or who lost their farms killed their farm animals. Food shortages soon grew into famine. Hunger became widespread. Estimates place the number of starvation deaths at about 20 million between 1959 and 1962. Many of them were caused by the this program.

**The Cultural Revolution**

Mao wanted to restore confidence in the government after the failure of the Great Leap Forward. To do this, Mao started another program in 1966. It was called the Cultural Revolution.

The Cultural Revolution was mainly a social program. Its purpose was to root out the elites within the bureaucracy and limit foreign influence. Mao wanted to revitalize the spirit of revolution in China. The reality was the killing or imprisoning of anyone who disagreed with Mao’s communist vision for the country. This included many communists who were sympathetic to the Soviet Union.

Mao closed schools and organized students into radical Red Guards. The Red Guards were paramilitary groups trained to attack the Four Olds: old customs, old culture, old habits, and old ideas. They were devoted to Mao alone. They were meant to protect Mao, scatter class enemies, and continue the revolution. Many intellectuals, academics, and elders were executed. Political dissidents were sent to work camps. Over 1 million people were accused of being traitors and either imprisoned, killed, or driven to commit suicide.

**Keywords**:

* **Boxer Rebellion** – an uprising in China that was anti-Western, anti-imperialist, and anti-Christian
* **Confucianism** – a philosophical and moral system founded by Confucius emphasizing character, loyalty, and filial piety
* **Great Leap Forward** – an economic and social program by the Chinese Communist Party to transition China from an agrarian to an industrialized society
* **Kuomintang (KMT)** – a Chinese nationalist party formed in 1912 that ruled China under Chiang Kai-shek from 1928 to 1949, when it fled to Taiwan, where it ruled as the single party in power until 1991
* **Chinese Communist Party (CCP)** – the sole and official ruling party of the People’s Republic of China
* **Communist Revolution** – name given to the Chinese Communist victory during the Chinese Civil Wa
* **The “New Life” Movement** – a governmental campaign started by Chiang Kaishek in 1934 to promote cultural reform and anticommunism
* **paramilitary group** – a group not associated with a country’s military that operates in a similar manner, using military strategies and structures to achieve its goals

**Quick Check**

Question 1: Which of the following helps explain the outbreak of the Chinese Civil War?

* the founding of the People’s Republic of China.
* the long-standing tradition of Confucianism in China.
* **Chiang Kai-shek’s purge of Communists in 1927.**
* the Great Leap Forward.

Question 2: Which of the following lists accurately analyzes the reasons why the Chinese Communists were victorious in the Chinese Civil War?

* The Chinese Communists were able to win the Chinese Civil War due to:
	+ a corrupt republic government
	+ economic discontent
	+ an inadequate nationalist military
* The Chinese Communists were able to win the Chinese Civil War due to:
	+ a corrupt nationalist government
	+ economic discontent
	+ a strong nationalist military
* The Chinese Communists were able to win the Chinese Civil War due to:
	+ a corrupt nationalist government
	+ economic prosperity
	+ an inadequate nationalist military
* **The Chinese Communists were able to win the Chinese Civil War due to:**
	+ **a corrupt nationalist government**
	+ **economic discontent**
	+ **an inadequate nationalist military**

Question 3: What was an economic result of Chiang Kai-shek’s decision to start a war with Chinese Communist forces?

* food shortages
* **economic stability**
* low taxes
* high employment

Question 4: Which statement accurately explains the rise of Mao Zedong?

* Mao was not active politically until he was older. He prioritized Chinese experience over foreign experience with communism. That was how he rose to become chairman over more experienced leaders, because they spent their youth learning in the Soviet Union while he was working in China as a regular citizen.
* **Mao was politically active from a young age as a revolutionary and prioritized Chinese experience over foreign experience with communism. That was how he rose to become chairman over other experienced leaders who had spent their time in the Soviet Union instead of China.**
* Mao was politically active from a young age as a revolutionary. He prioritized experiences over all else. It was his time spent in the Soviet Union that helped him to become chairman over other, less experienced leaders.
* Mao was politically active from a young age as a revolutionary. He prioritized military experience over political experience. It was his time as a guerrilla fighter that helped him become chairman over other experienced leaders, who were only active in the political sphere.

Question 5: Which analysis of Mao’s policies is most accurate?

* Mao’s violent but effective policies led to economic prosperity.
* Mao’s policies created economic prosperity and helped cure social ills.
* **Mao’s rushed and violent policies led to many deaths.**
* Mao’s policies were cut short before their true impact could be seen.

**Lesson 3 – Great Leap and Cultural Revolution**

**Objective 1:** Evaluate the consequences of Mao Zedong’s economic policies and the ways the Chinese economy changed after Mao’s rule.

**Essential Question:** How was China’s economy changed since Mao Zedong’s rule?

**Big Ideas**: As of 2020, China had the second largest economy in the world. But, China was not always an economic powerhouse. From 1949 to 1972, China was ruled by Mao Zedong. Under Mao’s rule, China’s economy struggled. It struggled due to economic policies he implemented.

After winning the Chinese Civil War in 1949, Mao enacted the following ideas on China’s economy.

* Move China to a communist system that supports Chinese ideals and values.
* Make all industry fall under state control.
* Make farmers become part of a collective under the control of the state.
* End the free market system in China.

In 1958, Mao implemented the Great Leap Forward. This was an economic and social program established by the Chinese Communist Party to transition China from an agrarian society to an industrialized society. This resulted in a big decline of agricultural output.



Mao’s Great Leap Forward policy was a failure that resulted in mass starvation, executions, and forced labor. It caused a major economic decline in China.

**Objective 2:** Analyze the reasons the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution were developed and the impact each had on Chinese society.

**Essential Question:** How did the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution impact Chinese Society?

**Big Ideas:**

The Great Leap Forward resulted in:

* Economic decline.
* The deaths of 30 to 45 million people.
* Mass starvation, executions, and forced labor.
* A big decline of agricultural output.
* 3 years of natural disasters, like big flooding.
* Divisions in China’s Communist Party.
* Ended after only 3 years due to its failures.

The Cultural Revolution resulted in:

* At least 1.5 million Chinese people who did not follow the new order lost their lives. This includes people who were murdered by the Red Guard, executed by the government, and died by suicide.
* Chinese heritage sites and artifacts were destroyed.
* China became a military dictatorship from 1968 to 1971.
* The Chinese government began a torture campaign against the people of Inner Mongolia.
* People attacked the embassies of the United Kingdom, France, and the Soviet Union.
* The Little Red Book became the official book of the Cultural Revolution. This series of Mao’s quotes about communism was read aloud in schools, on public transportation, and on the street.

The Long-Term Impacts of the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution

* The development of the Open-Door policy of 1978 set the stage for nearly 2 decades of Chinese economic growth.
* Capitalist elements were accepted into China’s economy and society. Politically it is still a one-party communist state.
* Current Chinese political leaders expect social stability and political control.
* Due to the chaos of both policies and a general loss of faith in Mao, the philosophy of Maoism is no longer followed in China.

**Objective 3:** Assess the impact of the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution on China's domestic and foreign policy.

**Essential Question:** What was the impact of the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution on China's domestic and foreign policy?

**Big Ideas:**

Starting in 1958, Mao created a Five-Year Plan like the Soviet one. China set up strong industries and factories. China encouraged women to be part of the workforce. There were no private industries or farms. The government provided healthcare and education. Mao called this program Great Leap Forward.

This plan faced challenges. Chinese citizens who fought against Mao’s plans were either killed or sent to reeducation camps.

When crop failures started, Mao still exported grain to Africa and Cuba. About 35 to 40 million people in China died of starvation due to food shortages. By 1960, this program ended.

In 1966, Mao began a new program. It was called the Cultural Revolution. The Cultural Revolution brought new healthcare and education to the countryside.

During the Cultural Revolution, the Red Guards destroyed any source believed to be anti-communist. The burned books including ancient Buddhist texts. Teachers, college professors, plant managers, and children of bureaucratic elites were targets of violence. Future Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping was arrested.

Mao ended the revolution because he was afraid of the chaos bringing back a civil war. Mao wanted to increase outside trade with other countries, including the U.S., and build the economy of China.

Mao brought back people who were removed from office and restored the education system. The Cultural Revolution damaged China politically and economically. It took years to fix the damage.

**Objective 4:** Delineate the development of China from the end of WWII to the year 2000.

**Essential Question:** How has China developed since 1945?

**Big Ideas:** China experienced even more radical change in the second half of the 20th century. The end of the war with Japan led to civil war between the Nationalists and Communists. The Communists won.

Their leader, Mao Zedong, spent the next 25 years trying to reshape China according to his ideas. In the process, he crushed all opposition to his rule. Mao died in 1976, and Deng Xiaoping won the struggle that followed. He gained control of the Communist Party and China. Under his leadership, China started on a very successful program of economic development.

In 1958, Mao started the Great Leap Forward. He wanted to industrialize China, but the country lacked raw materials, machinery, and trained people like engineers. Mao hoped that popular enthusiasm could make up for these.

**The Cultural Revolution**

Despite the disaster of a famine, Mao did not want to end the Great Leap Forward. Other leaders in the Communist Party forced him to do so. They managed to stabilize the economy. But Mao never forgave them for humiliating him.

In 1966, he launched the Cultural Revolution. He wanted the people to forget their traditional culture and reject the influence of western culture. He urged young people to destroy all evidence of both traditional Chinese culture and Western colonial influences.

Mao also encouraged them to attack his political enemies within the Communist Party. These party members were beaten, humiliated, imprisoned, and, often killed. The result was chaos. For years, schools were closed. Many city dwellers were sent to the countryside to work alongside peasants.

By 1970, Mao concluded that the Cultural Revolution had gone far enough. He ordered the army to restore order. Colleges and universities remained closed, however. Both traditional Chinese culture and Western culture remained forbidden. People were expected to study the ideas of Mao almost to the exclusion of everything else.

**A New Course for China**

Mao died in 1976, and the Communist Party had a power struggle for the job of chairman. The winner was Deng Xiaoping. He was one of the leaders whom Mao had attacked during the Cultural Revolution. He was more practical than Mao.

After setting up firm control in 1979, Deng launched an ambitious campaign of economic modernization. China was extremely poor. Most of its people were peasants who had no running water or electricity. Conditions in the cities were better, but not much. Deng was willing to take advantage of foreign investment and expertise to build up China. He was also willing to let Chinese people organize businesses and to profit from them.

In the countryside, Deng’s regime began to take apart the huge collective farms created under Mao. Instead, the government rented land to families, who could keep and sell what they grew after they paid their rent. This was called the Household Responsibility System. The result was a large increase in output.

At the same time, the Chinese government created special zones in which foreign companies could set up plants. Labor in China was cheap, and foreign companies took advantage of it to make their own products at a lower cost. The government also let some foreign companies, like automakers, to set up factories in China to make products for Chinese consumers.

The Chinese government also began to allow people to set up enterprises of their own. China began a period of very rapid economic growth that sharply improved the living standards of the population.

Deng’s regime was mostly less oppressive than Mao’s. Colleges and universities reopened, and they offered a much wider variety of courses than Mao would have allowed. Traditional Chinese art was again acceptable. The government no longer tried to dictate every aspect of life.

**Change Does Not Bring Freedom**

While the people of China were allowed some economic and cultural freedom, the Communist Party and its chairman stayed in control.

In 1979, it started the one-child policy. China’s population was growing fast. Central authorities feared that this growth would wreck their plans for economic development. They limited each couple to one child by law.

In 1989, protesters across China demanded democracy. The largest gathering of these protesters was in Tiananmen Square. The government responded with force on a large scale, killing hundreds of protesters. While the protest was unsuccessful, the events of Tiananmen Square are an inspiration to those who fight for democracy and freedom around the world.

Today, the Chinese government controls and censors the media, including the internet. Many people in China are unable to freely access information about the country’s history or events around the world.

**Keywords**:

* **gross domestic product (GDP)** – the total amount of goods and services in a market during one year’s period of time
* **Open Door policy** – an economic policy enacted in 1978 that sought to achieve economic growth through the use of foreign investment and the use of modern technology
* **Great Leap Forward –** an economic and social program by the Chinese Communist Party to transition China from an agrarian to an industrialized society
* **Little Red Book –** a collection of Mao Zedong’s sayings that were carried by students and other supporters of the Cultural Revolution
* **Maoism –** a form of communism developed by Mao Zedong
* **agrarian –** referring to farming or cultivating land
* **bourgeoisie –** a group of people who held capitalist views
* **Five-Year Plan –** Mao Zedong’s plan during the 1950s to boost Chinese industrialization and agricultural production
* **Red Guard –** the forces of high school and college Chinese students who became followers of the Cultural Revolution and engaged in violence and riots to destroy aspects of capitalism
* **reeducation camps –** a place where people are imprisoned, forced to work, and reeducated to make them support the government
* **Household Responsibility System** – implemented in 1982 to transform the People’s Republic of China’s agricultural production system from one of collectivized farming to more independent production by individual farmers
* **Deng Xiaoping –** Chinese leader who oversaw a series of economic reforms in the late 1970s and the 1980s that promoted China’s development as a big economic power

**Quick Check**

Question 1: Which statement **best** evaluates the impact the Open Door policy had on China’s economy?

* **China’s Open Door policy led to globalization.**
* China’s Open Door policy led to the deaths of 35–45 million people.
* China’s Open Door policy led to forced labor in China.
* China’s Open Door policy led to environmental damage throughout China.

Question 2: Which of the following **best** analyzes the reason why Mao Zedong implemented the Cultural Revolution?

* Mao implemented the Cultural Revolution to modernize agriculture in China.
* Mao implemented the Cultural Revolution to industrialize China.
* **Mao implemented the Cultural Revolution to regain control of the Communist Party after the failures of the Great Leap Forward.**
* Mao implemented the Cultural Revolution because China could not trade agricultural products for heavy machinery for industrialization.

Question 3: Which statement offers the **best** assessment of the impact of the Great Leap Forward on China’s economy?

* It made China a world power.
* It unified China.
* It brought great prosperity to China.
* **It brought famine to China because of grain exports.**

Question 4: Which of the following correctly delineates the major events in China in the order they occurred during the second half of the twentieth century?

* Tiananmen Square protests; Communists overthrow the Nationalists; Mao Zedong’s Cultural Revolution; Deng Xiaoping’s economic modernization; Mao Zedong’s Great Leap Forward.
* Mao Zedong’s Great Leap Forward; Mao Zedong’s Cultural Revolution; Tiananmen Square protests; Nationalists overthrow the Communists; Deng Xiaoping’s economic modernization.
* **Communists overthrow the Nationalists; Mao Zedong’s Great Leap Forward; Mao Zedong’s Cultural Revolution; Deng Xiaoping’s economic modernization; Tiananmen Square protests.**
* Communists overthrow the Nationalists; Mao Zedong’s Great Leap Forward; Mao Zedong’s Cultural Revolution; Mao Zedong’s economic modernization; Tiananmen Square protests.

Question 5: Why did the terrible famine occur during China’s Great Leap Forward?

* Japan seized all the grain during WWII.
* Bad weather led to a sharp drop in grain production.
* The Tiananmen Square democracy protests made it impossible to distribute grain to the population.
* **Believing it was surplus, the central government took most of the grain from the countryside.**

**Lesson 4 – India**

**Objective 1:** Explain nationalism and civil disobedience as they relate to Mahatma Gandhi and India’s independence movement.

**Essential Question:** How did Gandhi’s nonviolent philosophy impact the independence movement in India?

**Big Ideas**: In 1919, the British passed the Rowlatt Acts. They let the government imprison people suspected of sedition without a trial. This inspired Gandhi to start his first satyagraha struggle in India. The reaction from the British was violent. Martial law was enacted. By 1920, Gandhi was one of the most influential political figures in India.

Joining the Indian National Congress, Gandhi became the leader of the party. Gandhi shifted their focus from the cities to small towns and villages. He led the noncooperative movement in India. He tried to convince the British to grant India self-governance through boycotts of British manufacturing and the British government. The movement lasted from 1920 to 1922, before Gandhi called it off when parts of the movement grew violent.

The noncooperative movement ended, but the confidence that had grown in India during that time did not. More people were calling for independence from the British government. More than just self-governance, they wanted to be separate from the British Empire. Many were not in favor of the nonviolent tactics that Gandhi advocated for. They thought that they would hinder their progress.

Gandhi could not build on the first successes of his noncooperative movement. The unity between Muslims and Hindus during the movement would not be replicated for the rest of the independence movement. This would become Gandhi’s signature. He would rarely take an active role in politics. He focused focus instead on community building. When he did take an active role, it was usually to lead a specific action of civil disobedience. This would continue until India finally gained independence in 1947.

**Objective 2:** Evaluate India’s economic development since it became independent in 1947.

**Essential Question:** How did India seek to develop its economy after it secured independence from Britain?

**Big Ideas:** India’s new government pursued a socialist program of development. Its leaders thought that private enterprise could not modernize India’s economy. They also wanted to promote economic equality. They knew that India was a poor country. It had limited resources and could pursue only one goal at a time.

The country’s leaders decided to develop heavy industry like steel mills, chemical plants, and machinery works. They thought that these industries drove economic growth. Companies owned by the government developed these new industries. India also restricted imports to encourage production at home. These government-owned companies did not have to compete with internationally owned companies.

Because it put so much of its resources into heavy industry, the government had to neglect other areas. It did not spend heavily on public education or public health programs. There were some initiatives in these areas, but because the population was growing fast, it was difficult to prevent social problems from becoming worse. The government also did not invest much in improving farming.

The government also imposed restrictions on industries with privately owned companies that produced consumer goods like textiles. Every time a private company wanted to offer a new product or expand its operations, it had to get a license from the government. The government wanted to make sure that private companies did not take resources from state-owned ones. Getting a license was always hard.

Most government officials realized that this policy was not perfect. They hoped that, given time, the profits from heavy industry would allow the government to spend more on agriculture and public services like schools.

**Objective 3:** Assess the factors that led to a lasting democratic government in India and their impact on Indian citizens.

**Essential Question:** What impact does a prime minister have on the democratic government in India?

**Big Ideas:** In 1947, 200 years of British rule on the Indian subcontinent ended. The region was partitioned into two countries – India and Pakistan – to try and usher in a stable majority for both.

On August 15, 1947, the Indian Independence Act was passed. The Muslim League, a political party in the former British territory, took control of Pakistan. India became a nation with a Hindu majority and was led by the Indian National Congress. The British Empire helped set up the initial government, modeling it after their own. India was set up as a parliamentary republic. This representative form of democracy is controlled by a parliament. Political parties are voted in by the people. Each region of the country had a certain number of seats in the parliament. The party that won the most seats during an election controlled the government.

The Indian National Congress became the Congress Party. In 1948, during the first election, they were voted in as the majority party. Jawaharlal Nehru, the president of the Congress Party, became the first prime minister of India.

**Objective 4:** Describe the political and foreign policy issues that India has faced since becoming independent in 1947.

**Essential Question:** How has India’s politics developed since it became independent in 1947?

**Big Ideas:** When India became independent in 1947, its leaders were determined to build a democracy. They faced big challenges. The country was poor, on average. It was large and diverse, with many ethnic and religious groups that were often in conflict. More than once, violence disrupted domestic politics. India was also locked in a conflict with Pakistan that several times led to war. India nevertheless persisted, becoming the largest democracy the world has ever seen.

Jawaharlal Nehru, a follower of Gandhi, was the first prime minister of India. He was the leader of the Congress Party. Newly independent India faced great challenges. The country was very poor. There were a large number of distinct ethnic groups as well as different religious groups. Conflict between them was common. India also had a dangerous rivalry with Pakistan.

In 1964, Nehru died. After a power struggle within the Congress Party that lasted two years, his daughter, Indira Gandhi, succeeded him. Some people in the Congress Party never accepted Indira Gandhi’s leadership. There were also other political parties in India that opposed the Congress Party. These groups worked together against Gandhi. In 1975, these parties were in a position to force her from office. In response, Gandhi declared a state of emergency and suspended the rule of law. Over the next two years, she ruled as a dictator.

In 1977, Gandhi permitted free elections again, believing she would win. But, all her opponents united and defeated her. For the first time in 30 years, the Congress Party did not rule India. Unfortunately, the new leaders were not very effective at running the country. In 1980, the Congress Party won the election and Indira Gandhi returned to power as prime minister.

Gandhi spent much of the next four years dealing with a crisis in Punjab Province. Punjab was one of India’s richest provinces, and it was on the border with Pakistan. A large part of its population were Sikhs. Sikhs had generally supported the Congress Party because of its policy of religious toleration.

In the early 1980s some Punjabi Sikhs demanded more autonomy from India. A group of radicals seized and fortified the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the Sikh holy site. Gandhi ordered the Indian army into the temple. The army defeated the radicals but severely damaged the temple and killed many innocent bystanders. Sikhs around the world were outraged. In 1984, a Sikh radical assassinated Indira Gandhi.

Gandhi’s son Rajiv succeeded her as prime minister. He soon became involved in efforts to resolve a violent civil war on the nearby island of Sri Lanka (formerly Ceylon). The conflict was between the majority Sinhalese people and the minority Tamil people. The Tamils wanted independence. India got involved because Sri Lanka was so close to it, but also because there was a large Tamil population in India. Rajiv Gandhi negotiated a peace treaty between the two groups and deployed Indian soldiers to enforce it. When some Tamils broke the accord, Indian forces turned against them.

In 1989, the Congress Party lost elections and Gandhi left office. Unlike his mother, he respected the democratic process. In 1991, a Tamil nationalist assassinated Rajiv Gandhi.

The 21st century saw the rise of a new political force in India: Hindu nationalism. Many Indians had believed that India was a Hindu country and that other religious groups (particularly Muslims) were aliens. Inspired by the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi, the Congress Party supported religious toleration, even though most of its members were Hindus. As long as it was in power, Hindu nationalists had little influence on the government.

In the 1990s, support for Hindu nationalism grew in India. The Congress Party still controlled India, but they had a series of embarrassing scandals that discredited many of its leaders. The country also underwent extensive economic reforms under the party’s leadership. These reforms raised the living standards of millions, but many people did not benefit from change and felt left behind.

The Bharatiya Janata Party, a Hindu nationalist party, emerged as a key challenger to the Congress Party. In 2002, it won control of the government. It lost power in 2004 but won it back in 2014 under Narendra Modi’s leadership. Modi was elected prime minister again in 2019.

In one sense, the rise of Bharatiya Janata demonstrated the strength of India’s democracy. A new party with popular support was able to challenge the entrenched Congress Party. In another sense, however, the new party intensified the already deep divisions in Indian society over religion.

**Keywords**:

* **Jainism –** an ancient Indian religion that focuses on nonviolence, non-absolutism, and nonattachment
* **satyagraha –** the term used to describe Gandhi’s policy of nonviolent resistance
* **sedition –** the organized resistance to an established authority
* **apartheid –** a system of political and social segregation based on race
* **Green Revolution –** the application of agricultural research in the 1950s and 1960s that led to the development of high-yield crop varieties
* **Industrial Revolution –** the shift from an economy centered on agriculture to an economy centered on mechanized, industrial production
* **parliamentary republic** – a democratic form of government where the party with the greatest number of representatives in the parliament (or legislature) forms the government and its leader becomes prime minister
* **caste system –** a class structure determined by birth and occupation
* **Non-Aligned Movement** – an organization of states during the Cold War that did not formally align with either communist nations led by the Soviet Union or pro-American forces
* **partition of India –** the division of the British colony of India into two nations—India and Pakistan—in 1947
* **Sikh** – a member of the Gurmat faith, which was founded in the Punjab region of the Indian subcontinent
* **Sikhism** – a monotheistic religion that preaches the equity of all humankind; founded in the Punjab region of India during the late 1400s
* **Zoroastrianism** – a monotheistic religion that started in Iran thousands of years ago and is still practiced by hundreds of thousands of people worldwide
* **Muslim –** a follower of Islam
* **Hindu –** belonging to Hinduism, an Eastern religion originating in India in which a diverse set of religious practices aim to help the soul rejoin Brahman, or ultimate reality
* **Hinduism –** an Eastern religion, originating in India; a diverse set of religious practices that aim to help the soul to rejoin Brahman or ultimate reality
* **Islam –** a monotheistic religion that developed in the Middle East around 600 CE

**Quick Check**

Question 1: Explain how satyagraha helped India achieve independence.

* The noncooperative elements of satyagraha had little impact, but the nonviolent elements created international support after violent responses from the British.
* The noncooperative elements of satyagraha brought international attention as it created supply chain issues. The nonviolent elements made the British more willing to negotiate.
* **The noncooperative elements of satyagraha negatively impacted British influence in India. The nonviolent elements created international support after violent responses from the British.**
* The cooperative elements of satyagraha encouraged Britain to negotiate with them. The nonviolent elements created international support after violent responses from the British.

Question 2: Evaluate the results of Indian government’s economic reforms in the 1990s.

* They increased the role of India’s government in the economy.
* They led to a substantial improvement in public services like education and public health.
* **They led to a rapid increase in economic development and income but still left many behind.**
* They led to a revolutionary increase in farm output.

Question 3: Why did India embark on far-reaching economic reforms in 1991?

* There was a shortage of labor.
* The country faced severe food shortages.
* India had recently gained independence.
* **The country was unable to pay for vital imports.**

Question 4: Assess which factors led to lasting democracy in India.

* Economic potential, diverse perspectives, well-educated politicians.
* Economic potential, strong military, civically motivated population.
* Diverse perspectives, popular politicians, civically motivated population.
* **Economic potential, diverse perspectives, civically motivated population.**

Question 5: Describe what happened after the British divided their Indian Empire into the independent countries of India and Pakistan.

* India and Pakistan negotiated several complicated agreements to manage their relationship.
* **Millions fled their homes and there was terrible violence between Hindus and Muslims.**
* China took advantage of the situation to seize territory.
* India’s Congress Party moved to restrict the rights of Pakistani Muslims in India.

**Lesson 5 – Portfolio**

**Lesson 6 – Asia During the Cold War**

**Objective 1:** Describe the political, economic, and social impact of the Cold War and how it led to nationalism in Asia.

**Essential Question:** How did the Cold War impact Asia?

**Big Ideas:** At the time of the Cold War, countries in Asia and Africa were undergoing a process called decolonization. Tired of rule by foreigners, nationalist movements in these countries sought to end colonial rule. In some countries, although nationalist leaders agreed on ending foreign rule, they disagreed over the type of government and economic system that should replace foreign rule. In these cases, decolonization became intertwined with the Cold War. The U.S. supported leaders and movements that opposed communism, even if these leaders at times behaved as dictators. Meanwhile, the Soviet Union supported leaders of decolonization movements who supported communism.

The Cold War complicated decolonization. The U.S. and the Soviet Union tried to influence newly independent countries into adopting communist or capitalist systems. Sometimes, as in the case of Korea and Vietnam, this attempted influence led to proxy conflicts. In proxy conflicts, each country got support via military supplies and weapons.

**Objective 2:** Evaluate the impact of nationalist leaders on their societies in post-WWII Asia.

**Essential Question:** What were the challenges faced by newly independent countries after decolonization?

**Big Ideas:** In the decades after WWII, places in Asia and Africa underwent a process of decolonization. In these regions, decades of oppressive foreign rule sparked independent movements in which nationalist leaders called for self-determination. People of colonized countries wanted to rule themselves. India and Vietnam are two places that experienced decolonization.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Country and Leader**  | **Developments**  | **Evaluation**  |
| India (Jawaharlal Nehru)   | * worked with Gandhi for Indian independence
* became India’s first prime minister
* supported a secular state
* implemented nonaligned foreign policy
 | * served as prime minister for 16 years; worked to modernize India; provided stability for India
 |
| Pakistan (Mohammed Ali Jinnah)  | * supported a separate Pakistan for Muslims
* Pakistan was divided into East and West Pakistan
 | * important to the creation of the nation of Pakistan; Pakistan’s great leader; did not live long enough to solve Pakistan’s problems
 |
| Vietnam (Ho Chi Minh)      | * fought against France
* adopted land reform
* fought against the U.S.
 | * both a nationalist and a communist; France opposed his nationalism; the U.S. opposed his communism; united Vietnam under communism
 |

**Objective 3:** Explain the causes and impacts of proxy wars in Asia during the Cold War, particularly in Vietnam and Korea.

**Essential Question:** What are the causes and impacts of proxy wars in Asia during the Cold War?

**Big Ideas:** During the Cold War, the democratic U.S. and the communist Soviet Union were in a struggle for global dominance. In Southeast Asia specifically, nations like Korea and Vietnam tried to create new nations following WWII. Democratic and communist forces influenced both nations and led to proxy wars in the region.

**Cause of Korean War**

The Korean War (1950–1953) was the first proxy war in the Cold War. It began over a belief held by the U.S. that communism was threatening to expand in Southeast Asia.

The conflict began in the aftermath of WWII when former areas occupied by Japan were liberated. After the war, there was no native Korean government waiting to return to power, and there were many Japanese to disarm and send back to Japan.

The U.S. and the Soviet Union agreed to divide Korea into two parts. This division was made at the 38th parallel. The U.S. took control of the South. The Soviet Union took control of the North.

Truman persuaded the United Nations to take over Korea. A vote was supposed to take place for Koreans to determine their government. The North refused to participate, and the South formed its own government anyway. The South became the Republic of Korea (South Korea) and supported democracy.

In response, a leader named Kim II Sung rose to power and became leader of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (North Korea). He supported communism and the Soviet leader, Joseph Stalin.

On June 25, 1950, 75,000 members of the North Korean Army, supported by the Soviet Union, invaded South Korea. Truman declared a state of emergency. He wrote the Truman Policy. This policy stated the U.S. would assist any country threatened by communism. The first proxy war of the Cold War began. U.S. troops were sent to South Korea to help push back the North Koreans.

**Impact of the Korean War**

While the U.S. never officially declared war, the conflict was fought on the battlefields in Korea. Between 2 million and 4 million people died, 70% of them civilians. According to the U.S. Department of Defense, 54,246 American service people lost their lives during the Korean War.

After 3 years, an armistice was signed to end fighting. A border between North and South Korea was drawn around the 38th parallel. A Demilitarized Zone was created between the two nations with guards watching each side. No formal peace treaty was ever created.

The war left a democratic government in power of South Korea and a communist government in power in North Korea. Those regimes remain, as do the Demilitarized Zone, heavily guarded by both sides. North Korea is kept under strict communist control under Kim Jong Un. The U.S. also still keeps some troops in South Korea for security. Finally, in December 2021, North and South Korea, the U.S., and China agreed to declare a formal end to the war.

**Cause of the Vietnam War**

The Vietnam War (1955–1975) also began in the aftermath of WWII. Following the war, France, with the help of the U.S., attempted to regain control over Vietnam. France had controlled Vietnam in the 19th century and wanted to regain control. But this attempt led to the rise of Ho Chi Minh, a communist revolutionary who wanted independence for Vietnam. The French Indochina War resulted and lasted eight years from 1946–1954.

When the French Indochina War ended in 1954, the 17th parallel was established as a temporary line separating the French South and the Communist North. The North was the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam) led by Ho Chi Minh, and the South was the State of Vietnam (South Vietnam), which pledged ties to democracy. Nationwide elections were planned to decide the future of Vietnam, North and South, within 2 years. These elections never happened.

Ngo Dinh Diem rose as the leader in South Vietnam supported by the U.S.. North Vietnam forces built a supply route to South Vietnam and began guerrilla warfare attacks against the South. This supply route was known as the Ho Chi Minh Trail. U.S. forces were sent to support the South. President Eisenhower declared that the U.S. needed to contain communism, and that if one Southeast Asian country fell to communism, many other countries would follow. This “domino theory” kept the U.S. focused on Vietnam for the next 2 decades.

**Impact of Vietnam War**

The Vietnam War had a personal cost for Americans and the Vietnamese. More than 3 million people were killed. As many as 2 million civilians from both North and South and about 1.1 million North Vietnamese soldiers lost their lives. The U.S. military estimated between 200,000 and 250,000 South Vietnamese soldiers died, and more than 58,000 Americans were killed.

The war also bitterly divided the American people. The draft, which was started in the Korean War as well, drew more resistance in the protracted Vietnam War. Tens of thousands of soldiers abandoned the army, and about 500,000 American men from 1965–1973 became “draft dodgers". Many fled to Canada to avoid going to war. In the end, three million troops served in Vietnam. Records suggest some 500,000 of them suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder today.

During the war, an anti-war movement grew. There were many protests against the war, as well as anti-war music and demonstrations. The anti-war movement was particularly strong on college campuses.

The war also left Vietnam devastated. Bombs, land mines, and chemicals like Agent Orange dropped on vegetation were left behind. Cities and towns were destroyed. In the end, a mass evacuation of people left Vietnam beginning in 1975. Refugees fled to the U.S. and elsewhere, often on boats in dangerous conditions. Vietnam is still a communist nation today, and the country eventually resumed formal diplomatic relations with the U.S. in 1995.

**Elsewhere in Asia**

The communist movement spread to neighboring Cambodia too. A group known as the Khmer Rouge or the Communist Party of Kampuchea took power. Its efforts to stamp out the educated elite, move people into workers camps, and more led to the death of at least 1.5 million Cambodians from 1975 to 1979. While the U.S. and Soviet Union did not get involved in this war, it was eventually the Vietnamese who overthrew the Khmer Rouge in 1979.

**Objective 4:** Analyze how the Chinese Communist Revolution impacted the Cold War.

**Essential Question:** What role did China play in the Cold War?

**Big Ideas:** At the end of the Chinese Civil War, the Communist Party defeated the Nationalists. The Communist Party was led by Mao Zedong, and the Nationalist forces were led by Chiang Kai-Shek. After the Communist Party defeated the Nationalists, Mao began developing a strict communist society. Under Mao’s rule, China became an ally with the communist Soviet Union.

The U.S. kept recognizing Chiang Kai-Shek’s government in Taiwan as the official Chinese government instead of Mao’s communist regime on mainland China. This led to tension and conflict. Due to this, China and the U.S. became enemies.

The tension between the U.S. and the Soviet Union was called the Cold War. This was because the two countries did not engage in a conventional war during this time period. But the U.S. and the Soviet Union were on opposite sides of many conflicts throughout the world during the Cold War. They often supplied military and financial aid, and the U.S. also sent troops to some of these areas.

China actively participated in two conflicts in Asia—the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

**China’s Role in the Korean War (1950–1953)**

The Korean War was between North Korea and South Korea. China and the Soviet Union supported North Korea. The U.S. supported South Korea.

The U.S. believed the attack by the North Koreans was a communist plot to take over the world led by the Chinese and the Soviets. They sent American troops to help the South Koreans fight against the North. After defending South Korea, the U.S. decided to push into North Korea to help free North Korea from the communists.

This attack on North Korea brought China into the conflict. Chinese sent troops to North Korea. They warned the U.S. they would fight with the North Koreans if the U.S. continued their advance. China’s involvement in the war stalled the U.S. advance.

**China’s Role in the Vietnam War (1954–1975)**

The second Cold War conflict in Asia that drew Chinese involvement was the Vietnam War. Vietnam, once known as French Indochina, was a French colony during the 19th and early 20th centuries. It was captured by the Japanese during WWII. It was returned to France at the end of the war.

Vietnamese leader Ho Chi Minh wanted to create a free and independent communist Vietnam. Ho Chi Minh captured the northern city of Hanoi and declared himself president of the Communist Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam). The French-backed Emperor Bao Dai set up the state of Vietnam in the south. For 6 years, the 2 sides fought to unite the country under one government.

In 1950, China began its financial and military support of North Vietnam. From 1950 to 1970, China gave the communist fighters with nearly $20 billion in aid. This aid was useful in North Vietnam’s victory over the French and the South Vietnamese in the battle of Dien Bien Phu in 1954. While this ended French involvement in Vietnam, it set the stage for the U.S. to enter the conflict.

**Keywords**:

* **annexation**– a formal act to make one land, state, or territory part of another land, state, or territory
* **armistice**– a joint decision by combatants to cease hostilities under certain defined conditions
* **decolonization –** the dismantlement of colonial empires that had been in existence prior to World War II
* **demilitarized zone** – an area in which military powers or contending groups forbid military installations or activities
* **domino theory –** a U.S. policy by President Eisenhower stating if one nation in Southeast Asia falls to communism, all will
* **French Indochina** – a territory in Southeast Asia that consisted of modern-day Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam
* **collectivized farming –** combining multiple farmers into one operation that is usually under the control of the national government
* **cash crop** – a crop, like cotton or sugar, that is grown for profit and production, rather than food
* **satyagraha –** the term used to describe Gandhi’s policy of nonviolent resistance
* **secularism –** an ideology focused on making decisions without religious or spiritual basis
* **draft dodger** – an American man who evaded the Vietnam draft
* **proxy war** – a conflict between two or more parties on behalf of other parties not directly involved in this conflict
* **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)** – an alliance between the U.S., Canada, and other Western European countries pledging support for one another if invaded by the Soviet Union

**Quick Check**

Question 1: Which of the following describes a political impact of the Cold War on nationalism in Asia?

* **The U.S. and Soviet Union divided Korea into a communist North Korea and a noncommunist South Korea.**
* The French ruled over Vietnam and exploited its resources.
* Japan annexed Korea.
* Mao Zedong was the communist leader of China

Question 2: Which of the following provides an evaluation of Ho Chi Minh’s leadership in Vietnam?

* **He fought for a united Vietnam free from foreign rule.**
* He thought that his role in Vietnamese freedom was different from that of George Washington.
* He believed that only North Vietnam should be communist.
* He won the support of the U.S. for his leadership.

Question 3: Explain the impact of the Vietnam War on American soldiers.

* Many American soldiers willingly enlisted in the draft.
* Many American soldiers stayed to fight in Cambodia.
* **Many American soldiers suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder.**
* Many American soldiers participated in the Kent State anti-war protest.

Question 4: Which statement accurately analyzes how the Communist Revolution impacted the Cold War?

* **China became an ally of the Soviet Union during the Cold War.**
* China became an ally of the U.S.
* China pledged an alliance with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.
* China supported capitalist countries during the Cold War

Question 5: What was the result of China’s involvement in the Korean War?

* China’s involvement in the Korean War helped unify the country under communist rule.
* China’s involvement in the Korean War kept North and South Korea divided at the 17th parallel.
* China’s involvement in the Korean War ended French colonization of the country.
* **China’s involvement in the Korean War kept North and South Korea divided at the 38th parallel.**

**Lesson 7 – Atrocities**

**Objective 1:** Identify examples of mass atrocity and genocide in Asia, including China, that have occurred since 1945, using charts, diagrams and/or tables.

**Essential Question:** Where have mass atrocities and genocides occurred in Asia since 1945?

**Big Ideas**:



Cambodia was under French rule when WWII ended. In 1953, France granted Cambodia independence. Although Cambodia tried to remain neutral, it was drawn into the Vietnam War. The North Vietnamese troops moved supplies through the northern part of Cambodia during the war.

The royal family of Cambodia continued to maintain the government until 1976, when a new prime minister came to power. His name was Pol Pot. Pol Pot came to power in Cambodia after the Vietnam War. Pol Pot’s regime was known as the Khmer Rouge.

Under the ruthless leadership of Pol Pot, about 1.5 million Cambodians were exterminated. The regime targeted intellectuals, dissenters, and people of Chinese heritage. Slaughter and famine together took more than 2 million lives. Hundreds of Cambodians fled to Thailand for refuge.

When North Vietnam invaded Cambodia in November, 1978, over 3 million Cambodians had died. This was close to half of the 7.5-million-person Cambodian population.

In 1971, Bangladesh experienced a bloody war with Pakistan that was marked by mass killings committed by the Pakistani army. Hindu men were targeted in this mass killing, but many women were physically abused. The goal was to crush the spirit of independence in the Bengali people. Some researchers believe up to 3 million died during this atrocity.

After a military coup in Indonesia in 1965, General Suharto sponsored a massacre of those who opposed the new leadership. Most victims had no weapons. By December 1966 about 400,000 deaths were recorded. Most of the victims were Javanese peasants.

From 1945 to now, the Chinese state has forced cultural assimilation onto minority groups in China. Currently, Uyghurs and other Muslim minorities are experiencing persecution. In 2014, China launched an anti-terrorism plan aimed at stopping extremists, specifically targeting Muslim Uyghurs. A recent study in 2021 reports that the Chinese government keeps committing crimes against the Uyghur people.

**Objective 2:** Assess the causes of the Cambodian genocide and the causes and effects of the ethnic tension in Sri Lanka and Myanmar.

**Essential Question:** What were the causes and effects of the Cambodian genocide and the ethnic tension in Sri Lanka and Myanmar?

**Big Ideas:** Following WWII, efforts to free Southeast Asia from European colonial control led to genocide in Cambodia and ethnic tension in Sri Lanka and Myanmar.

**Origins of Cambodian Genocide**

The Cambodian Genocide lasted four years from 1975 to 1979. It resulted in the deaths of 1.5 million to 3 million people (25% of the Cambodian people).

The genocide was begun by the Khmer Rouge, a communist group. The group formed during the struggle for independence against French colonial power in the 1930s. France had ruled over Cambodia for more than 100 years. The Khmer were active in rural communities and operated primarily in the jungles and mountain areas of northeast Vietnam.

Following the independence from France, Cambodia was ruled by a monarch, King Sihanouk. Unfortunately, he ruled over a nation of vast income inequality. People in the urban areas lived in wealth and comfort. Rural Cambodians, most of the population, lived poorly on farms.

In 1970, a coup appointed a new leader as the head of Cambodia. Former King Sihanouk, wanting to regain his power, allied with the Khmer Rouge to help win back his throne. For 8 years, a civil war was fought. The Khmer Rouge got support from the neighboring Vietcong as well as the Chinese. Slowly they took over the rural areas until finally, they invaded the capital to gain control of the country in 1975. They pushed the king aside and established themselves as the nation’s new leaders.

**The Cambodian Genocide**

The goal of the Khmer Rouge was to remake Cambodia. They wanted to create two things:

1. Create a Cambodian “master race”
2. Create an agrarian society with no social classes.

The nation was reorganized. City dwellers were forced to go to work in the countryside. All people worked as farmers, digging canals and tending to crops. Ownership of private property and religious practice were outlawed.

The reorganization led to shortages of food and medicine. Many people became ill with diseases. Hundreds of thousands died of starvation. Families were split up as labor brigades were made depending on age and gender. Similarly, anyone considered an intellectual or a leader was eliminated. The Cham Muslim group was most affected by the genocide. As many as 500,000 people, or 70% of the total Cham population, were exterminated.

**Ethnic Tension in Sri Lanka**

Sri Lanka’s ethnic tension began between two groups: the Sinhalese and the Tamil. The Sinhalese are 75% of the population and tend to be Buddhist. The Tamils are 11% of the population and tend to be Hindu.

Tensions between the two groups grew during British colonial rule of Sri Lanka, then called Ceylon, from 1815 to 1948. The British established plantations on the island for coffee, rubber, and tea and used a policy of divide and rule. They favored the Tamil over the native Sinhalese. Tamil speakers from India even came to work as laborers under British rule. Schools were created only in Tamil areas. Tamils were appointed to bureaucratic positions. This favoritism left Sinhalese people isolated and oppressed.

After British independence in 1948, the Sinhalese majority took over in government and started to discriminate against the Tamils. The Sinhalese barred Tamils from holding citizenship, required Sinhala as the official language, and created barriers for Tamils to access government services or public employment. Educational opportunities were now only given to Sinhalese students.

Tensions erupted into civil war in July 1983. Known as “Black July,” groups of Sinhalese attacked the Tamil community. This provoked numerous deaths, fires, and robberies. This began the war, which officially ended 26 years later, in 2009. Violence was intense on both sides.

**Ethnic Tension in Myanmar**

Myanmar has a diverse ethnic population. About two-thirds of the population are ethnic Burmans (known as the Bamar). They enjoyed a privileged position in society. They have held most government and military positions for some time. More than 135 other ethnic minority groups, however, have faced discrimination.

Causes of this ethnic tension can be traced to British colonial rule when Myanmar was known as Burma. The British created Burma from numerous ethnic states without consideration of the ethnicities. The British exploited natural resources and built two separate systems of administration: “Ministerial Burma” dominated by the Burman majority, and the “Frontier Areas,” populated by ethnic minorities. This division led to unequal political and economic development with the Burman majority getting favoritism.

When independence was granted in 1948, the Union of Burma began as a parliamentary democracy. It lasted only until 1962 when a military coup changed Burma to military rule for the next 26 years. During that time the government limited ethnic minorities’ rights and used scorched-earth tactics. They also tried to make a homogenous culture based on Burmese traditions. Ethnic minorities were trained into thinking, acting, and talking like a Burman. Ethnic languages and traditions were outlawed.

In 1989, the new military regime changed the country’s name from the Union of Burma to the Union of Myanmar. Myanmar was supposed to encompass all who live in the country. The name change was also a way to rid the country of British colonial influences. Results, however, are poor. Another military coup in 2021 led to more than one million people fleeing as refugees. Many of these refugees have been Rohingya, a mostly Muslim ethnic minority that has faced decades of repression and denial of citizenship. Today, Rohingyas are either forced to flee or gunned down by military forces.

**Objective 3:** Compare how Cambodia and Myanmar addressed ethnic tensions.

**Essential Question:** How have Cambodia and Myanmar addressed ethnic tensions since becoming independent after WWII?

**Big Ideas:**

**Burma to Myanmar**

* In 1962, General Ne Win staged a military coup. He took control of the government, which he dominated until 1988. Ne Win pursued a policy of extreme nationalism, largely cutting Burma off from the outside world. The government strictly controlled most aspects of economic life, and the military controlled the government. Ethnic minorities had no place in this scheme. The military restricted their autonomy and freedoms.
* By the mid-1970s, the government had taken away what political autonomy ethnic groups had. In response, armed resistance by ethnic minorities increased.
* By the 1980s, Burma had gone from one of the wealthiest, best-educated countries in the region, to one of the poorest and least-educated.
* In 1988, there were protests against Ne Win’s regime. The government responded with force, killing many demonstrators. The military realized change was necessary, and Ne Win resigned. Then, a group of officers rather than just one man controlled the government.
* In 1989 they renamed the country Myanmar because, they claimed, Burma was the name given by the country’s British rulers. The new regime did open the country a little more to the outside world. They reduced government control of the economy slightly. It did not change its policy toward ethnic minorities.
* In 2007, big protests against decades of misrule made the military in Myanmar make more changes. This protest was known as the Saffron Revolution.
* In 2008, the military put in place a new constitution that provided for greater political freedoms while preserving many of the army’s privileges.
* In 2011, the army ceded considerable power to a civilian-dominated parliament. The new president, a former civilian official in the defense department, made negotiations with rebel groups from the ethnic minorities a priority.
* In 2015, Myanmar held free elections for the first time ever. Opposition parties won a huge victory. Their leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, seemed to prefer negotiation with ethnic rebels to repression. She occupied a difficult position, however. The military still held considerable power, and she had to navigate between its demands and those of her followers. The military remained committed to crushing rebels, and most Burmans did not think reconciliation with ethnic minorities was an important issue. Moreover, Suu Kyi was a nationalist, though a more flexible and less brutal one than many in the military. She wanted to maintain Myanmar’s unity.

The Rohingya people live in the west, near the border of Bangladesh in Rakhine State, and practice Islam. Before colonial times, the region was known as Arakan, but was added to the British colony of Burma. The new government of Myanmar refused to grant the Rohingya people citizenship, claiming that they had migrated to Myanmar from Bangladesh.

Militia groups supporting the Rohingya people rose up against Myanmar’s government. The military responded with a brutal campaign against the entire population. Thousands of Rohingya died, and the military destroyed hundreds of their villages. Hundreds of thousands fled across the border to Bangladesh. Many experts believe the military’s goal was to force the Rohingya out of the territory and into Bangladesh.

Suu Kyi was unwilling or unable to control the military, which also launched offensives against other ethnic groups, most notably the Karen. By 2021, roughly one million members of ethnic minorities had fled Myanmar. The Rohingya constituted the largest group, but many Karen had also fled to neighboring Thailand.

In 2021, the military overthrew the democratic government and imprisoned Suu Kyi. For the moment, at least, Myanmar is no longer a democracy and the government is committed to a policy of repression against ethnic minorities.

**War in Cambodia**

The Cambodian or Khmer Empire was powerful and controlled not only modern Cambodia but much of modern Vietnam and Thailand.

In the 19th century, the French gained control of territory in Southeast Asia, which became known as French Indochina. In the 1950s, nationalist forces in Vietnam rebelled against French rule, which started the Second Indochina War.

In 1953, during the early days of this conflict, the French gave Cambodia autonomy under the rule of a member of the traditional royal family, Prince Norodom Sihanouk. At first the prince’s power was limited, but after the French abandoned Vietnam in 1954, he became the country’s ruler.

In the 1960s, Sihanouk worked hard to avoid being sucked into the war in neighboring Vietnam, which became known as the Vietnam War in the U.S.. This was difficult because North Vietnamese forces used Cambodia as a base from which to carry out operations in South Vietnam.

Sihanouk thought that Cambodia was not strong enough to drive the Vietnamese out, so he tried to use diplomatic pressure to get the North Vietnamese government to leave.

Cambodia had a long, difficult history with Vietnam long before the arrival of the French. Over the previous centuries, Vietnamese settlers had gradually pushed Cambodians out of the rich farmland of the Mekong Delta. The Cambodian people naturally resented this.

Unlike Myanmar, both countries were relatively homogenous, or all the same. The large majority of people in Cambodia are Khmer. A large majority of people in Vietnam are Viet. Both countries also have Indigenous ethnic minorities, many of whom live in the mountains as in Myanmar and Thailand. But the small percentage of minorities did not influence the cultural unity of either Cambodia or Vietnam. Their ethnic conflicts largely involved each other.

In the 1960s, over 400,000 Vietnamese lived in Cambodia, mostly near the border. In 1970, a military coup against Sihanouk took advantage of the resentment toward the Vietnamese living in Cambodia. A general named Lon Nol took control of the country and led it to war against the Vietnamese “intruders.” These included not only North Vietnamese forces operating in the country, but civilians living peacefully there. In a short period, as many as 200,000 Vietnamese civilians fled Cambodia.

The U.S. gave military aid to Lon Nol’s military regime, while the North Vietnamese gave support for the Khmer Rouge, the country’s communist party. Up to this point, the communists had little support from the people and limited resources, but Vietnamese support made a large difference.

After the coup, Prince Sihanouk had to flee Lon Nol’s forces and sought refuge among the Khmer Rouge. But the Khmer Rouge made Sihanouk a prisoner and took advantage of his popularity to push their cause. When the U.S. withdrew from Cambodia and Vietnam in 1975, ending the Vietnam War, Lon Nol’s regime in Cambodia collapsed. Soon, the Khmer Rouge marched into the capital city and established themselves in power.

**Objective 4:** Explain the reasons for genocide and mass atrocities.

**Essential Question:** Why have some states carried out mass atrocities and genocide?

**Big Ideas:** Mass murder in human societies is not new. In the 20th century upgrades in technology and government organization let political authorities to do more. Leaders could use these capabilities for evil and good. The basic issues remained the same. Some political authorities commit genocide and atrocities or acts of mass violence because they see an advantage to it. They believe they can do it without consequences.

Example: Armenian genocide

The Ottoman Empire was at war with Russia. The Armenian people were Christian like the Russians and lived on the border. The Ottomans thought that the Armenian people in their territory would side with Russia. The Ottomans were also prejudiced against the Armenians because they were not Turkish and because they practiced a different religion. The government decided to force the Armenians away from their homeland and out of Ottoman territory. Many died during the forced migration, and many were killed by Turkish military. The Turks thought they would solve their problem by getting rid of an ethnic group that they already disliked.

**Keywords**:

* **Uighur (Uyghur) –** a minority ethnic group native to Xinjiang, China; pronounced “wee-ger”
* **divide and rule –** a policy to deliberately weaken a unified group by separating it into sections with different privileges and rules
* **genocide –** the killing of a large number of people from the same ethnicity or culture in order to exterminate the group
* **scorched-earth tactics** – a military strategy to destroy anything that might be useful to the enemy
* **Khmer Rouge –** the Communist Party of Cambodia between 1975 and 1979 that was responsible for the genocide of 1.5–2 million Cambodian people
* **Saffron Revolution** – the 2007 protests in Myanmar that forced the military government to make political concessions
* **collectivization of agriculture** – a program to combine small farms in the Soviet Union into large collective farms that the government would control
* **coup d’état –** a violent takeover of the government
* **czar –** the name given to the Russian king
* **depose –** to unlawfully remove from power

**Quick Check**

Question 1: 

* Indonesia.
* Soviet Union.
* **China.**
* Japan.

Question 2: Assess how the British used divide and rule policies in Sri Lanka.

* They made the Tamils refugees of the nation after a military coup.
* They used scorched-earth tactics on the ethnic minorities.
* **They favored the Tamil over the native Sinhalese.**
* They chose Sinhalese over Tamils in bureaucratic positions.

Question 3: How does the situation of Indigenous ethnic minorities in Myanmar compare to Cambodia?

* Many Indigenous ethnic minorities in Cambodia are oppressed by the government and have fled the country, but today Myanmar has a policy of tolerance toward Indigenous ethnic minorities.
* Indigenous ethnic minorities in both Myanmar and Cambodia have negotiated peace with the government.
* **Many Indigenous ethnic minorities in Myanmar are oppressed by the government and have fled the country, but today Cambodia has a policy of tolerance toward Indigenous ethnic minorities.**
* The Indigenous ethnic minority groups are a significant part of Cambodia, but represent a very small percentage of the population in Myanmar.

Question 4: Why did ethnic minorities in Myanmar (Burma) not trust the new central government created after independence in 1948?

* The central government wanted everyone to convert to Buddhism.
* The central government refused to grant ethnic minorities any autonomy.
* **It was dominated by Burmans, who constituted a large majority in the country.**
* It launched campaigns of repression against them that led to deaths and forced many to move.

Question 5: Which of the following statements **best** explains why the Hutu-led government in Rwanda tried to kill the Tutsi population during their civil war?

* Tutsi-led rebels had begun to attack members of other ethnic groups in Rwanda.
* **The Tutsi-led rebel group was trying to overthrow the government.**
* Tutsi-led rebels had demanded independence from Rwanda and were seeking to split the country in half.
* The Tutsi people controlled valuable property that the government wanted to seize.

**Lesson 8 – Vietnam**

**Objective 1:** Outline conditions in Vietnam that led to the postwar independence movement.

**Essential Question:** What were the causes of the Vietnamese independence movement?

**Big Ideas**: In Vietnam, the French wanted to maintain colonial control, resulting in decades of conflict.

The French:

* believed that French culture was superior to Vietnam’s culture.
* thought it was their duty to bring industry to Vietnam.
* forced the Vietnamese to grow cash crops.
* heavily taxed Vietnam’s peasants.

As a result of French policies, a nationalist movement emerged. Ho Chi Minh became an outspoken nationalist for Vietnamese independence. Ho Chi Minh believed in self-determination. The Vietnamese people wanted to rule themselves and not be ruled by France.

WWII gave him an opportunity to act. The French Vichy government granted Japan access to Vietnam for military bases and operations. Late in the war Japan seized Vietnam. After Japan formally surrendered to the allies in September 1945, Ho Chi Minh declared Vietnamese independence. He led an uprising and seized power in the northern part of the region. The French government believed Vietnam’s resources were needed to rebuild France after WWII. The French fought against Ho Chi Minh’s forces, the Viet Minh, in the First Indochina War.

**Objective 2:** Evaluate how Vietnam, led by Ho Chi Minh, achieved independence in the second half of the 20th century.

**Essential Question:** How did Ho Chi Minh achieve Vietnamese independence in the second half of the 20th century?

**Big Ideas:** Vietnamese nationalist Ho Chi Minh declared independence for Vietnam in 1945. Ho Chi Minh’s quest for independence took 30 years. It also included wars with 3 outside enemies: Japan, France, and the U.S.. Ho Chi Minh used many tactics in his quest to gain independence.

To achieve his goal of throwing out the French, Ho Chi Min reached out to the Allies. In 1940 Ho Chi Minh repeatedly asked for American aid as he campaigned for independence.

President Roosevelt agreed with independence for Vietnam, although he wanted a transition period with an international trusteeship. The Allies gave financial and military help in Ho Chi Minh's battle against the Japanese. WWII ended in 1945, on the same day the Japanese surrendered to the Allies, Ho Chi Minh was ready to declare victory. He declared Vietnamese independence.

France did not agree with Ho Chi Minh’s declaration. Vietnam had been a French colonial holding before WWII. France seized South Vietnam to try and keep control. In 1946, a war began between Ho Chi Minh’s Viet Minh forces and French troops in the north.

Ho Chi Minh again requested support from the U.S. But, as the threat of communism grew, the U.S. decided it could no longer support Ho Chi Minh, a communist leader in Vietnam. On February 7, 1950, the U.S. formally recognized the French-controlled government in South Vietnam as the legitimate government of Vietnam. The U.S. began providing direct political, economic, and military support to French forces in Vietnam to stop Ho Chi Minh. The French-Indochine War had begun.

**Objective 3:** Assess the role of Ho Chi Minh in the French Indochina and Vietnam Wars.

**Essential Question:** What factors led to decades of conflict in Vietnam?

**Big Ideas:** On September 2, 1945, Vietnam declared its independence from France. Ho Chi Minh saw Vietnam’s independence from France as like the U.S.’s independence from Great Britain.

From the 1880s, the French ruled over Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. The French called this area French Indochina.

Ho Chi Minh had been a longtime outspoken nationalist for Vietnamese independence. He was exiled from Vietnam in 1911 for protesting the French. In 1919, at the Paris Peace Conference at the end of WWI, he tried to present a petition to U.S. President Wilson. The petition called for the self-determination of the Vietnamese people. President Wilson wrote about self-determination in his Fourteen Points. The Fourteen Points also said that the interests of colonial people should be given equal weight to that of the colonizer in establishing the post-WWI world.

But when Ho Chi Minh read the anti-colonial writings of Lenin, he became a communist. He studied in the Soviet Union and then traveled to China to organize the first Indochinese Communist Party. He returned to Vietnam in 1941 and organized the Viet Minh, the League for the Independence of Vietnam, to fight for Vietnam’s independence. Ho Chi Minh wanted to expel the Japanese in Vietnam, and the French collaborationist government, who supported Japan’s occupation.

**The Vietnam War**

South Vietnam faced an uprising. South Vietnamese communist fighters, known as the Viet Cong, wanted to topple the government of South Vietnam. They also wanted to unite the country under communism. Founded in 1960, the Viet Cong got support from Ho Chi Minh and the Viet Minh, who got support from communist China and the Soviet Union.

To get supplies to South Vietnam, the North Vietnamese used the Ho Chi Minh Trail. This was a network of trails that ran from North Vietnam to South Vietnam and went through Laos and Cambodia. The route sent weapons, manpower, ammunition, and other supplies from communist-led North Vietnam to the Viet Cong. It crossed tall mountains and dense jungles. To disrupt supply efforts, the U.S. dropped over 2 million tons of bombs in Laos.

**Objective 4:** Analyze the outcomes of the Vietnam War.

**Essential Question:** How did the Vietnam War reflect patterns of continuity and change affecting conflict during the Cold War era and beyond?

**Big Ideas:** For 20 years, the U.S. and its allies fought in Vietnam to prevent the communist North from unifying with the pro-Western South. This war had far-ranging consequences. In Vietnam, the North and South were eventually unified, and the country continues to deal with the legacy of the war. For the international community, the Vietnam War demonstrated both continuity and change within the Cold War era.

**Continuities in the World after the Vietnam War**

Analyzing the Vietnam War through the lens of continuities helps historians better understand how this conflict was similar to others. Continuities here include the types of weapons used and left behind, as well as the displacement of civilian population.

**Nuclear Weapons**

The first continuity demonstrated by the Vietnam War was the role of nuclear weapons. After the U.S. dropped nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki during WWII, there was a fear that these weapons could become common during war. As a result, the U.S. and other nuclear nations, like the Soviet Union and China, developed the idea of a nuclear taboo. This meant that the risk of nuclear conflict, and mutually assured destruction from the use of these weapons, made it less likely they would be used. The U.S. did discuss the use of nuclear weapons in the Vietnam conflict, but it never happened.

**Bombing Campaigns**

During WWII, bombing campaigns became a common form of warfare. Airplanes were first used during World War I, but the technology was not developed well enough for them to be used on a wide scale. Conventional bombs were dropped in both the European and Pacific theaters during World War II. Most estimates indicate that the Allied Powers dropped 2.7 million tons of bombs on Europe, alone. This approach to warfare continued during the Vietnam War. In Laos alone, almost two million tons of bombs were dropped to disrupt Viet Cong supply lines. This made it the most bombed country in history. Bombing campaigns continue to be used.

**Refugees**

Wars also affect the civilian population, sometimes causing a refugee crisis as people flee violence. During WWI, French civilians fled flighting in the eastern part of France. During WWII, Jewish refugees fled from persecution by the Nazi government. After the Vietnam War, over three million people fled Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. Some feared persecution by the new communist governments. Others were looking for better lives for their families. Over one million Vietnamese people fled the country between 1975 and 1995. More recently, the civil war in Syria and the Russian invasion of Ukraine also have caused refugee crises.

**Unexploded Munitions and Landmines**

Another continuity affecting the civilian population was the continued devastation of war. Often when a war is over many things are left behind, like weapons. During WWI, artillery shells, known as munitions, were used. Sometimes, these munitions do not explode. They became covered in dirt and mud. Even 100 years later, these munitions can become unstable and explode. Some of those munitions even contain chemical weapons. This problem continued after WWII. People still die throughout Europe from unexploded munitions each year.

Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia are dealing with a similar continuity. In 2022, there are still almost 75 square miles of area covered in unexploded munitions spread across those countries. Tens of thousands of munitions and landmines still exist throughout the region. It is estimated that every 22 minutes, someone in Southeast Asia dies from a landmine left over from the Vietnam War.

**Keywords**:

* **totalitarianism** – a form of government in which the central government has absolute power and existence in the society requires subservience to the state
* **Viet Cong** – a South Vietnam supporter of the North Vietnam communists
* **Viet Minh** – a Vietnamese resistance movement that fought against both French and Japanese colonial control
* **Atlantic Charter –** a joint statement released by Great Britain and the U.S. in 1941 outlining their goals in fighting World War II, including the preservation of self-determination for oppressed people
* **Ho Chi Minh Trail –** a supply line from North Vietnam to South Vietnam supplying Viet Cong forces with weapons
* **Fourteen Points –** President Wilson’s vision for the World after World War I, focused on ideas like self-determination for all countries, and a permanent peace organization
* **domino theory –** a U.S. policy by President Eisenhower stating if one nation in Southeast Asia falls to communism, all will
* **domino theory** – a U.S. policy by President Eisenhower stating if one nation in Southeast Asia falls to communism, all will

**Quick Check**

Question 1: In outlining the conditions that led to Vietnam’s independence, which of the following would come after “Vietnam was divided at the 17th parallel”?

* **The U.S. fought the Vietnam War.**
* Ho Chi Minh declared Vietnamese independence.
* The French began colonial rule of Vietnam.
* Japan occupied Vietnam during World War II.

Question 2: Evaluate why war broke out between the French and Ho Chi Minh.

* **Diplomatic discussions with the French were unsuccessful.**
* The French were supplying arms on the Ho Chi Minh Trail.
* The French no longer wanted to support Vietnam.
* The Geneva Accords were unsuccessful.

Question 3: Which of the following provides the **best** assessment of Ho Chi Minh’s role in the French Indochina and Vietnam Wars?

* Ho Chi Minh was only important in defeating the French.
* Ho Chi Minh’s military leadership remained consistent throughout Vietnam’s fight for independence.
* Ho Chi Minh’s role was mainly symbolic.
* **Ho Chi Minh provided both leadership and inspiration to the Vietnamese people.**

Question 4: Which of the following is true of Vietnam’s fight for independence?

* The U.S. helped Vietnam against the French.
* Vietnam stood alone in its fight against the U.S.
* Vietnam gained complete independence after Japan was defeated in World War II.
* **Vietnam had a multi-decade fight against Japan, the French, and the U.S.**

Question 5: Which of the following statements correctly analyzes the influence of the Cold War on the Vietnam War?

* There is no relationship between the Cold War and the Vietnam War.
* The Soviet Union and China refused to support North Vietnam because it was using landmines and aerial bombing campaigns.
* Nuclear weapons were a central factor determining military success during the Cold War.
* **A nation’s support for North Vietnam or South Vietnam was determined by its relationship to communism.**

**Lesson 9 – Reform and Opposition**

**Objective 1:** Analyze the economic reforms in China that began under Deng Xiaoping.

**Essential Question:** How did China develop its economy after Mao Zedong died and Deng Xiaoping assumed power?

**Big Ideas**: Mao Zedong died in 1976. After a power struggle, Deng Xiaoping followed him as China’s leader. The country Deng took over was in bad shape. The economy had not yet been modernized. Most of the population was very poor. Mao’s projects had weakened rather than strengthened China. Deng responded with a radical program of economic reform.

He made a system that let individuals to accumulate wealth. These reforms worked. Starting in the 1980s, China saw rapid economic growth that lifted hundreds of millions of people from poverty.

* For more than 30 years, from the early 1980s to the mid-2010s, the Chinese economy grew 8 to 10% a year.
* After 2000, China was the largest producer of steel and concrete in the world.
* Several hundred million Chinese moved from the countryside to cities.
* Around 2010, China passed Japan to be the world’s second largest economy, though income per person remained higher in Japan (and in the U.S. and Europe).

**Objective 2:** Evaluate the methods and goals student protesters employed in resisting political oppression in Tiananmen Square.

**Essential Question:** What methods and goals were used in the protests in Tiananmen Square?

**Big Ideas:** The Tiananmen Square protest began in April 1989. It was led by students. It began 6 days after a key supporter for democratic reforms in China, Hu Yaobang, died. Many students were fed up with the authoritative communist government in China. Yaobang had led talks of democratic reforms, and with his death, it was unclear if the movement would continue.

Beginning April 17, thousands of students gathered in Tiananmen Square to mourn Yaobang’s death. While gathering, the students called for more freedoms in a peaceful protest. A few days later, on April 22, the day of Yaobang’s funeral in Beijing, 100,000 students waited outside the Great Hall, demanding a meeting with the Chinese Premier Li Peng. The students had written a petition they wanted delivered. They were denied access to Peng or submission of their petition. Due to this, students boycotted going to classes. They also formed student unions, which were illegal.

On May 4, students from up to 40 universities marched to Tiananmen Square in Beijing. The crowd was reported to be tens of thousands. Tiananmen Square was famous as the entrance to the Ancient Forbidden City in China, and May 4 was a key date in the Chinese Revolution of 1919.

**Hunger Strikes**

On May 15, the former leader of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev, who had led Russia’s shift from communism to democracy, came to China. Students thought he would support their calls for dialogue and change. The foreign press was scheduled to be in China.

In preparation for Gorbachev's visit, about 160 students began a hunger strike in Tiananmen Square.

**Objective 3:** Analyze the key events that led to Tiananmen Square, the events of Tiananmen Square, and how these events impacted China’s domestic and foreign policy.

**Essential Question:** How have the events of Tiananmen Square affected China’s domestic and foreign policy?

**Big Ideas:** The choice to forcibly retake Tiananmen Square from the protestors had a ripple effect on domestic and foreign policy in China.

**Domestic Policy Changes**

Tiananmen Square was followed by a period of intolerance toward protestors. After the incident, government officials reported 241 deaths of soldiers and protestors and more than 7,000 injuries. Unofficial reports of the number of civilian deaths are even more.

The Chinese government said the incident was a result of the unrest caused by outside forces.

The political changes and moves toward Western culture were reversed following the incident. Its long-term legacy has increased censorship and political repression.

**Foreign Policy Changes**

Due to the number of protestors, foreign reporters were at Tiananmen Square. When the troops rolled into Beijing, reporters took pictures of protestors trying to stop the tanks’ movement. They got footage of the tanks driving through crowds while troops shot at the protestors.

In response to these actions, many countries imposed sanctions against China. These penalties came in the form of import or export taxes, or a refusal to trade with China.

The Chinese government accused other countries of trying to sway China’s politics. It has used this rationale to suppress foreign influences in Chinese media, censoring many sources of information. Even domestic voices which supported a shift in Chinese policy from communism to democracy were seen as foreign. They were censored and suppressed.

Both internal and external pressure lead to some changes. Some leaders who ordered the crackdown got negative political pressure. This led to the removal and jailing of Zhao Ziyang, the party secretary who was influential in the decision to send troops into Beijing.

**Objective 4:** Compare the ways that opposition movements have stood up to governments using three examples from the year 1989: the Tiananmen Square protests in China, the Peaceful Revolution in East Germany, and the Cape Town peace march in South Africa.

**Essential Question:** In what ways were the Tiananmen Square protests, the Peaceful Revolution, and the Cape Town peace march of 1989 similar or dissimilar?

**Big Ideas:** Events elsewhere proved even more dramatic. From April to June 1989, student protesters occupied Tiananmen Square in Beijing. They called on the Chinese government to grant its people greater civil and economic freedoms. In the end, protestors squared off against the Chinese army.

In East Berlin, capital of East Germany, activists for democracy staged a series of protests from September to November that became known as the Peaceful Revolution. These protests led to the fall of the Berlin Wall and, a year later in 1990, the reunification of Germany.

September 1989 also saw popular protests in Cape Town. Here, protestors marched not against communism, but against racism. They called for an end to apartheid.

* Protestors in all 3 of these movements embraced nonviolence to shame their governments into reforms.
* They relied on television and the press to garner foreign support for their movements.
* They hoped that other countries might be able to pressure their own governments for change.

All 3 of these movements succeeded in these goals to an extent. But while the protests in East Berlin and Cape Town helped bring greater freedom to their nations, the protests in Beijing led only to greater repression.

**Comparing Protests**

For many Europeans, the end of the 1980s and beginning of the 1990s seemed like the start of a new era. They held the hope that communism would soon be a thing of the past. In the Eastern Bloc, protests fed on each other. As one nation opened its borders or reformed its government, activists in neighboring countries became inspired. Shutting out Western goods and ideas became harder. Economic turmoil in the Eastern Bloc in the 1980s made reforms more urgent. The example of the prosperous West encouraged people to call out the corruption and repression of their governments. Even those in the military and police could see the need for change. East Germans rode this historical trend to greater freedom and the reunification of their nation.

Unlike East Germany, China was more isolated. While the economies of the Eastern Bloc struggled through the 1980s, reforms had helped China prosper. Chinese citizens, especially the younger generations, longed for greater freedoms, but many were content in their prosperity. The government remained in firm control of the military and police. Fearful that protests might threaten their power and control over society, the Chinese government did not seek to appease its people with greater freedoms. Instead, it crushed dissent with force.

In South Africa, the protestors of 1989 built upon a foundation that had begun to be laid decades earlier. By the 1980s, apartheid had made South Africa an international pariah. Its economy and reputation suffered. South Africans, White and Black, could look to countries like the U.S. and see examples of successful civil rights reform. The retreat of communism in Europe during the late 1980s meant that the ANC's links to communism were less threatening. The U.S. proved willing to put human rights above Cold War politics where apartheid was concerned. Police used force to break up the first protests in Cape Town in September 1989. But the unity of protestors during the Cape Town Peace March and the presence of key national leaders caused the illegal march to happen. Within a few years, this show of racial unity, together with continued foreign pressure, would bring an end to the injustice of apartheid.

**Keywords**:

* **Special Economic Zone** – a zone on the Chinese coast where the Chinese government allowed foreign companies to set up factories
* **Two Whatevers** – the slogan adopted by Hua Guofeng urging the Chinese to follow whatever Mao Zedong had said and whatever he had done
* **manifesto –** a written document that publicly states the writer’s goals; typically produced prior to election
* **martial law –** a law enforced through military presence and action
* **dissident –** a person who opposes the official policies of a specific body like a government or religious institution
* **hardliner –** a person who will not give concession or change their stance in a political situation
* **African National Congress (ANC)** – the political party in South Africa that fought against apartheid
* **apartheid** – a system of political and social segregation based on race
* **Cape Town Peace March** – an illegal political protest on September 13, 1989, that brought 30,000 people into the streets of Cape Town, South Africa, to call for an end to apartheid
* ***glasnost*** – a policy to make the government of the Soviet Union more open and transparent
* ***perestroika*** – a policy to reform the communist economic system of the Soviet Union

**Quick Check**

Question 1: After analyzing the changes to China’s economy in the 1980s and 1990s, what can we conclude about the reason the Chinese population supported Deng Xiaoping?

* They hoped he would reduce foreign influence in China.
* **They hoped he would reverse Mao Zedong’s policies.**
* They hoped he would strengthen the government.
* They hoped he would turn China into a democracy.

Question 2: Why did Deng Xiaoping’s economic reforms in China begin with farming?

* The country had a shortage of farm workers.
* The country had lots of unused land.
* **The large majority of the population were farmers.**
* The country was suffering severe food shortages.

Question 3: Evaluate why the protesters were willing to continue protest efforts despite Chinese government resistance.

* **They wanted talks with the government and believed it could happen.**
* They wanted to prevent Gorbachev’s visit from taking place.
* They wanted to remove Li Ping from power and begin a revolution.
* They were unable to successfully negotiate with the Soviet government.

Question 4: When analyzing China’s domestic policy, what has been one lasting change since Tiananmen Square?

* **Suppression and censorship of the media by the Chinese government.**
* Encouragement of increased participation of China’s citizens in politics by the Chinese government.
* The official approval of political protest by the Chinese government.
* The official recognition of free speech as a human right by the Chinese government.

Question 5: Compare how international events affected the responses of East Germany’s and China’s governments to the protests of 1989.

* The governments of both East Germany and China curtailed civil liberties and became less democratic following the protests of 1989, making both countries exceptions to the larger global trend of collapsing communist rule.
* Both East Germany and China were part of a larger global trend of collapsing communist rule that led their governments to embrace greater civil liberties and democracy after the protests of 1989.
* **The protests in East Germany in 1989 were part of a larger trend of successes in anticommunist activism in neighboring countries, making it harder for the government to continue to deny citizens’ civil rights. China was more isolated from this larger trend so its government was able to assert firmer control over protests.**
* East Germany was isolated from the more general trend of collapsing communist rule that was occurring in 1989, giving its government a greater ability to crack down on protesters. In China, the government’s decision to grant greater civil liberties in the wake of the 1989 protests was heavily influenced by the success of anti-communism in many of its neighboring countries.