

# IMPERIALISM IN CHINA

## I. Imperialism in China

A. The Chinese have always referred to themselves as the "\_\_\_\_\_"

1. The Chinese viewed outsiders as \_\_\_\_\_ & saw little value in \_\_\_\_\_ with foreign merchants
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ was built to protect China from barbarian attacks

B. But, outsiders came across the \_\_\_\_\_ for China's \_\_\_\_\_ goods

- 1.
- 2.

3. But, outside merchants always had to \_\_\_\_\_ Chinese rules & show \_\_\_\_\_

C. In 1644, northern invaders called \_\_\_\_\_ conquered China & created the \_\_\_\_\_ Dynasty

1. Qing China faced 2 challenges that would threaten China's future strength
  - a. A \_\_\_\_\_ led to a rise in the number of Chinese \_\_\_\_\_ & competition for land
  - b. European missionaries & \_\_\_\_\_ arrived in Asia with hopes of \_\_\_\_\_ with China

2. The Chinese had \_\_\_\_\_ in trading with the West & were able to reject trade offers

- a.
- b.

D. The Opium Wars (1839-1842)

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ were desperate to find a product that the Chinese would \_\_\_\_\_. In the 1800s, the British smuggled \_\_\_\_\_ from India into China

- a.
- b.

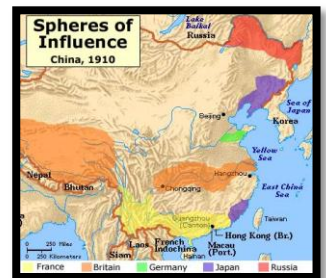
2. The British \_\_\_\_\_ to end the opium trade & China \_\_\_\_\_ on Britain
3. Britain used its \_\_\_\_\_ to easily \_\_\_\_\_ the Opium Wars (1839-1842)
4. The Treaty of Nanjing ended the Opium Wars: Britain received \_\_\_\_\_ & extraterritorial rights in China ( \_\_\_\_\_ were not subject to Chinese \_\_\_\_\_)

E. Taiping Rebellion (1853)

1. In addition to its foreign problems, China also faced major problems with its \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. By 1850, China's population \_\_\_\_\_ that agriculture could not keep up
  - b. In 1853, Hong Xiuquan led the \_\_\_\_\_ in an attempt end poverty among peasants
2. The Qing defeated the rebels in 1864 but the rebellion killed \_\_\_\_\_ million people & \_\_\_\_\_ China

F. Spheres of Influence and the Open Door Policy (1899)

1. Britain & other industrial powers took advantage of China's weakness to force China to sign \_\_\_\_\_ treaties in particular ports
2. By 1900, China was carved into a series of \_\_\_\_\_: areas where a foreign nation had exclusive \_\_\_\_\_
3. The division of China worried the \_\_\_\_\_ that it would be \_\_\_\_\_ of Chinese trade
4. In 1899, the USA proposed an \_\_\_\_\_ Policy in China so merchants from \_\_\_\_\_ nations can trade freely

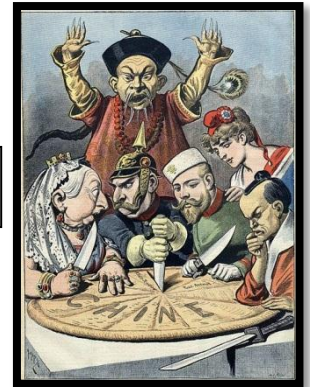


G. Boxer Rebellion (1900)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

## II. The End of Chinese Dynasties

- A. The power of foreign imperialists & the violence of the Boxer Rebellion led to calls to \_\_\_\_\_ China
- B. Reformers looked to the \_\_\_\_\_ for ways to fix China
  1. In 1911, \_\_\_\_\_ led an overthrow of the Qing Dynasty & created a \_\_\_\_\_ with a written constitution
  2. Sun's goal was to promote \_\_\_\_\_, democracy, & economic \_\_\_\_\_ for all Chinese citizens
- C. Over 3,000 years of \_\_\_\_\_ came to an end and China began to \_\_\_\_\_





## COMMISSIONER LIN'S "LETTER OF ADVICE TO *Queen Victoria*"



**OVERVIEW:** Although opium was used in China for centuries, it was not until the opening of the tea trade with British merchants that China was able to import large quantities of the drug. By the early 1800s opium was the major product that the English East India Company traded in China and opium addiction was becoming a widespread social problem. When the emperor's own son died of an overdose, he decided to put an end to the trade. Commissioner Lin Tse-Hsi was sent to Canton, the chief trading port of the East India Company, with instructions to negotiate an end to the importation of opium into China. The English merchants were uncooperative, so he seized their stores of opium. This led to immediate military action known as the Opium Wars (1839-1842). The Chinese were decisively defeated and had to cede to a humiliating treaty that legalized the opium trade. As a result Commissioner Lin was dismissed from office and sent into exile.

The following are excerpts from Commissioner Lin's "Letter of Advice to Queen Victoria" which was written before the outbreak of the Opium Wars. It is unknown whether Queen Victoria ever read the letter.

We find that your country is distant from us about sixty or seventy thousand [Chinese] miles, that your foreign ships come hither striving the one with the other for our trade, and for the simple reason of their strong desire to reap a profit. By what principle of reason then, should these foreigners send in return a poisonous drug which involves in the destruction those very natives of China? Without meaning to say that the foreigners harbor such destructive intentions in their hearts, we yet positively assert that from their inordinate thirst after gain, they are perfectly careless about the injuries they inflict upon us! And such being the case, we should like to ask what has become of that conscience which heaven has implanted in the breasts of all men?

We have heard that in your own country opium is prohibited with the utmost strictness and severity: - this is a strong proof that you know full well how hurtful it is to mankind. Since then you do not permit it injure your own country, you ought not to have the injurious drug transferred to another country and above all others, how much less to the Inner Land of the products which China exports to your foreign countries, there is not one which is not beneficial to mankind in some shape or other...

On the other hand, the things that come from your foreign countries are only calculated to make presents of, or serve for mere amusement. It is quite the same to us if we have them, or if we have them not. If then these are of no material consequence to us in the Inner Land, what difficulty would there be in prohibiting and shutting our market against them?

Our celestial empire rules over ten thousand kingdoms! Most surely we do possess a measure of godlike majesty which ye cannot fathom? Still we cannot bear to slay or exterminate without previous warning and it is for this reason that we not clearly make known to you the fixed laws of our land. If the foreign merchants of your said honorable nation desire to continue their commercial intercourse, then they must tremblingly obey our recorded statutes they must cut off forever the source from which the opium flows and on no account make an experiment of our laws in their own persons!...

Let your highness immediately, upon the receipt of this communication, inform us promptly of the state of matters, and of the measure you are pursuing utterly to put a stop to the opium evil. Please let your reply be speedy. Do not on any account make excuses or procrastinate. A most important communication.

1. How does Commissioner Lin describe British merchants?

2. What reasons does Lin give for wanting to stop opium smuggling in China?

3. What does Lin say about China's desire for British goods?

4. What does Lin threaten to do if the British refuse to end the opium trade?