

## East Asia After World War II

Mr. Millhouse  
AP World History  
Hebron High School

## Japan and the Little Tigers

### Pacific Rim after World War II

- Korea was divided at 38<sup>th</sup> parallel after the Korean War
  - South Korea ruled by U.S. backed dictatorship
- Chiang Kai-shek established the Republic of China on Taiwan
- Hong Kong remained under British control
- Singapore gained its independence from Britain in 1959

### Japan after World War II

- United States occupied Japan from August 1945-1952
- Political and social changes
  - Military disbanded
  - Shintoism was abolished as state religion
  - New parliamentary system with constitution
  - Women received the right to vote
  - Large estates divided and zaibatsus were temporarily dissolved

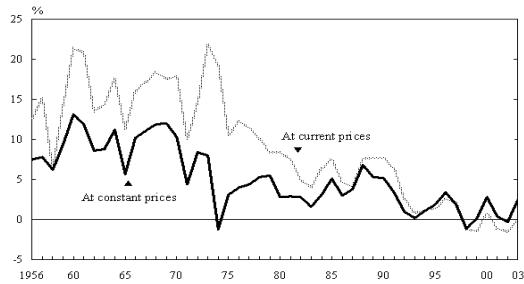
### Reasons for Japanese Recovery

- U.S. military occupation allowed Japan to spend money on civilian economy
- Korean War increased demand for industrial products
- Workforce was educated and disciplined
- Continual population increase
- Government support of business
  - Capital available for research and development

### Japan, Incorporated

- Government in Japan actively supports economic growth
  - Set production and investment goals
  - Emphasizes export based economy
  - Government funding for technological research
  - Sets high tariffs to support Japanese businesses

**Figure 3.1**  
**Economic Growth Rates <sup>1)</sup>**



1) Figures for 2003 refer to the second preliminary estimates. The data from 1956 to 1980 are based on the 1968 SNA, while those from 1981 to 2003 are based on the 1993 SNA.  
 Source: Cabinet Office.

## Japanese Social Changes

- Decline of respect for the nation's heritage
- Women gain political and legal equality
  - No major attempt at social change for women
  - Feminism was a minor force
- Popular culture blends foreign elements
- Pollution and housing become major problems

## South Korea's Economic Miracle

- Industrialization encouraged by state aid and private entrepreneurship
  - Industrial firms resemble Japanese zaibatsus
  - Export consumer goods, textiles, and steel
- Tremendous population growth
  - Highest population density in the industrialized world
- Treaties with U.S. spur economic growth

## The Little Tigers

- Taiwan
  - Government focuses on economic growth
  - U.S. stabilizes government
- Singapore
  - Second highest per capita income in Asia by 1980s
- Hong Kong
  - Under British control until 1997
  - Developed into international banking center

## Common Themes in Pacific Rim

- Group loyalty emphasized over individualism
- Advanced technology
- Emphasis on Confucian morality
- Influenced economic growth in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand
- Economic slowdown in 1990s
- Limited social change

## Rise of Communist China

## China after Qing Dynasty

- Last Qing Emperor abdicated in 1912
  - Sun Yatsen named leader of the Rep. of China
- May 4<sup>th</sup> Movement (1919)
  - Nationalist rally against Treaty of Versailles
- Chiang Kai-shek succeeded Sun Yatsen as leader of Guomindang in 1925
  - Moved against Communist allies in 1927
  - Communist movement saved by Long March in 1934

## Communist Revolution of 1949

- Communists led by Mao Zedong used guerrilla warfare against Japan in World War II
- Communists offered solutions to China's social and economic problems
  - Land reforms
  - Education for the masses
  - Urban and rural health care programs
- People's Republic of China formed in 1949

## Mao's Early Reforms

- Agrarian Land Reform Act of 1950
- Soviet-style Five-Year Plans
  - Doubled coal output; steel production quadrupled
- Peasants forced to join collectives
  - Farms consisted of 200-300 households
  - Women fully equal at home and workplace
- Thousand Flowers Movement (1957)

## Great Leap Forward (1958)

- Called for creation of large communes
  - Avg. commune 15,000 acres, 25,000 people
- "Backyard" Industries
- Crop failure led to widespread famine
  - Approx. 20 million people died from starvation
- Program discontinued in 1961
  - Mao stepped down for one year

## The Cultural Revolution

- Red Guard from high school and college students in 1966
- Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution
  - Goal: equality between peasants and workers
  - Farmers became heroes of revolution
  - Intellectuals and artists were killed or "purified"
- Widespread chaos closed factories and slowed farm production
- Brought under control by army in 1968

## Cultural Revolution Propaganda



## Deng Xiaoping

- After Mao's death Zhou Enlai and Deng Xiaoping stabilize China
- Institutes Four Modernizations
  - Agriculture
  - Industry
  - Defense
  - Science and Technology
- Opens to Western ideas while maintaining Communism

## Tiananmen Square Massacre

- 100,000 students protest for democratic reform in 1989
- Deng Xiaoping ordered troops to crush the protest
  - Broadcast worldwide on television

