
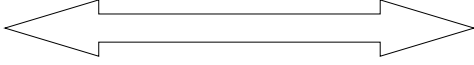


Chapter 26 Civilizations in Crisis:
The Ottoman Empire, the Islamic Heartlands and Qing China



Eastern Responses to Western Pressure

Responses ranged across a broad spectrum



Radical Reforms
(Taiping & Mahdist Rebellions)
designed to bring down the existing social order

Western educated dissidents who attempted to build new states along Western lines

From Empire (Ottoman) to Nation (Turkey)

- **Ottomans weakened by internal strife**
 - Succession of weak rulers (sultans)
 - Power struggles (Janissaries, officials, elite factions)
 - Corrupt provincial officials and ayan
 - Position of artisans declines as a western goods flood the markets (wide scale urban riots)
 - Armies lack important resources
 - Foreign empires (ex—Russian) make grabs at outlying territory



Sultan Abdulhamid photographed soon after his accession in 1876

Repression and Revolt

- New reforms don't appease westerners and their supporters while also upsetting conservative ulamas and ayans.
- SO...**Sultan Abdul Hamid** (1878-1908) attempts to create order through absolute rule
 - His rule ends in a bloodless coup supported by the **Ottoman Society for Union & Progress (Young Turks)** whose goal was to restore the 1876 constitution

The "Sick Man" Dies

- 1908 coup is supported by the military, who introduce many reforms (education, status of women, etc.) but there are immediate problems:
 - Factional fighting
 - Outbreak of WWI
 - Continued subjugation of Arab portions of the empire
- Ottoman Empire ends in 1914

Crisis in Arab Islamic Heartlands

- Crisis in Arab portions of the empire was the same: rejection or adoption of western ways?
- While Arabs resented Ottoman Turkish rule, they preferred rule by fellow Muslims to control by Western powers.
- Ottoman crisis creates fears about staving off the West

Muhammad Ali/Fail of Westernization in Egypt

- Ignorance of the European world causes the Mamluks (Murad) to underestimate the power of Napoleon
- Resounding defeat of Mamluks reveals that Muslim armies are seriously overmatched
- After French withdrawal, **Muhammad Ali** (not the one you're thinking of!) emerges as a ruler
 - Westernizes the military and attempts to industrialize Egypt
 - Reforms are blocked by European powers who want to remain dominant in the Egyptian market
- Descendants of Ali (khedives) rule until 1956

Bankruptcy, Intervention & Resistance

- Khedives prove to be terrible rulers (wasteful, inept and elitist)
- One important exception: Suez Canal
 - Makes Egypt an important strategic area to competitive European countries
- Weak Muslim rulers prompt Muslim intellectuals/religious leaders to debate the best way of staving off European control
 - One side: al-Afghani & Muhammad Abduh stressed borrowing from the West to innovate
 - Other side: religious scholars said the Qu'ran was the source of all truth; no answers could be found in the West

Jihad: Mahdist Revolt

- Sudan's Arabs resent Egyptian control (centered in Khartoum) and later, British control
- **Muhammad Achmad ("The Mahdi")** leads a jihad with the following goals:
 - Purging Islam of its "corrupt" beliefs carried on by the Egyptians
 - Fending off western pressure in the area
- Mahdi army wins control of Sudan
 - Khalifa Abdallahi continues the fight
 - British defeat the mahdi in 1896

The Last Dynasty: Qing

- Qing dynasty is actually the **Manchu**, a nomadic group who seized control after Ming declined
 - Adopted Chinese ways while attacking Ming's borders
 - Maintained the same system once in power
 - Differed from previous foreign rulers (Yuan/Mongols) in that they included native Chinese in the bureaucracy

Economy & Society

- Conservative approach to both eco. & soc.
 - Socially....
 - Stressed hierarchy
 - Extended family still the central social unit
 - Women confined to the household
 - Economically....
 - Lowered taxes, labor demands and improved public works
 - Attempted to control the landlord class to alleviate peasant burdens
 - Did NOT exercise much control over the commercial sector (and the # of incoming Europeans)

Rot From Within

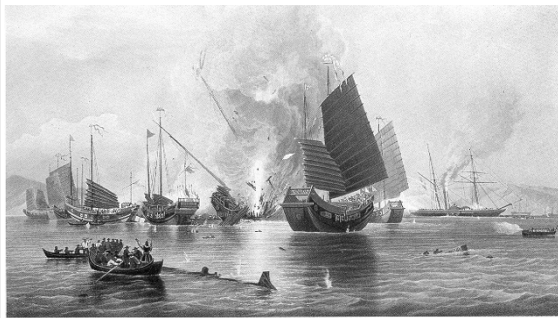
- False assumption that the following problems were part of another dynastic cycle
- In Government
 - Cheating, bribery on state exams
- In the Economy
 - Diversion of revenue from state projects
 - Food shortages, famine & disease

The Opium War & After

- To the Chinese, Europeans were: barbarians, animals, nomads....They did not recognize the complexity & sophistication of an equally advanced society.
- Conflicts like the **Opium War** revealed that the Europeans had stronger, better organized militaries and were not willing to live with an unequal trade balance.

The Opium War

- Summarize the steps leading to the war and analyze the painting.



Rebellion & Failed Reforms

- 1850s & 1860s—wave of rebellions
 - Taiping rebellion (Hong Xiuquan)
 - Sought to overthrow Qing dynasty and Confucianism
 - Boxer Rebellion
 - Effort to expel foreigners
- China rallies temporarily
 - Dowager Empress Cixi
 - Crushed reforms and played rival factions off each other to maintain power
 - Self-strengthening movement
 - Preserve existing order (not transform it) by modernizing military & encouraging foreign investment in railways and factories

Fall of the Qing

- 1905—Confucian exam system ends
- Resistance continues until 1911
 - In the form of secret societies, sons of scholar-gentry or compradors
 - Fiercely anti-Western
- 1912—last Manchu emperor (Puyi) abdicates (he is 6 yrs old)



Global Connection

- Ottomans & Qing represent two civilizations thrown into crisis by Western challenge
- Islam survives; China does not—WHY?
 - Muslims had faced Western challenges since the Middle Ages while challenge to China was more sudden
 - Muslims share many Judeo-Christian cultural aspects while Chinese regarded western culture as 'barbaric'
 - Muslims has many centers to defend (fall of one did not mean fall of all) whereas fall of China meant the whole empire
 - Muslims could fall back on Islam, Chinese did not have a religious tradition to stabilize them.
