


Chapter 34
Rebirth and Revolution: Nation-building
in East Asia and the Pacific Rim



East Asia in the Postwar
Settlements

- Korea was divided between a Russian zone of occupation in the north and an American zone in the south.
- Taiwan was restored to China.
- The USA occupied Japan after WWII, led by Douglas MacArthur.
- Americans pressed for democratization of Japanese society.



East Asia in the Postwar Settlements

A new constitution was written, making the parliament the supreme government body.

The emperor became a symbolic figure only.

1955- The Liberal Democratic party was created and monopolized Japanese politics until the 1990's.

East Asia in the Postwar Settlements

Korea divided into the Republic of Korea (USA sponsored) in the south and the People's Democratic Republic of Korea in the north (Soviet occupation).

Kim Il-Sung led North Korea and Syngman Rhee led south Korea.

1950- North Korea attacked South Korea, hoping to unify the two countries.

Allied forces pushed North Korea back, in the Korean War.

Japan, Incorporated

- Japan was very politically unified under the Liberal Democratic party.
- Government-business coordination promoted economic growth.
- Japanese culture preserved important traditional elements.

Japan, Incorporated

- During the mid-1950's, Japan experienced rapid economic growth.
- Japan became one of the top three economic powers in the world in the 1960's and 1970's.
- Active government encouragement, educational expansion and foreign policy encouraged growth.

Japan, Incorporated

- Labor policies, social activities and life-time employment helped businesses and corporations.
- Japan differed from the West in many aspects.
- Japanese popular culture changed, as attraction to Western standards increased.
- Pollution became a serious problem.

The Pacific Rim: New Japans?

- Park Chung-hee seized power in South Korea in 1960.
- Hyundai and Daewoo were huge industrial groups that added to Korea's economic growth.
- Population and population density soared.

The Pacific Rim: New Japans?

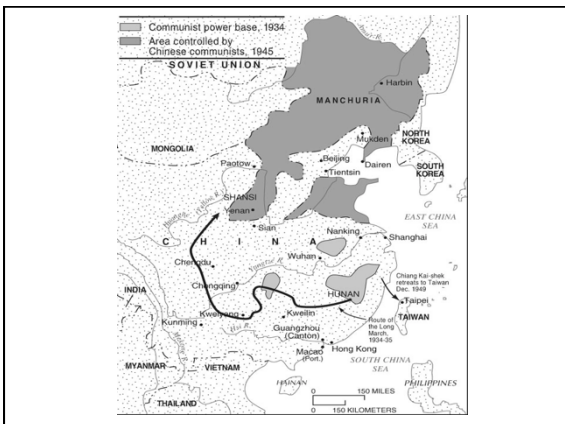
- Taiwan experienced economic development as agriculture and industry increased rapidly.
- Taiwan built important regional contacts with other governments in Asia to facilitate trade.
- Chiang Ching-kuo took over the Republic of China after Chiang Kai-shek died.

The Pacific Rim: New Japans?

- Singapore gained independence in 1965 and Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew took power.
- The government established tight controls over its citizens.
- Singapore saw profits in its port.
- Hong Kong, a British port, was returned to China in 1997.

Mao's China and Beyond

- Chiang Kai-shek formed an alliance with Chinese communists after invasions from Japan.
- The Japanese captured much of the Chinese coast.
- The communists were more effective against the Japanese than Chiang's military.
- By 1949, Chiang and most of his army fled to Taiwan and Mao Zedong proclaimed the People's Republic of China.



Mao's China and Beyond

- Mao was able to win the support of peasants, students and intellectuals by implementing social and economic reforms.
- The relationship between China and the USSR deteriorated over many disputes.
- Mao's first priority was to redistribute land to the peasantry.
- Industrialization was also needed.

Mao's China and Beyond

- Mao used his "Mass Line" economic policy, which led to the formation of agricultural cooperatives in 1955.
- In 1958, Mao launched the Great Leap Forward, which were small-scale projects integrated into peasant communities.
- It ended in economic disaster and famine.
- China's population launched a family planning campaign to limit birth rates.

Mao's China and Beyond

- Women's issues became an important part of Mao's policies.
- The Nationalist campaign and the Communist campaign for women were very different.
- Women became legally equal to men under Mao.
- Mao's wife Jiang Qing played an important role in women's rights.

Mao's China and Beyond

- Mao launched his last campaign, known as the Cultural Revolution, to restore his dominance over pragmatists.
- Mao's Red Guard publicly ridiculed and abused his political rivals.
- The Gang of Four (Jiang Qing and three others) attempted to seize control of the government and were arrested following Mao Zedong's death.
- After Mao's death, the pragmatists have opened China to the west and private enterprise has been promoted.

Colonialism and Revolution in Vietnam

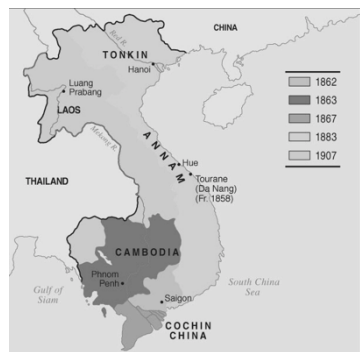
- The Tayson Rebellion toppled the Nguyen dynasty in the late 1770's and later, the Trinh dynasty.
- Nguyen Anh was able to topple the Tayson and proclaim himself the Gia Long emperor of Vietnam in 1802.
- Minh Mang, the second emperor, persecuted the Catholic community.
- By 1890, the whole country was under the control of the French.

Colonialism and Revolution in Vietnam

- French control over puppet emperors made it easy to crush rebellions.
- A new Western-educated middle class emerged.
- In the 1920's, the nationalist struggle was centered in the Vietnamese Nationalist Party.
- The Communist part of Vietnam became the main focus of resistance in Vietnam.
- The party was dominated by Ho Chi Minh.

Colonialism and Revolution in Vietnam

- The Viet Minh, the communist-dominated national movement, filled places left by the Japanese after WWII.
- The Viet Minh used guerilla tactics to establish control over Vietnam and Ho Chi Minh proclaimed the independent nation of Vietnam in 1945.
- The Democratic Republic of Vietnam was proclaimed in 1954.



Colonialism and Revolution in Vietnam

- Ngo Dinh Diem was installed as president and was supported by the USA.
- The USA authorized the overthrow of Diem after he was unable to stop communist uprisings.
- The USA send troops to Vietnam but could not defeat the communist movement.
- Communists united Vietnam under a single government in 1975.

Colonialism and Revolution in Vietnam

- Since 1975, the rebuilding of Vietnam has failed, in part, from the isolation from the international community.
- Vietnam has tried to maintain a highly centralized command economy, which has resulted in stifled growth and poverty.
- By the 1980's, European and Japanese corporations have encouraged the opening of Vietnamese markets.
