

Chapter 28

Transformations Around the Globe

In the second half of the nineteenth century, calls for political reform were heard in China. However, a leading court official, Zhang Zhidong, argued:

“The doctrine of people’s rights will bring us not a single benefit but a hundred evils. Are we going to establish a parliament? Among the Chinese scholars and people there are still many today who are content to be vulgar and rustic. They are ignorant of the general situation in the world, they do not understand the basic system of the state. They have not the most elementary idea about foreign countries. . . . Even supposing the confused and clamorous people are assembled in one house, for every one of them who is clear-sighted, there will be a hundred others whose vision is clouded; they will converse at random and talk as if in a dream — what use will it be?”

— *China’s Response to the West: A Documentary Survey, 1839–1923*,
Ssu-yu Teng and John K. Fairbank, eds., 1970

Zhang’s view prevailed, and no reforms were enacted.

- 28-1 China
 - Tea-Opium addiction
 - Opium War 1839
 - Hong Kong
 - Outlet to the world!
 - Over Population
 - Taiping Rebellion 1850s
 - Heavenly Kingdom of Great Peace
 - Civil War, external forces
 - 20 million dead

By what right do British merchants . . . use the poisonous drug to injure the Chinese people? . . . I have heard that the smoking of opium is very strictly forbidden by your country; that is because the harm caused by opium is clearly understood. Since it is not permitted to do harm to your own country, then even less should you let it be passed on to the harm of other countries.

---LIN ZEXU

- Influencing China
 - Modernization
 - Spheres of influence
 - Europeans vs. US
 - Open Door Policy
 - Nationalism
 - Boxer Rebellion
 - Death to the foreign devils
 - Intervention
 - China reforms by studying:
 - Japan
 - US
 - Europeans
 - Turmoil continues

Special Economic Zones

Today, as in the late 1800s, the Chinese government limits foreign economic activity to particular areas of the country. Most of these areas, called special economic zones (SEZs), are located on the coast and waterways of southeastern China. Established in the late 1970s, the SEZs are designed to attract, but also control, foreign investment. One of the most successful SEZs is Shanghai. By the late 1990s, dozens of foreign companies—including IBM of the United States, Hitachi of Japan, Siemens of Germany, and Unilever of Great Britain—had invested about \$21 billion in the building and operating of factories, stores, and other businesses. This investment had a huge impact on the economy of Shanghai. Throughout the 1990s, it grew by more than 10 percent each year.

In 1890, Japanese leaders issued a decree to be read to every schoolchild:

“You, our subjects, be filial to your parents, affectionate to your brothers and sisters, as husbands and wives be harmonious, as friends true; bear yourselves in modesty and moderation; extend your goodness to all; pursue learning and cultivate arts, and thereby develop intellectual faculties and perfect moral powers; furthermore, advance public good and promote common interests; always respect the Constitution and observe the laws; should emergency arise, offer yourselves to the State; and thus guard and maintain the prosperity of our imperial throne.”

—*Sources of Japanese Tradition*, Ryusaku Tsunoda et al., eds., 1958

Obedience and the community were valued in Japan.

• 28-2 Japan

• Ending Isolationism

- United States and Commodore Perry
- Treaty of Kanagawa 1854

• Meiji Era

- Enlightened rule
- Industrialization
 - Non-western help
 - Railroads/coal/factories

• Imperial Japan

- China starting 1876
- Korea 1895
- Manchuria/Taiwan

Western Views of the East The Japanese victory over the Russians in 1905 exploded a strong Western myth. Many Westerners believed that white people were a superior race. The overwhelming success of European colonialism and imperialism in the Americas, Africa, and Asia had reinforced this belief. But the Japanese had shown Europeans that people of other races were their equals in modern warfare.

Unfortunately, Japan's military victory led to a different form of Western racism. Influenced by the ideas of Germany's Emperor Wilhelm II, the West imagined the Japanese uniting with the Chinese and conquering Europe. The resulting racist Western fear of what was called the yellow peril influenced world politics for many decades.

- Japan as World Power
 - Russo-Japanese War 1904
 - Manchuria
 - Russian fleet
 - Asiatic
 - Baltic
 - Treaty of Portsmouth, NH
 - Teddy Roosevelt
 - Korea annexed
 - First Asians to defeat European power



- 28-3 US Economic Imperialism in Latin America
 - politics
 - Issues from Colonialism
 - Class subjugation
 - Military dictatorships
 - Cash crops for export
 - Coffee
 - Bananas & fruit
 - Markets for US manufactured goods
 - Borrowed money



- US Policy
 - Monroe Doctrine
 - Cuban independence
 - Panama Canal
 - Roosevelt Corollary
 - US police power in Latin America

Latin American countries used little of their export income to build roads, schools, or hospitals. Nor did they fund programs that would help them become self-sufficient. Instead, they often borrowed money at high interest rates to develop facilities for their export industries. Countries such as Britain, France, the United States, and Germany were willing lenders.

The Latin American countries often were unable to pay back their loans, however. In response, foreign lenders sometimes threatened to collect the debt by force. At other times, they threatened to take over the facilities they had funded. In this way, foreign companies gained control of many Latin American industries. This began a new age of economic colonialism in Latin America

- Spanish-American War

- Puerto Rico

- Guam

- Philippines

- Cuba

By the mid-1890s, the United States had developed substantial business holdings in Cuba. Therefore it had an economic stake in the fate of the country. In addition, the Spanish had forced many Cuban civilians into concentration camps. Americans objected to the Spanish brutality. In 1898, the United States joined the Cuban war for independence. This conflict, which became known as the Spanish-American War, lasted about four months.

• 28-4 Mexico

• Texas Revolution 1830s

- Santa Anna vs. Houston
- Alamo/Goliad
- San Jacinto

• Mexican War 1840s

- Santa Anna vs. Taylor/Scott
- Battles at Monterey, Veracruz, Mexico City
- Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo
 - Mexican cession
 - California
 - America SW



- Industrializing Mexico
 - Politics of class-dictators
 - Juarez Reform
 - French interference 1860s
 - Diaz
 - Order and Progress
 - Dictator
 - Industrialization
 - Rich vs. poor
 - Revolution and Civil War 1911-1920
 - Carranza-dead
 - Madero-dead
 - Pancho Villa-dead
 - Zapata-dead
 - Obregon-dead
 - Modern Mexico
 - Democratic constitution 1917
 - PRI political party

***There are Mexican landowners who occupy . . . an extent of land greater than the areas of some of our sovereign states, greater even than that of one of several European states. In this vast area, much of which lies idle, deserted, abandoned . . . live four or five million Mexicans who know no other industry than agriculture, yet are without land or the means to work it, and who cannot emigrate in the hope of bettering their fortunes. . . . How can a hungry, naked, miserable people practice popular government? How can we proclaim the equal rights of men and leave the majority of the nation in this condition?
---PONCIANO ARRIAGA, 1856***



Porfirio Díaz 1830–1915

To control all the various groups in Mexican society, Porfirio Díaz adopted an approach called pan o palo—“bread or the club.” The “bread” he provided took many forms. To potential political opponents, he offered positions in his government. To business leaders, he gave huge subsidies or the chance to operate as monopolies in Mexico. And he won the support of the Church and wealthy landowners simply by promising not to meddle in their affairs. Those who turned down the offer of bread and continued to oppose Díaz soon felt the blow of the club. Thousands were killed, beaten, or thrown into jail. His use of the club, Díaz admitted, was harsh and cruel—but also necessary if Mexico was to have peace. That peace, Díaz argued, enabled the country to progress economically. “If there was cruelty,” he said, “results have justified it.”