Qing (Manchu) Dynasty
1644 -1910
Qing Dynasty (1644 - 1912)

- Ming dynasty fell in 1644 amid peasant uprisings and Manchu invasion
- Manchu and Han Chinese
Politics

- Manchus rule - not Han Chinese
- Strongly resisted by native Han Chinese
- 2% of the population of China was Manchu
- Manchus ruled using Chinese system but Chinese were forbidden to hold high national offices.
- Continued Confucian civil service system.
- The Neo-Confucian philosophy - obedience of subject to ruler continued
Manchu Qing expansion

- conquered Outer Mongolia and into central Asia, Taiwan and Tibet.
- First dynasty to eliminate all danger to China from across its land borders.
- Largest land area of any Chinese state
Economy

- Built large public buildings and public irrigation, walls, gates and other infrastructure.
- Light taxes to win popularity with people
- Commerce and international trade grew enormously especially with Japan and Europe
- Exported porcelain, Silk and spices through maritime trade and Silk Road
Religion

- Neo-Confucianism important
- Buddhism, Taoism and ancestor worship continue
- Christianity grew rapidly until the outlawing of Christianity in the 1830s-40s
- Catholic and Protestant missionaries built churches and spread education throughout rural and urban China
Social

1. Han Chinese discriminated against all Han men to wear their hair braided in the back, which they found humiliating.

2. Forbid women to bind their feet but repealed the rule in 1688 since they couldn't enforce it.

3. Manchus were forbidden to engage in trade or manual labor.

4. Intermarriage between the two groups was forbidden.

5. System of dual appointments was used—the Chinese appointee was required to do the substantive work and the Manchu to ensure Han loyalty to Qing rule.
European influences enter Chinese thinking
- European liberalism emphasizing individualism, freedom, equality, and economic opportunity contradict Confucian ideals
- Communism begins to enter Chinese thinking in late 1800s

Qing China does not modernize – focuses on the greatness of the past “the self strengthening movement”

the Europeans and Japanese gain trading concessions and some territory from China
Qing art is imitative rather than original since Qing value money and trade more than beauty (not good Confucians)

- Chinese literary and historical preservation projects saving China's ancient literature
- Porcelain - new colors: green black yellow, dark blue and brilliant red.

Qing 1644-1910
Peasant anger against Manchu

"Each year they [the Manchus] transform tens of millions of China's gold and silver into opium and extract several millions from the fat and marrow of the Chinese people and turn it into rouge and powder ... How could the rich not become poor? How could the poor abide by the law?"

Internal Rebellions

I White Lotus Rebellion – frustrated Buddhists attack government because of high taxes 1780s
Taiping Rebellion - 1840s

1. Chinese “brother of Jesus” recruits one million rebels and nearly takes out government before dying

2. Hong Xiuquan mixed elements of Christianity and traditional Chinese religion, along with ideas of his own.

3. He believed in communal property, and the equality of men and women

4. 20-30 million dead

Qing 1644-1910
A separate group led by Shih Ta-k'ai

MAP 28
THE TAIPING REGIME
(1853-1864)

1853-1856
After 1857

Scale of Miles
0 150 300 450

CHANGSHA
NANKING
HANKOW
WUCHANG
ANKING
SHANGHAI
EAST CHINA SEA
SOUTH CHINA SEA
KWEILIN
CHUNGKING

PEKING
Taiping and Communism

Although pre-Communism the Taiping Rebellion foreshadowed it in several ways

- Land was evenly distributed.
- Outlawed all of the following:
  Slavery, Sale of women, foot-binding, prostitution, arranged marriages and polygamy.
- The Taipings were also against use of opium, alcohol, and tobacco.
- Over time, Taiping leaders began to violate most of these rules (especially alcohol and women) and their movement began to lose its loyal followers.
- Qing govt with help from western powers ended the Taiping movement to take over China.
Europe and Early Qing

I Portuguese, Dutch and British all have trading rights but are carefully controlled by Qing

I Catholic missionaries build churches and challenge Confucianism

I Christianity is banned in 1724

I Christians ignore the ban and continue to push into China during Qing
European Imperialism

- Great Britain traded silk and tea for opium from India.
- Devastating since China addicted to opium.
- Land that had previously been used for food began to be used to produce opium.
- Large amount of Chinese silver left the country in payment for the opium.
- In 1839 A.D. the opium trade was abolished. This virtually turned China into a British colony.
Opium Wars

- 1773 Britain brought Indian opium to China
- 1838 – Manchu Chinese ban it and seize opium from British
- 1839-1860 Opium Wars humiliate China
  - Britain claims Hong Kong
  - Treaty of Nanjing (1st of unequal treaties)
  - 1844 – Chinese forced to allow Christian missionaries in again
  - Britain wins HUGE trading rights
BIG TROUBLE IN CHINA

Chinese society was ravaged by Hong Kong's lucrative opium trade in the early 19th century. China tried to stop the flow, but Britain fought it - and won. The Treaty of Nanking (right) then gave control of Hong
The Treaty System

- large amount of indemnity
- dozens of treaty ports opened to foreign trade
  - gunboats
  - Missionaries
  - Warehouses
  - Foreign influence in port cities
- territorial losses
- tariffs
Spheres of Influence
China, 1910
Qing Decline continues

- Opium Wars and civil wars show China is weak
- Europe and China both realize the Manchu govt is weak
- Everyone attacks
- Korea declares independence
- France takes Vietnam from China (Sino French War)
- Japan takes Taiwan and gets trading rights (Treaty of Shimonoseki)
- European Powers like Germany, Russia, Britain and France establish Spheres of influence (areas of military, business, transportation and communication) but still ruled by China
Western invasions (1839-1900)

- Opium War (1839 - 1842)
- The Second Opium War (1856 - 1860)
- Russia’s territorial gains
  - Northeast China (1858 - 1860)
  - Northwest China (1881 - 1884)
- Sino-French War (1883 - 1885)
- Sino-Japanese War (1894 - 95)
- 8-nation forces (1900)
In 1900 – Spheres of Influence

- China was controlled by Europeans economically
- Lots of trade between Europe and China
- Balance of trade favored Europe
- China lost silver as they paid out to Europe
- Created discord and frustration in Manchu Qing govt
Weakness fully exposed

- Sino-Japanese War of 1894 - 1895
  - Chinese navy destroyed
  - Taiwan ceded to Japan
  - large indemnity
  - most-favored-nation
  - more treaty ports
  - Korea
The scramble for concessions
The scramble for answers

- radicalization of domestic politics
- the “Hundred Days of Reform” in 1898
  - ambitious reform program
    - examination system
    - bureaucracy
    - modernization
  - suppressed by conservatives in Qing court
- reformist leaders fled to Japan
The Boxer Rebellion in 1900

- Peasants in cities of Northern China
- Name actually translates to “Society of Harmonious Fists”
- support from high officials of Qing court
- destruction of anything foreign
- siege of the foreign quarter in Beijing
8-nation forces invaded Beijing

- Harsh settlement
- station troops in Beijing
- huge payments to European powers demanded to pay for the European cost of stopping the Boxers
- Russian troops in Manchuria
  - until 1905
Imperialism in China
Fall of the (Qing) Manchu

1. Western traders influences change China drastically and the govt stuck with tradition rather than westernize.

2. Created confusion, instability and made peasants angry which led to multiple rebellions and bankrupted the government.

3. The empire's inability to control the Europeans resulted in the fall of the Qing and the collapse of the entire Imperial system.
Legacies of Imperial Era

- enormous size
- ideological and moral commitment
- strong personal leadership at the apex
- nationwide governing bureaucracies
  - merit-based civil service exam system
  - combination of executive and judicial power
- low status of merchants
- civilization v. nationalism