

KEY PEOPLE IN THE REVOLUTION OF CHINA.

SUN YAT-SEN



Who was he? _____

Major Ideas: _____

Importance: _____

CHIANG KAI-SHEK



Who was he? _____

Major Ideas: _____

Importance: _____

**MAO TSE-TUNG
(MAO ZEDONG)**



Who was he? _____

Major Ideas: _____

Importance: _____

The story behind China's Revolution.

Early 1900's foreign countries controlled China's foreign trade and economic resources. Many Chinese believed modernization and nationalism were needed for China to survive. They wanted to build a large army and navy, construct modern factories, reform education.

1912 The Revolutionary Alliance overthrew the last emperor of the Qing (pronounced "Chin") Dynasty. The Qing dynasty had ruled China since 1644. The leader was Sun Yixian (Sun Yat-sen) [1866-1925]. The Revolutionary Alliance then became the Nationalist Party (Kuomintang). Sun Yixian became the president of the new Republic of China. His party wanted to establish a modern government based on:

"Three Principles of the People"

1. Nationalism - an end to foreign control
2. People's rights - democracy
3. People's livelihood - economic security for all Chinese.

"The Chinese people..do not have national spirit. Therefore even though we have four hundred million people gathered together in one China, in reality, they are just a heap of loose sand."
(Sun Yixian).

Sun Yixian only lasted six weeks as president. He was a revolutionary leader but lacked authority and military support. Sun Yixian turned over the presidency to Yuan Shikai, a powerful general. By 1913 Yuan betrayed the democratic ideals of the party and ruled as a military dictator. His actions created local revolts. His generals refused to fight the rebels. Civil War then broke out in China. Yuan Shikai died in 1916. China remained in chaos. Sun Yixian tried to revive the Nationalist party but China remained in the hands of local warlords. Their armies controlled as much land as possible.

Chinese peasants suffered the most. The warlords pillaged and looted everywhere. Many crops were destroyed, famine killed millions. Bridges and roads were left in disrepair. When World War I began in Europe China was in desperate need of reform.

In 1917 the government in Beijing, hoping for an allied victory, declared war on Germany. They hoped that China would get back the lands that Germany took. However, the Treaty of Versailles gave these lands to Japan. The Chinese were enraged. On May 4, 1919, 3,000 angry students gathered in Beijing in protest. They yelled "*Down with European imperialists!*" and "*Boycott Japan.*" Similar demonstration spread across China and the demonstrations created a national movement. It was called the May Fourth Movement. Workers, manufacturers, shopkeepers, and professionals joined the cause. Sun Yixian shared the ideas of this movement but the people did not want Sun Yixian's beliefs in Western ways. They wanted reform in the same way Lenin did in Russia. They wanted communism.

In 1920 small groups of Chinese intellectuals were meeting in Shanghai and Beijing. They discussed Marx's communist beliefs. They viewed the Soviet Union, under the rule of Lenin, as a model for social, political and economic change. In Shanghai, in 1921 the Chinese Communist party was formed and Mao Zedong was one of its founding members.

While the Communist party was forming Sun Yixian was breaking away from Western ideas. He made an agreement with Lenin to create the Nationalist Party along the same lines as the Bolsheviks. Lenin, in return, gave China military aid for allowing members of the communist party to join the Kuomintang.

Sun Yixian died in 1925 and the Kuomintang was led by Jiang Jieshi (formerly called Chiang Kai-shek). He was the son of a middle-class merchant and many of his followers were bankers and businesspeople. They feared a Communist take over of China. At first the Nationalist Party and the communists joined together to overthrow the warlords but soon after Jiang Jieshi turned against the Communists. In April of 1927 the Nationalists moved into Shanghai and killed many Communist party leaders. The survivors went into hiding. In 1928 Jiang Jieshi became president of the Nationalist Republic of China. Both Great Britain and the United States formally recognized this new government. The Soviet Union did not.

Jiang Jieshi did little to improve the life of the peasants. His government became less democratic and more corrupt. Many peasants allied themselves with the Communists. Mao Zedong had fled to the country. In order to have the peasants on the side of the Communist party he divided land among the local farmers. He believed that he could bring a revolution to a rural country where the peasants could be the true revolutionaries.

By 1930 the Nationalists and the Communists were fighting a bloody civil war. Mao and the Communist leaders took hold of south-central China. He trained his men in guerrilla warfare. In 1933 Jiang Jieshi gathered an army of at least 700,000 men to attack the Communists in their mountain stronghold. They tried to prevent food and supplies from reaching the Communists but their 80,000 army broke through the lines. The Communist army began a march to safety to the north. This one-year march, which covered 6,000 miles, was called the Long March. Only about one in ten people arrived that the great bend of the Huang River. Those who survived continued to spread the word of Communism through China.

In 1937 Japan invaded China. The Communists and Nationalists worked together against the Japanese. In 1945 when Japan was defeated, the Communist and Nationalist Parties prepared to fight each other again. This time the Communists had the advantage. The Nationalist party did most of the fighting against the Japanese and the country was in poor financial situation. There was a high rate of inflation and the Communists used this to their advantage. In 1947 Jiang Jieshi and his followers were exiled to Taiwan. Mao and his followers created the People's Republic of China.

The Communists created housing, medical care and food supplies. They supported education and equal rights for women. Between 1949 and 1952 they took over all of the businesses. As many as one million people were killed during the Communist takeover.

EVENT	YEAR	RESULTS
Opium Wars	1839	China lost war to Great Britain Forced to open its ports to allow European trading rights inside China.
Sino-Japanese War	1894	Japan easily defeated China Japan took Chinese land and Created own area of economic control.
Open Door Policy	1899	U.S. proposed equal trading rights for all nations in China. This stopped China from being divided up by foreign powers. Helped Chinese trade.
Boxer Rebellion	1900	Boxers opposed to foreign influence, rebelled against Western ideas and Imperialism. Attacked foreigners living in China. Rebellion crushed by foreign armies sent to China.
Russo-Japanese War	1904	Japan defeated Russia, seized province of Manchuria. This showed China too weak to stop other nations fighting over its territory.
Revolt Against Manchus	1905	Lead by Sun Yat-sen. Tried to establish a democratic government but difficult due to many local rulers (warlords) who refused to give up their powers.
Revive China Society	1911	Political party created Sun Yat-sen. His revolution caused the fall of Qing dynasty (Imperial government). Now formed National People's Party, members called Nationalists. Only controlled Southern China.
United Republic	1912	Yuan Shih-k'ai, head of emperor's army in North made agreement with Sun Yat-sen. China became a united republic. China had no money, warlords continued fighting. Russia helped Sun Yat-sen fight warlords.
Rise of Communism	1921	Mao Tse-tung helped form communist party, won support of Chinese farmers (90% population).
New Leader	1925	Sun Yat-sen died, replaced by Chiang Kai-shek. Nationalists attacked communists. Communist escaped during "Long March" (6,000 miles to North China)
Japan invades China	1931	Japan seized Manchuria (most northern province).
Three Chinas	1941	Japan controlled Manchuria and eastern cities Nationalists ruled in southwest. Communists ruled in northeast.