China After Mao
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- East Asian Studies Professor – U. of Washington
- **Focus**: Gender, Art, Cultural Studies; Song Dynasty
- Author of sixteen books
Communist Party

- **EBREY**: Pace of change extraordinary (566)
  - But party maintained power & membership
- **Hua Guofeng (1976-78)** – Arrested Gang of Four and blamed them for Cultural Revolution
Deng Xiaoping

- 1978-92 (retired); dies in 1997
- “Poverty is not socialism”
- **Four Modernizations**
  - Agriculture, Industry, Science, and Technology
- 15M party members back to school
  - 14% HS, 4% College degrees in '78
- 1978 – **Democracy Wall** – One year of freedom of speech until it was shut down
Westernization

- Visited US in 1979 to discuss econ & cultural ties
- Sent troops to VIE to retaliate for invasion of CMB
- 1980 – First **Special Economic Zone** (Shenzen)
  - Foreigners & Western teachers abound
  - Low taxes to foreign investors
  - Christian churches, Taoist & Buddhist temples reopen
  - People dress colorfully

![Shenzhen plan for city-wide SEZ](image)
Party Changes

- 1983-86 – Crackdown on CCP corruption
  - 109K expelled by 1987

- 1983 – “Spiritual Pollution” crackdown
  - Not everyone happy w/ Western changes, esp. w/ youth
  - Leads to Tiananmen Square demonstrations in 1989
  - After TS, 48M members submitted self-evaluations
    - 1M were sent to the country to “learn from the masses”
A “Socialist Market Economy”

• Deng: USSR fell b/c central planning ≠ prosperity
  – Don’t worry about labeling, just worry about progress
  – Rewrote constitution to explain SME

• 1990s – Local elections permitted & caused some political change
After Deng

- **EBREY**: Rapid growth not a simple success story
- Essentially bankrupt government, high unemployment, corruption, low education
- 63M party members (Stats 567)
Economic Restructuring

- Urban-Rural wealth gap changes
  - Poverty: 33% in 1976 to 6.5% in 1998
- 1980 – End of collective farming
  - Great for rural areas
  - 1995 – 125M private farms w/ higher wages
# Privatization and its Impact

- **Special Economic Zones**
  - Incentives to foreign investors ➔ low taxes, new plants, well-trained cheap labor
  - 17% of world’s garment exporters; 7.3B shoes

- 1990-2000 – 30-35M unemployed & military halved

- 1992 – 100M Rural workers migrated to cities once controls were lifted ➔ crime, housing & food issues

- 1997-98 – Rural healthcare shortage & peasant rebellions

- 1990s – ↑ in disposable income ➔ durable good & Western purchases
  - 1978 – Zero privately owned cars ➔ 2010 – More than USA
Education

• 1977 – Reinstitution of college entrance exams
• Higher wages for teachers & cost of educ. grew
  – Rural kids paid teachers for educ. through labor (572)
• Urban and rural divide in education & illiteracy
Arts

• End of Cultural Revolution → rebirth of the arts
  – **EBREY**: Sufferers found it politically possible to write of their experiences

• Government tolerance
  – But still restricted some Western films
  – Censored internet and foreign media
Gender Roles

• 1920s – Push for equality begins
  – Right to divorce, contraception, etc.

• Women played larger role in Revolution than before
  – Official rhetoric said to treat both genders equally
  – *EBREY*: Reality lagged behind the rhetoric; Confucian Filial Piety still dominant
  – Visible, but not relevant

• Post-Mao – Women given jobs, but less pay, first to be fired, worse jobs w/ same education
Population Control

• Late 1970s – One Child, One Family Policy
  – Two children in rural CHN
  – Work units gave people permission to marry & have kid
  – 1990s – Relaxed so families who only had a daughter to try again to have a son
  – Even now, more female fetuses aborted, and children adopted
  – Concern for how they’ll care for elderly parents and thrive without extended family
Family Life

- Arranged marriages fell last 20 years
- Divorce legal and common, esp. in cities
- Breakdown of traditional family & Confucian values
  - Youth began to supersede elderly as youth moves to cities
Criticism

• 1978 – Democracy Wall – Wei Jinshen calls for 5th Modernization & democracy → wall ends in ’79
  – Wei imprisoned & exiled to US in 1997

• 1986 – Fang Lizhi stressed adopting Western political system → Deng crackdown on students → dismisses Hu Yaobang for being too liberal

• 1988 – TV series *River Elegy* questions conservative/backward nature of CHN
1989

- April – Protests begin
- Deng: “counter-revolutionary turmoil”
- May – Int’l press in Beijing to cover Gorby visit
  - Crackdown begins when he leaves
- June 3 & 4 – Tanks in Tiananmen Square → 500 dead
  - Hardliners justify suppression to protect stability → compulsory political classes in 1990s universities
1990

- No real uniting issue for critics
- **Li Hongzhi** leads **Falun Gong** (Tao/Buddhist org.)
  - Mass protest in 1999 → most imprisoned; sect outlawed
- 2000s – Environmentalism rises → Olympics 2008
Foreign Policy

• 1960s – Split w/ USSR

• 1970s – Supported Khmer Rouge in CMB

• 1972 – Triangular Diplomacy w/ Nixon & Kissinger

• 1980s – Friendly w/ West; distanced from USSR

• 1984 – UK agrees to return Hong Kong in 1997

• 2000s – Increases diplomatic role
  – Joins World Bank, IMF, Asian Development Bank, WTO
Taiwan

• 1975 – Chiang Kai-Shek dies → Chiang Chingkuo

• Late 1980s – Multi-party parliamentary democracy

• 1949-1970s – US & UN recognized Taiwan as CHN
  – Nixon normalizes relations & Taiwan is recognized as part of People’s Republic of China
Taiwan’s Growth

- Japanese land reform & industrial development
- Foreign investment
- Investment in technical training
- 1960s-Present – Export oriented economy
  - 1966 – Tax-Free export zone
- 1987 – Travel allowed to mainland
- 2000 – Kuomintang (KMT) lost reeelection to DPP