

Lesson 3

Imperial China Collapses



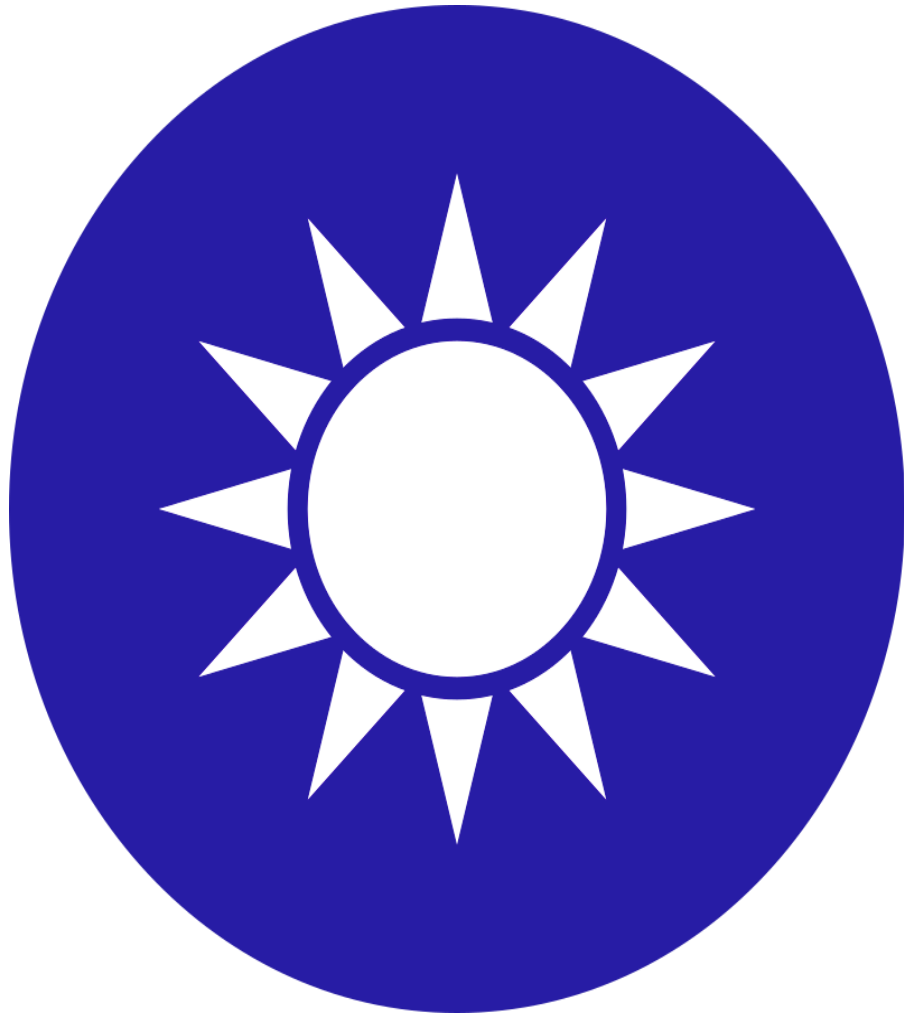
Setting the Stage

- In the early 1900s, China was ripe for revolution. China had faced years of humiliation at the hands of outsiders. Foreign countries controlled its trade (opium) and economic resources. Many Chinese believed that modernization and nationalism held the country's keys for survival. They wanted to build up the army and navy, to construct modern factories, and to reform education. Yet, others feared change. They believed that china's greatness lay in its traditional ways.

Nationalists Overthrow Qing Dynasty

- **Kuomintang**, or the the Nationalist Party was led by **Sun Yixian** and pushed for modernization and nationalization of the economy.
- In 1911, the Revolutionary Alliance overthrew the last emperor of the Qing Dynasty.
- In 1912, Sun Yixian became president of the new Republic of China.
- Sun hoped to establish a modernized government based on the “**Three Principles of the People**”
 1. **Nationalism** – end foreign control
 2. **People’s Rights** - democracy
 3. **People’s Livelihood** – economic security for all Chinese

Kuomintang



Sun Yixian



Civil War

- Without an established national army, Sun Yixian utilized regional armies.
- However, the most powerful of these armies was controlled by **General Yuan Shikai**.
- Unable to defeat Yuan Shikai, Sun Yixian stepped down as president in 1912.
- As the new president, Yuan Shikai turned against all democratic reforms. After his death in 1916, China fell into civil war.
- **The Warlord Era** (1916-1927) erupted into civil war and saw China break into a jigsaw of regions controlled by local warlords.

World War I Spells More Problems

- In 1917, the government in **Beijing**, hoping for an Allied victory, declared war against Germany .
- China believed the Allies would reward their participation by returning control of Chinese territories previously belonging to Germany.
- However, under the **Treaty of Versailles**, the Allied leaders gave those Chinese territories to Japan.
- Outrage swept country and on May 4th, 1919, over 3,000 angry students gathered in the center of Beijing.
- Soon, the demonstrations spread to other cities and exploded into a national movement called the **May Fourth Movement**.
- These demonstrations showed the Chinese people's commitment to the goal of establishing a strong, modern nation. Many young students favored Communism to Democracy in order to end foreign imperialism.

Students in Beijing May 4th



The Communist Party in China

- In 1921, a group met in Shanghai to organize the Chinese Communist Party.
- Mao Zedong, an assistant librarian at Beijing, was among its founders and future leader.
- Mao believed Chinese peasants living in rural areas would be the true revolutionaries of his movement.
- He argued:

“The force of peasantry is like that of the raging winds and driving rain. It is rapidly increasing in violence. No force can stand in its way. The peasantry will tear apart all nets which bind it and will hasten along the road to liberation. They will bury beneath them all forces of imperialism, militarism, corrupt officialdom, village bosses and evil gentry.”

-Mao Zedong quoted in *Chinese Communism and the Rise of Mao*



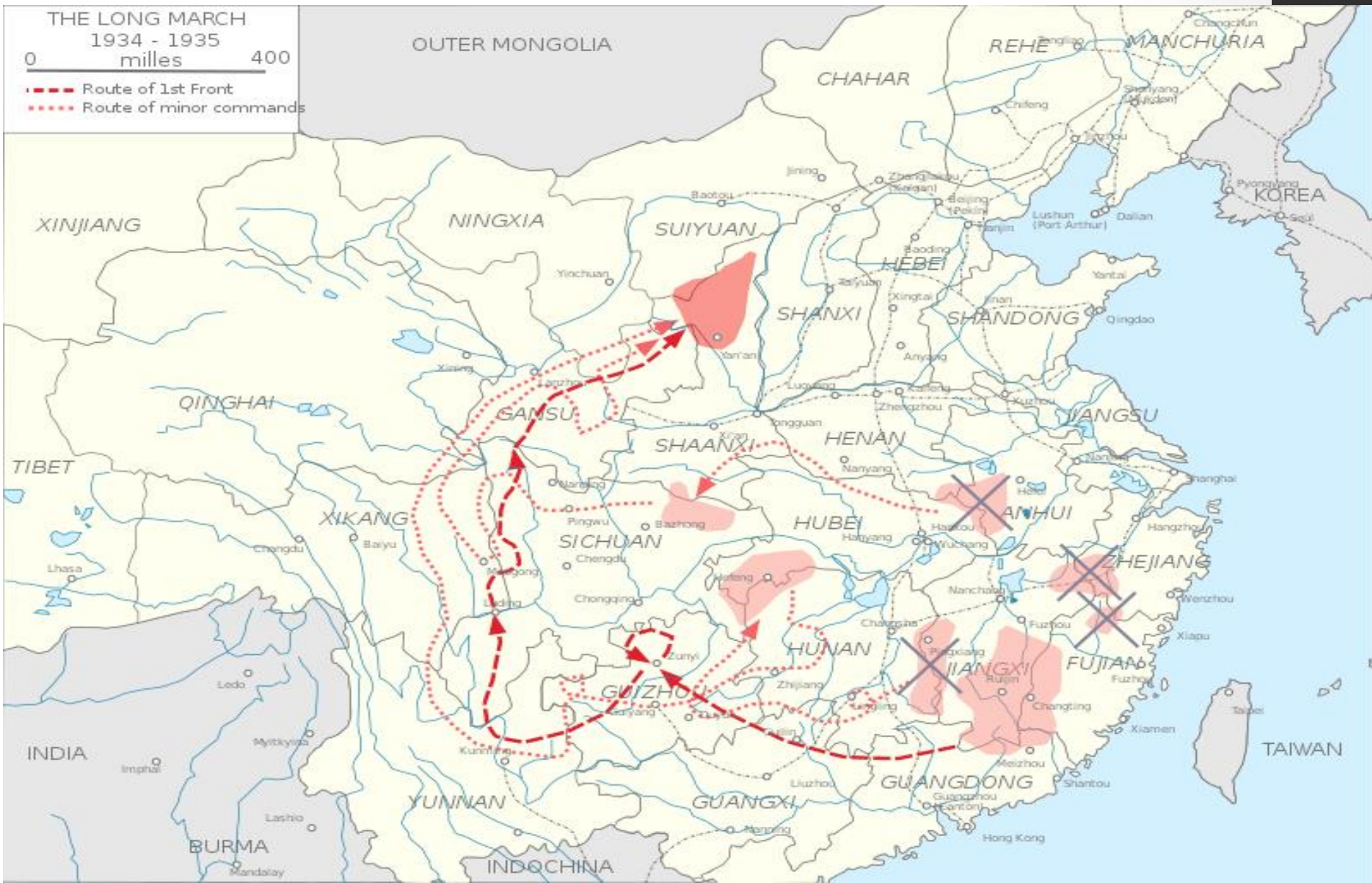
**热烈欢呼第四届全国人民代表大会胜利召开
沿着毛主席的革命路线奋勇前进**

Guided Reading

- Read pg. 467
- Lenin Befriends China
- Peasants Align with the Communists
- Nationalists and Communists Clash

The Long March

Read pg. 468



#4

Assessment

1. Make a chart that lists the reforms of Jiang Jieshi and Mao Zedong.

Jiang Jieshi (pg. 467)	Mao Zedong (pg. 466)
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

2. What influence did foreign nations have on China from 1912 to 1938? Give 3 examples. (Pg. 465-467)
3. What caused the Communist revolutionary movement in China to gain strength? (Pg. 465)
4. What were the results of the Long March? Give two examples. (Pg. 468-469)