

TimeLine - Some key time period: Rise of Qing to Rise of Communist Party in China

1644 – Qing Dynasty

1839 – First Opium War

1856- Second Opium War

1860 – Second defeat of the Chinese in war and the Anglo-French occupation of Peking led to SSM

1860S – SSM (learn the superior barbarian techniques with which to repel the Babarians), lasted 35 years, superficial attempt at modernization, more commendable parts of the Western civilization – political systems, economic institutions, philosophy, literature and the arts, were totally ignored – china had little to learn from the West attitude

1895 – Chinese defeat in the Sino-Jap War

1898 – Hundred Day Reform – broaden the modernization program to include political reform as well - Chinese learning for fundamentals, western learning for practical application – still did not advocate complete Westernization – but rather the creation of hybrid polity containing both Chinese and Western elements – failure too

Revolutionary activities initiated by Dr Sun Yat-sen – believed that China's problems will not be solved by a partial institutional reform but by a complete revolution – nationalistic-racial revolution he advocated the overthrow of the Manchu rule – initially did not get the support from the scholars and the gentry, only the lower classes and the overseas Chinese

1900 – Boxer Rebellion (Dr Sun image transformed to one of patriotic revolutionary)

1911 – Revolution and the establishment of western style Republic/Imperial dynasty abolished. Although a break was made with the outdated political system, the hand of the past continued to weigh heavily in social habits and intellectual life – corruption, warlordism, attempts to revive monarchy, disorder was rife

1916 – Death of Yuan Shi-kai, Warlord Era, Fragmented China

1919 – May 4th Movement – the institution of the republic was not accompanied by the peace and stability that was expected, and Chinese intellectuals became convinced that without a thorough thought reform no good government and social improvement was possible – promoted a New Cultural Movement and an intellectual revolution – opposed traditionalism and Confucianism and advocated complete westernization science and democracy – two main philosophies emerged during this period of ideological ferment – pragmatism and Marxist Revolutionary approach

1921 – CCP formed amidst the intellectual revolution surrounding the May 4th Movement

1923 – Collaboration between CCP and Nationalist Party – First United Front

1927 – Split between CCP and Nationalist

1928 – Chiang Kai-shek established nationalist government in Nanking

Nationalist campaigns against Mao and his followers

1934 – 6000 miles long march to the Northwest

1936-7 – CCP and KMT formed a second united front, Sin-Japanese War

1945 – End of war with Japan, Second Phase of Chinese Civil war broke out

1949 – Nationalist lost, established themselves in Taiwan, CCP established the PRC in 1949

1949-1959/early 1960s – First Decade of Political, Economic and Social reforms in PRC, Foreign Policies

1959-1961 – Great Leap Forward

1967 – Cultural Revolution

1976 – Death of Mao

1978 onwards – Rise of Deng and Economic Reforms and Political Rigidity?

1989 – Tiananmen Square Massacre