

Trade Relations

- ▶ For years, Chinese regulations had ensured favorable trade relations
- ▶ China traded porcelain, tea and silk for gold, and silver
- ▶ Europeans had a trade deficit

Changing Relationship



- ▶ By late 1700s, changes impacted this trade relationship
- ▶ British merchants also began selling the drug opium to Chinese
- ▶ Outlawed opium and executed drug dealers
- ▶ Britain did not stop selling opium

Results of Opium War

- ▶ Chinese forced to sign Treaty of Nanjing
- ▶ A second war resulted in China being forced to open all ports to Christian missionaries.

Taiping Rebellion

- ▶ Peasants revolted against the Qing Dynasty
 - ▶ Causes:
 - ▶ government of China didn't maintain irrigation systems, which led to massive flooding
 - ▶ Peasants had to pay heavy taxes while the imperial court lived lavishly
 - ▶ Results:
 - ▶ Imperial forces put down the rebellion
 - ▶ 20-30 million people died

Need to Reform?

- ▶ Reformers in the 1860s began the “self-strengthening movement,”
 - ▶ translating Western works and developing Western-style industries
- ▶ In the late 1800s, Empress Ci Xi gained power
 - ▶ She opposed change and was committed to Confucian tradition

What was Japan doing?

- ▶ While China debated, Japan adopted Western technologies
- ▶ Japan joined the competition to create an empire in China.

European Powers Move in

- ▶ China's loss showed their weakness
- ▶ European powers moved in to demand concessions
- ▶ Britain, France, Germany, Russia, and Japan carved out separate spheres of influence in China.



Hundred Days of Reform



- ▶ Reformers in China blamed conservatives for China's failure to look ahead
- ▶ Young emperor Guang Xu launched the "Hundred Days of Reform" in 1898
- ▶ But Empress Ci Xi and the conservatives retook control, executed Guang Xu, and halted reform

Boxer Uprising

- ▶ In 1900, a secret society, The Righteous Harmonious Fists formed
- ▶ Boxer Uprising
 - ▶ attacked foreigners all across China
 - ▶ Western powers joined forces to defeat the Boxers

Result of the Boxer Uprising

▶ Results:

- ▶ Forced to grant concessions to foreigners
- ▶ Conservatives began to recognize the need for reform
- ▶ Schools stressed science and mathematics instead of Confucian thought
- ▶ China began to expand economically and a new business class emerged
- ▶ Chinese nationalism spread