

# CHAPTER 32

## SOCIETIES AT CROSSROADS

### INTRODUCTION

The dramatic economic expansion of western Europe and the United States in the nineteenth century was not matched by the older empires of Asia. The Ottoman empire, the Qing dynasty, the Russian empire, and Tokugawa shogunate had all been vibrant and dynamic cultures at one time, but by 1800 had become isolated and backward. By 1900, all four had been challenged and changed profoundly. Some common dimensions of those changes are:

- Conservative autocratic regimes. None of the regimes discussed here shared in the liberal ideals of the Enlightenment or the revolutionary era. Rulers were absolute; individuals had few rights; and dissent was viewed as dangerous.
- Military unpreparedness. Since these regimes failed to modernize, they found themselves outgunned by the western powers. Often this realization followed a humiliating defeat—the loss of Egypt for the Ottomans, the Opium War for China, the Crimean War for Russia, and the unequal treaty forced on Japan by the United States. For most regimes, this realization led to a radical restructuring of the military.
- Weak economies. All four regimes lacked the basic elements for industrialization: capital, free workers, and infrastructure. China and Japan had been closed economies and had little contact with the outside world. The Ottoman and Russian empires had been agricultural societies with large unskilled peasant populations.
- Imperial pressures. All four had to fight off the imperialistic encroachments of the industrializing powers. The Qing dynasty was the least successful and, by the end of the century, had lost control of its economy and much of its territorial sovereignty. Japan was most successful in competing economically and militarily with the west.
- Reform from the top down. Change, when it came, was entirely at the discretion of the rulers. Japanese reformers, for example, perceived that a written constitution would give credibility to their new state, so that the emperor “gave” a constitution to the people that retained all power to the emperor. The Russian tsar granted, then rescinded, an elected legislature after the revolution of 1905.

### OUTLINE

#### **I. Introduction: Ottoman empire, Russia, China, and Japan**

##### A. Common problems

1. Military weakness, vulnerability to foreign threats
2. Internal weakness due to economic problems, financial difficulties, and corruption

##### B. Reform efforts

1. Attempts at political and educational reform and at industrialization

2. Turned to Western models
- C. Different results of reforms
  1. Ottoman empire, Russia, and China unsuccessful; societies on the verge of collapse
  2. Reform in Japan was more thorough; Japan emerged as an industrial power

## II. The Ottoman empire in decline

- A. The nature of decline
  1. Military decline since the late seventeenth century
    - a) Ottoman forces behind European armies in strategy, tactics, weaponry, training
    - b) Janissary corps politically corrupt, undisciplined
    - c) Provincial governors gained power, private armies
  2. Extensive territorial losses in nineteenth century
    - a) Lost Caucasus and central Asia to Russia; western frontiers to Austria; Balkan provinces to Greece and Serbia
    - b) Egypt gained autonomy after Napoleon's failed campaign in 1798
      - (1) Egyptian general Muhammad Ali built a powerful, modern army
      - (2) Ali's army threatened Ottomans, made Egypt an autonomous province
  3. Economic difficulties began in seventeenth century
    - a) Less trade through empire as Europeans shifted to the Atlantic Ocean basin
    - b) Exported raw materials, imported European manufactured goods
    - c) Heavily depended on foreign loans, half of the revenues paid to loan interest
    - d) Foreigners began to administer the debts of the Ottoman state by 1882
  4. The "capitulations": European domination of Ottoman economy
    - a) Extraterritoriality: Europeans exempt from Ottoman law within the empire
    - b) Could operate tax-free, levy their own duties in Ottoman ports
    - c) Deprived empire of desperately needed income
- B. Reform and reorganization
  1. Attempt to reform military led to violent Janissary revolt (1807–1808)
  2. Reformer Mahmud II (1808–1839) became sultan after revolt
    - a) When Janissaries resisted, Mahmud had them killed; cleared the way for reforms
    - b) He built a European-style army, academies, schools, roads, and telegraph
  3. Legal and educational reforms of the Tanzimat ("reorganization") era (1839–1876)
    - a) Ruling class sought sweeping restructuring to strengthen state
    - b) Broad legal reforms, modeled after Napoleon's Civil Code
    - c) State reform of education (1846), free and compulsory primary education (1869)

- d) Undermined authority of the *ulama*, enhanced the state authority
- 4. Opposition to Tanzimat reforms
  - a) Religious conservatives critical of attack on Islamic law and tradition
  - b) Legal equality for minorities resented by some, even a few minority leaders
  - c) Young Ottomans wanted more reform: freedom, autonomy, decentralization
  - d) High-level bureaucrats wanted more power, checks on the sultan's power
- C. The Young Turk era
  - 1. Cycles of reform and repression
    - a) 1876, coup staged by bureaucrats who demanded a constitutional government
    - b) New sultan Abdül Hamid II (1876–1909) proved an autocrat: suspended constitution, dissolved parliament, and punished liberals
    - c) Reformed army and administration: became source of the new opposition
  - 2. The Young Turks, after 1889, an active body of opposition
    - a) Called for universal suffrage, equality, freedom, secularization, women's rights
    - b) Forced Abdül Hamid to restore constitution, dethroned him (1909)
    - c) Nationalist: favored Turkish dominance within empire, led to Arab resistance
    - d) The empire survived only because of distrust among European powers

### III. The Russian empire under pressure

- A. Military defeat and social reform
  - 1. The Crimean War (1853–1856)
    - a) Nineteenth-century Russia expanded from Manchuria, across Asia to Baltic Sea
    - b) Sought access to Mediterranean Sea, moved on Balkans controlled by Ottomans
    - c) European coalition supported Ottomans against Russia in Crimea
    - d) Crushing defeat forced tsars to take radical steps to modernize army, industry
  - 2. Emancipation of serfs in 1861 by Alexander II
    - a) Serfdom supported landed nobility, an obstacle to economic development
    - b) Serfs gained right to land, but no political rights; had to pay a redemption tax
    - c) Emancipation did not increase agricultural production
  - 3. Political and legal reforms followed
    - a) 1864, creation of *zemstvos*, local assemblies with representatives from all classes
    - b) A weak system: nobles dominated, tsar held veto power
    - c) Legal reform more successful: juries, independent judges, professional attorneys
- B. Industrialization
  - 1. The Witte system: developed by Sergei Witte, minister of finance, 1892–1903

- a) Railway construction stimulated other industries; trans-Siberian railway
  - b) Remodeled the state bank, protected infant industries, secured foreign loans
  - c) Top-down industrialization effective; steel, coal, and oil industries grew
2. Industrial discontent intensified
- a) Rapid industrialization fell hardest on working classes
  - b) Government outlawed unions, strikes; workers increasingly radical
  - c) Business class supported autocracy, not reform
- C. Repression and revolution
1. Cycles of protest and repression
- a) Peasants landless, no political power, frustrated by lack of meaningful reform
  - b) Antigovernment protest and revolutionary activity increased in 1870s
  - c) Intelligentsia advocated socialism and anarchism, recruited in countryside
  - d) Repression by tsarist authorities: secret police, censorship
  - e) Russification: sparked ethnic nationalism, attacks on Jews tolerated
2. Terrorism emerges as a tool of opposition
- a) Alexander II, the reforming tsar, assassinated by a bomb in 1881
  - b) Nicholas II (1894–1917), more oppressive, conservative ruler
3. Russo-Japanese War, 1904–05: Russian expansion to east leads to conflict with Japan
4. Revolution of 1905: triggered by costly Russian defeat by Japan
- a) Bloody Sunday massacre: unarmed workers shot down by government troops
  - b) Peasants seized landlords' property; workers formed soviets
  - c) Tsar forced to accept elected legislature, the Duma; did not end conflict

#### IV. The Chinese empire under siege

- A. The Opium War and the unequal treaties
1. Opium trade a serious threat to Qing dynasty by nineteenth century
- a) Chinese *cohong* system restricted foreign merchants to one port city
  - b) China had much to offer, but little demand for European products
  - c) East India Company cultivated opium to exchange for Chinese goods
  - d) About forty thousand chests of opium shipped to China yearly by 1838
2. The Opium War (1839–1842)
- a) Commissioner Lin Zexu was directed to stop opium trade
  - b) British refused; Lin confiscated and destroyed twenty thousand chests of opium
  - c) British retaliated, easily crushed Chinese forces, destroyed Grand Canal
3. Unequal treaties forced trade concessions from Qing dynasty

- a) Treaty of Nanjing, 1842: Britain gained right to opium trade, most-favored-nation status, Hong Kong, open trade ports, exemptions from Chinese laws
- b) Similar unequal treaties made to other Western countries and Japan
- c) By 1900, China lost control of economy, ninety ports to foreign powers

#### B. The Taiping rebellion

1. Internal turmoil in China in the later nineteenth century
  - a) Population grew by 50 percent; amount of land and food increased more slowly; poverty strained resources
  - b) Other problems: official corruption, drug addiction
  - c) Four major rebellions in 1850s and 1860s; the most dangerous was the Taiping
2. The Taiping (“Great Peace”) program proposed by Hong Xiuquan
  - a) Called for end of Qing dynasty; resented Manchu rule
  - b) Radical social change: no private property, footbinding, concubinage
  - c) Popular in southeast China; seized Nanjing (1853), moved on Beijing
3. Taiping defeat by combined Qing and foreign troops
  - a) Gentry sided with government; regional armies had European weapons
  - b) Taipings defeated in 1864; the war claimed twenty to thirty million lives

#### C. Reform frustrated

1. The Self-Strengthening Movement (1860–1895)
  - a) Sought to blend Chinese cultural traditions with European industrial technology
  - b) Built shipyards, railroads, weapon industries, steel foundries, academies
  - c) Not enough industry to make a significant change
  - d) Powerful empress dowager Cixi opposed changes
2. Spheres of influence eroded Chinese power
  - a) Foreign powers seized Chinese tribute states of Vietnam, Burma, Korea, Taiwan
  - b) 1898, they carved China into spheres of economic influence, each a different province
3. The Hundred-Days reforms (1898)
  - a) Two Confucian scholars advised radical changes in imperial system
  - b) Young Emperor Guangxu inspired to launch wide-range reforms
  - c) Movement crushed by Cixi and supporters; emperor imprisoned; reformers killed
4. The Boxer rebellion (the Society of Righteous and Harmonious Fists), 1899–1900
  - a) Local militia attacked foreigners, Chinese Christians
  - b) Crushed by European and Japanese troops

- c) Collapse of Qing dynasty in 1912

## V. The transformation of Ja

### VI. pan

#### A. From Tokugawa to Meiji

1. Crisis and reform in early nineteenth century
  - a) Crisis: crop failure, high taxes, rising rice prices all led to protests and rebellions
  - b) Tokugawa *bakufu* tried conservative reforms, met with resistance
2. Foreign pressure for Japan to reverse long-standing closed door policy
  - a) 1844 requests by British, French, and United States for the right of entry rebuffed
  - b) 1853, U.S. Commodore Perry sailed U.S. fleet to Tokyo Bay, demanded entry
  - c) Japan forced to accept unequal treaties with United States and other Western countries
3. The end of Tokugawa rule followed these humiliations
  - a) Widespread opposition to shogun rule, especially in provinces
  - b) Dissidents rallied around emperor in Kyoto
4. The Meiji restoration, 1868
  - a) After brief civil war, Tokugawa armies defeated by dissident militia
  - b) The boy emperor Mutsuhito, or Meiji, regained authority
  - c) End of almost seven centuries of military rule in Japan

#### B. Meiji reforms

1. Meiji government welcomed foreign expertise
  - a) Fukuzawa Yukichi studied Western constitutions and education
  - b) Ito Hirobumi helped build Japanese constitutional government
2. Abolition of the feudal order essential to new government
  - a) Daimyo and samurai lost status and privileges
  - b) Districts reorganized to break up old feudal domains
  - c) New conscript army ended power of samurai; rebelled in 1877 but lost
3. Revamping the tax system
  - a) Converted grain taxes to a fixed money tax: more reliable income for state
  - b) Assessed taxes on potential productivity of arable land
4. Constitutional government, the emperor's "gift" to the people in 1889
  - a) Emperor remained supreme, limited the rights of the people
  - b) Less than 5 percent of adult males could vote
  - c) Legislature, the Diet, was an opportunity for debate and dissent

5. Remodeling the economy and infrastructure
  - a) Transportation: railroads, telegraph, steamships
  - b) Education: universal primary and secondary; competitive universities
  - c) Industry: privately owned, government controlled arms industry
  - d) *Zaibatsu*: powerful financial cliques, similar to trusts but filial
6. Costs of economic development borne by Japanese people
  - a) Land tax cost peasants 40 percent to 50 percent of crop yield, provided 90 percent of state revenue
  - b) Peasant uprisings crushed; little done to alleviate suffering
  - c) Labor movement also crushed; Meiji law treated unions and strikes as criminal
7. Japan became an industrial power in a single generation
  - a) Ended unequal treaties in 1899
  - b) Defeated China in 1895 and Russia in 1904

#### IDENTIFICATION: PEOPLE

What is the contribution of each of the following individuals to world history? Identification should include answers to the questions *who, what, where, when, how, and why is this person important?*

Muhammad Ali

Mahmud II

Abdül Hamid II

Alexander II

Sergei Witte

Lin Zexu

Hong Xiuquan

Empress Dowager Cixi

Commodore Matthew Perry

Emperor Mutsuhito (Meiji)

Ito Hirobumi

IDENTIFICATION: TERMS/CONCEPTS

State in your own words what each of the following terms means and why it is significant to a study of world history. (Terms with an asterisk are defined in the glossary.)

Janissaries

The "capitulations"\*

Tanzimat\*

Young Turks\*

Crimean War

*Zemstvos*\*

Soviets\*

Duma\*

*Cohong* system\*

Opium War

Unequal treaties

Taiping rebellion\*

Self-Strengthening Movement\*

Spheres of influence

Boxer rebellion

Tokugawa shogunate\*

Meiji restoration\*

Daimyo\*

*Bakufu*

Neo-Confucianism\*



## STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What factors led to the territorial decline of the Ottoman empire over the course of the nineteenth century? What territories were lost?
2. Compare the reforms of the Tanzimat era with the program of the Young Turks.
3. What significant political and legal reforms did the Russian government implement in the late nineteenth century?
4. What was Count Witte's program for the industrialization of Russia? What were the results?
5. What were the sources of social discontent and agitation in Russia in the late nineteenth century? How did the government respond?
6. What events led to the Russian revolution of 1905? What was the outcome of this revolution?
7. Why was the opium trade so important to the British? What factors led to the Opium War and how was this war resolved?
8. What was the impact of the Treaty of Nanjing on the Chinese empire? What nations benefited from this treaty?
9. What were the causes of the Taiping revolution? What was the outcome?
10. Overall, what weaknesses led to the collapse of the Qing dynasty?
11. What factors led to the collapse of the Tokugawa government and the restoration of the emperor Meiji in 1868?
12. How did Japanese reformers achieve rapid industrialization of Japan? What were the results of this effort? What were the costs?

## INQUIRY QUESTIONS

1. Before 1800, both China and Japan had limited contact with the outside world. The leaders of both nations considered theirs to be a superior culture and did not seek or welcome change. Discuss changes in the Chinese and Japanese attitudes toward Western ideas and Western technology over the course of the nineteenth century.
2. Both Russia and Japan undertook ambitious programs of modernization and industrialization in the late nineteenth century. Compare the results and account for the differences.
3. Why were the states considered in this chapter so reluctant to grant political freedoms? Is it possible to reform a society without granting basic freedoms such as free speech, free press, freedom of religion, and the right to vote? Before answering "no," consider the experience of Japan.

## STUDENT QUIZ

1. At the end of the nineteenth century, the Ottoman empire, Russian empire, Qing dynasty, and Tokugawa Japan were “societies at crossroads” because
  - a. they were all dealing with the challenges of rapid industrialization.
  - b. they discovered through wars and confrontations that they were militarily much weaker than the Western powers.
  - c. they were all forced to grant equal rights and political freedom to their people.
  - d. they were all competing for the same colonies and resources.
  - e. all of the above.
  
2. The Ottoman military had declined by the nineteenth century because
  - a. the Janissary Corps was more interested in palace intrigues than in military training.
  - b. the Janissaries resisted all efforts to modernize the army.
  - c. many provincial rulers had private mercenary armies.
  - d. Ottoman forces carried outmoded equipment.
  - e. all of the above.
  
3. By 1913, all of the following provinces had gained either independence or autonomy from Ottoman control *except*
  - a. Anatolia.
  - b. Egypt.
  - c. Greece.
  - d. Serbia.
  - e. All of the above had gained independence.
  
4. The “capitulations” were humiliating concessions to the West that
  - a. allowed Western powers to establish spheres of influence within Ottoman territory.
  - b. forbade the manufacture of cotton cloth and obliged Ottomans to buy textiles from Britain.
  - c. held European citizens exempt from Ottoman laws and taxes.
  - d. restricted the exchange of technology and prevented the emergence of domestic industry in the Ottoman Empire.
  - e. permitted unrestricted traffic in and out of the Black Sea.
  
5. The most significant achievement of the sultan Mahmud II was the
  - a. creation of a system of primary education.
  - b. legal emancipation of women.
  - c. creation of a modern army.
  - d. creation of a legislative assembly.
  - e. reconquest of Egypt.
  
6. Tanzimat legal reforms included all of the following rights *except*
  - a. equality before the law for all subjects.
  - b. public trials in civil courts.
  - c. right to privacy.
  - d. women’s right to sue for divorce.
  - e. All of the above *were* Tanzimat legal reforms.

7. Which of the Young Turk proposals caused the most dissension in the Ottoman empire?
  - a. Turkish as the official language of the empire
  - b. equality before the law
  - c. free public education
  - d. freedom of religion
  - e. universal suffrage
  
8. The Russian empire was defeated in the Crimean War because
  - a. the Ottoman army was superior in arms and training.
  - b. Britain and France joined forces to prevent Russian expansion into the Ottoman empire.
  - c. Russian troops mutinied and demanded a new constitution.
  - d. the people of the Balkan Peninsula resisted Russian advances.
  - e. the Russian troops were inadequately trained.
  
9. The emancipation of Russian serfs in 1861
  - a. was achieved at the tsar's insistence.
  - b. was intended to avert a revolution.
  - c. brought freedom but few political rights for the peasants.
  - d. did not significantly increase agricultural production.
  - e. all of the above.
  
10. Which of the following was *not* part of Count Witte's policy of industrialization?
  - a. construction of the trans-Siberian railroad
  - b. banking reform to encourage domestic savings and investment
  - c. protective tariffs to support emerging Russian industries
  - d. nationalization of key industries such as coal and steel
  - e. promotion of foreign investment in Russian industry
  
11. The Russian intelligentsia promoted terrorism as a strategy for political reform because
  - a. their attempts at peaceful reform were crushed by the tsarist authorities.
  - b. Tsar Alexander II refused to consider any reform measures.
  - c. socialists elsewhere in Europe had found assassination to be an effective way to make their case to the public.
  - d. they were affiliated with Zionists, who advocated the use of terrorism when necessary.
  - e. all of the above.
  
12. Which of the following could *not* be considered a contributing cause of the Russian revolution of 1905?
  - a. the lack of a representative legislative body
  - b. the defeat of Russia in the Russo-Japanese war
  - c. the Bloody Sunday massacre
  - d. the government's failure to address the inequities of land ownership
  - e. All of the above *were* factors in the revolution of 1905.

13. The British insisted on their right to trade opium with China because
  - a. they were unaware of the social and health risks of opium addiction.
  - b. it was the only trade good that they could sell in China at a profit.
  - c. they planned to weaken the Chinese people with opium and then take over the Chinese economy.
  - d. they argued that opium was only a fraction of the volume of trade delivered to China.
  - e. the Chinese government had welcomed the opium trade in earlier times.
  
14. Which of the following was *not* a provision of the Treaty of Nanjing in 1842?
  - a. Britain gained control of Hong Kong Island.
  - b. British merchants gained the right to conduct the opium trade unimpeded.
  - c. Chinese ports were open to foreign trade and residence.
  - d. Christian missionaries were permitted to come into China.
  - e. Japan gained control of the island of Taiwan.
  
15. The Taiping rebellion was defeated when
  - a. the dowager empress imprisoned the emperor and ended the hundred-days reforms.
  - b. Nanjing was defeated by a combined force of imperial and European soldiers.
  - c. the dowager empress died, leaving a two-year-old child as emperor.
  - d. the British seized the Grand Canal and cut off north-south trade in the empire.
  - e. all of the above.
  
16. In China, a “sphere of influence” was
  - a. a city designated for trade between Chinese and European merchants.
  - b. a Christian mission where Chinese converts could live free of state persecution.
  - c. a district in which a foreign power had exclusive trade, transportation, and mineral rights.
  - d. a tributary state beyond the borders of the empire that paid taxes to the Qing dynasty in exchange for protection.
  - e. a state-sponsored academy based on European science.
  
17. The Tokugawa shogunate was overthrown because
  - a. the Japanese were outraged by the unequal treaty forced on them by Commodore Perry.
  - b. the samurai were in debt to the merchant class.
  - c. the emperor had failed in his obligations to protect the Japanese people.
  - d. the daimyo led a tax revolt.
  - e. Japanese merchants wanted more access to Western goods and technology.
  
18. The success of the Meiji restoration depended on destroying the power of
  - a. the daimyo and samurai classes.
  - b. the emperor and his court.
  - c. the Japanese military.
  - d. the independent merchants.
  - e. all of the above.
  
19. The capital for the early industrialization of Meiji Japan came primarily from
  - a. the export of textile products.
  - b. land taxes.
  - c. commercial taxes.
  - d. private investors.
  - e. foreign investors.

20. Which of the following was *not* a provision of the Meiji constitution?
- Japan became a constitutional monarchy.
  - The right to vote was based on property qualifications.
  - The emperor could disregard the recommendations of the Diet.
  - The lower classes were represented in the lower chamber of the Diet.
  - Individual rights were affirmed but made secondary to the needs of the state.

### MATCHING

Match these figures with the statements that follow.

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| A. Young Turks   | G. Lin Zexu     |
| B. Muhammad Ali  | H. Sergei Witte |
| C. Matthew Perry | I. Abdül Hamid  |
| D. Hong Xiuquan  | J. Mahmud II    |
| E. Alexander II  | K. Cixi         |
| F. Janissaries   | L. Mutsuhito    |

- \_\_\_ Leader who, although never officially the ruler, was effectively the last of the Qing dynasty.
- \_\_\_ Village schoolmaster whose vision of a radically reformed Chinese society inspired the Taiping revolution.
- \_\_\_ Moderate tsar who emancipated the serfs but denied them political rights.
- \_\_\_ Egyptian general who successfully challenged the Ottoman empire.
- \_\_\_ Leader who rose to power in a palace coup and promised to honor a new constitution, but soon revoked that promise and ruled as an autocrat.
- \_\_\_ American who forced Japan at gunpoint to open its doors and who brought down the Tokugawa government.
- \_\_\_ Sultan who built a modern army and destroyed the Janissaries.
- \_\_\_ Chinese commissioner who tried unsuccessfully to stop the flood of opium into his country.
- \_\_\_ Liberal reformers who forced the Ottoman sultan to accept a written constitution, with greater freedom and equality.
- \_\_\_ Group that was once the military elite of the Ottoman empire; by the nineteenth century, they had become corrupt and reactionary.
- \_\_\_ Boy emperor who reclaimed his power after the collapse of the Tokugawa shogunate.
- \_\_\_ Russian finance minister who pursued a program of aggressive modernization and industrialization.

## SEQUENCING

Place the following clusters of events in chronological order. Consider carefully how one event leads to another, and try to determine the internal logic of each sequence.

### A. In the Ottoman empire:

- \_\_\_\_\_ An autocratic state becomes increasingly corrupt, economically backward, and militarily vulnerable.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Within a year, the new sultan, Abdül Hamid, suspends the constitution and rules as an autocrat.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sultan Mahmud II restructures the military and reforms the imperial bureaucracy, all of which enhances the power of the sultan.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The Young Turks stage a coup and restore the constitution and Parliament but also alienate ethnic minorities.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Dissatisfied with the pace of reform, young dissidents stage a coup and demand a written constitution.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Broad legal and educational reforms inspired by Western societies had the net effect of undermining the Muslim foundations of society and strengthening the state.
- \_\_\_\_\_ By 1913, the Ottoman empire was brittle and vulnerable.

### B. In the Russian empire:

- \_\_\_\_\_ An autocratic state becomes increasingly corrupt, economically backward, and militarily vulnerable.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The tsar is forced to agree to a legislative assembly, the Duma.
- \_\_\_\_\_ In order to avert civil unrest, Tsar Alexander II emancipates the serfs in 1861.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Workers and peasants across the empire rise up in protest, governing themselves through local councils or soviets.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Peasants serve in local assemblies but have little real power. Government censorship and repression prevent meaningful political participation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Government troops fire on a peaceful demonstration of workers, killing 130.
- \_\_\_\_\_ By 1913, the Russian empire has made significant progress in industry but remains economically backward and politically unstable.

C. In the Qing dynasty:

- \_\_\_ An autocratic state becomes increasingly corrupt, economically backward, and militarily vulnerable.
- \_\_\_ With European arms and assistance, Qing forces crush the Taiping rebellion; twenty to thirty million people are killed.
- \_\_\_ The imperial family and powerful gentry crush the reform movement and imprison the emperor.
- \_\_\_ The dowager empress decides that “foreign devils” are responsible for the civil unrest and promotes the disastrous Boxer rebellion against all foreigners in China.
- \_\_\_ A young, idealistic emperor launches an ambitious reform program with a constitution, civil liberties, and public education.
- \_\_\_ A desperate peasant army embraces the vision of Hong Xiuquan for an egalitarian society without class distinctions or private property.
- \_\_\_ By 1911, the Qing dynasty has lost control of the Chinese economy and much of its territory; the last emperor is forced to abdicate.

D. In Tokugawa Japan:

- \_\_\_ An autocratic state, the shogunate, becomes increasingly corrupt, economically backward, and militarily vulnerable.
- \_\_\_ Power is centralized, and the powerful daimyo and samurai lose their feudal privileges.
- \_\_\_ Peasants cannot vote, cannot strike or organize protests, and yet they bear the primary expense for the modernization of Japan.
- \_\_\_ In a “gift” to his people, the emperor presents a constitution that provides an elected legislative body but retains ultimate power for the emperor.
- \_\_\_ Opposition to the shogunate coalesces around the boy emperor, Meiji, who is restored to his rightful authority in 1868.
- \_\_\_ An American naval officer forces the Tokugawa government to receive U.S. merchant ships and to sign an unequal treaty, demonstrating the military superiority of the United States.
- \_\_\_ By 1905, Japan has emerged as a new industrial power, largely through the discipline and dedication of its people.

## QUOTATIONS

For each of the following quotes, identify the speaker, if known, or the point of view. What is the significance of each passage?

1. "Chinese learning at the base, Western learning for use."
2. "Every citizen will enjoy complete liberty and equality, regardless of nationality or religion, and be submitted to the same obligations. All Ottomans, being equal before the law as regards rights and duties relative to the State, are eligible for government posts, according to their individual capacity and their education. Non-Muslims will be equally liable to the military law."
3. "It is better to abolish serfdom from above than to wait until the serfs begin to liberate themselves from below."
4. "If the merchants of your honorable country wish to enjoy trade with us on a permanent basis, they must fearfully observe our law by cutting off, once and for all, the supply of opium."
5. "We know that the ancient laws of your Imperial Majesty's government do not allow of foreign trade except with the Dutch. But as the state of the world changes, and new governments are formed, it seems to be wise from time to time to make new laws. . . . If your Imperial Majesty were so far to change the ancient laws so as to allow a free trade between [our] two countries, it would be extremely beneficial to both."

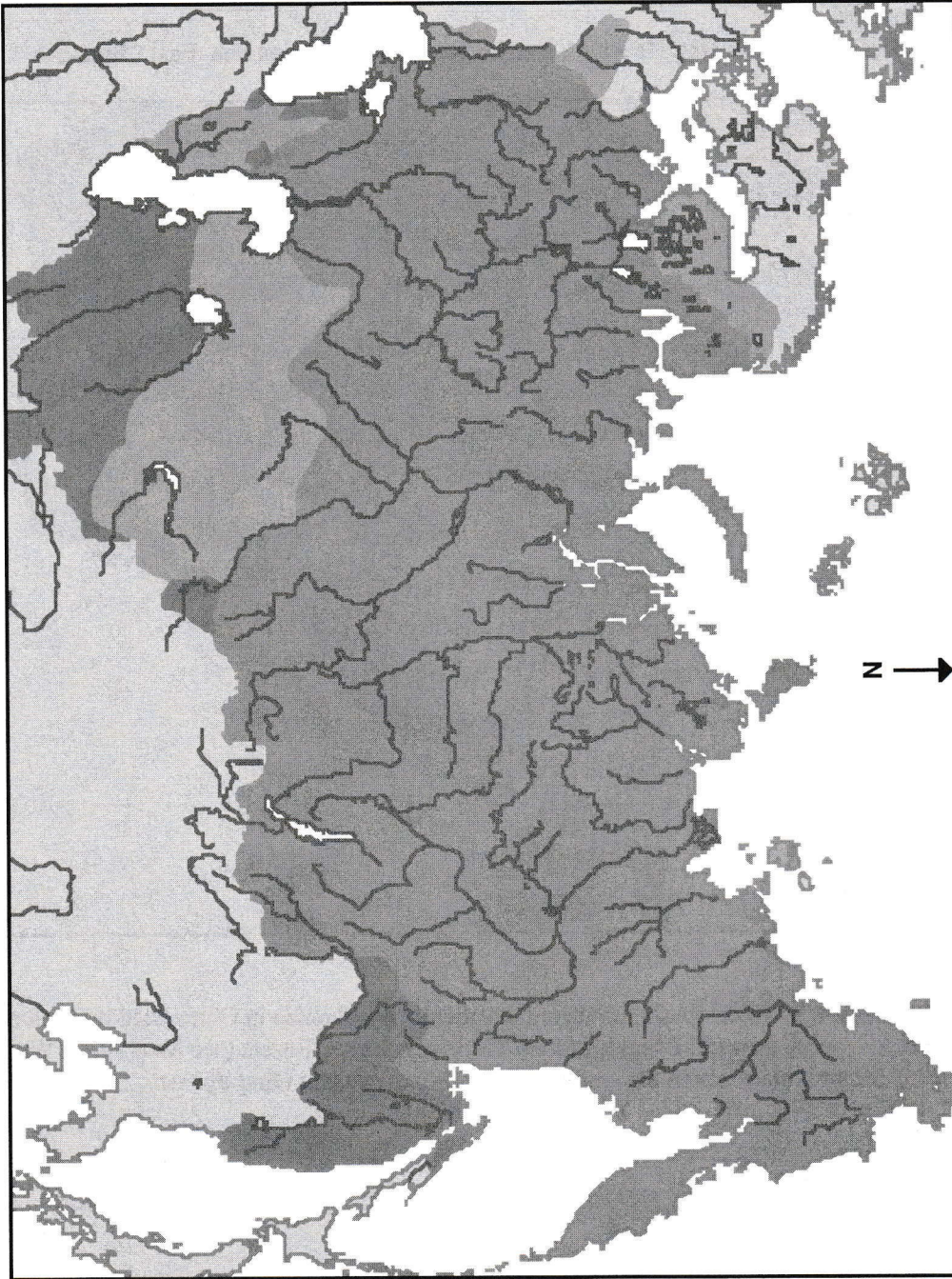
## MAP EXERCISES

1. Compare the map of the Ottoman empire (Map 32.1, page 882 in the textbook) with the modern map of the same region (Map 39.3, page 1110). How many modern nations did the Ottoman empire control in 1800? How many of these countries were still under Ottoman control in 1913, on the eve of World War I?

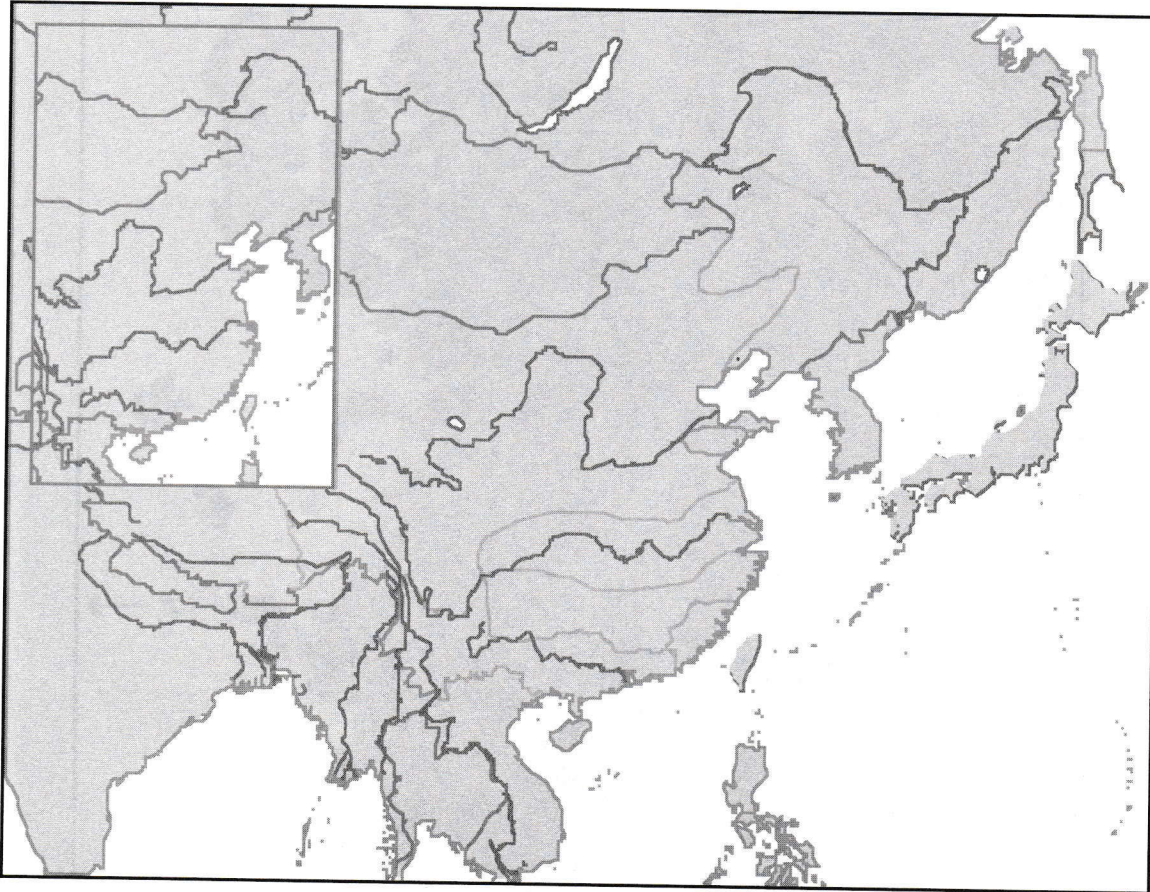


2. Locate and label the following on the map of the Russian empire (see Map 32.2, page 888).

- Cities: Archangel, Irkutsk, Kiev, Moscow, Port Arthur, St. Petersburg, Vladivostok
- Bodies of water: Aral Sea, Baltic Sea, Barents Sea, Bering Sea, Black Sea, Caspian Sea, Lake Baikal, Sea of Okhotsk
- Features: Ural Mountains, Kamchatka, Trans-Siberian Railroad
- Surrounding states: Finland, Japan, Manchuria, Mongolia, Ottoman empire, Persia, Poland



3. Explain how Russian territorial acquisitions in the nineteenth century enhanced trade and transportation for the empire.
4. Locate and label the following on the outline map of east Asia below (see Map 32.3, page 896).
  - States: Burma, China, India, Japan, Korea, Manchuria, Mongolia, Philippines, Russia, Siam, Taiwan, Tibet, Vietnam
  - Cities: Beijing, Edo, Guangzhou, Hanoi, Hong Kong, Macao, Nagasaki, Nanjing, Shanghai
  - Bodies of water: Huang He River, Yangzi River, South China Sea, East China Sea



5. On the outline map of east Asia, indicate the spheres of influence in China held by each of the following imperial powers: Britain, France, Germany, Japan, Russia (see Map 32.3). What does this picture reveal about the economic viability of the late Qing dynasty?

## CONNECTIONS

In fifty words or less, explain the relationship between each of the following pairs. How does one lead to or foster the other? Be specific in your response.

- The “capitulations” and the Young Turks
- The soviets and the Duma
- Emancipation of the serfs and the Revolution of 1905
- *Cohong* system and the Boxer Rebellion
- The Treaty of Nanjing and Commodore Perry
- Meiji restoration and the Russo-Japanese War

## FILMS

*Charge of the Light Brigade* (1968). A sharp antiwar film, set during the Crimean War, that shows both the flag-waving patriotism and the cynical balance-of-power diplomacy of the age.

*The Fixer* (1968). Based on a novel by Bernard Malamud, this story of a Jew falsely accused of murder in tsarist Russia is based on an actual event that provided the pretext for official persecution of Jews. Starring Alan Bates. In English.

*Samuari Assassin* (1965). Considered by many to be one of the greatest samurai films, this one tells the story of a samurai whose family stands to lose everything if plans for the Meiji restoration proceed. In Japanese with subtitles.

*55 Days at Peking* (1963). Foreign troops and diplomats defend the besieged international compound in Peking (Beijing) during the 1900 Boxer Rebellion. An uncritical view of Western imperialism. Starring Charlton Heston, Ava Gardner, and David Niven.

*Battleship Potemkin* (1925). Depicts the real-life mutiny aboard the battleship *Potemkin* during the Russian Revolution of 1905 as celebrated by the Communist regime twenty years later. A silent film by the Russian master Sergei Eisenstein.