Opium Dens and Beheadings: China 1842-1927

October 31, 2007

The Opium Wars and Their Legacy





IN AN OPIUM DEN, SHANGHAI

Themes of Modern China

- Class
  - From shi [scholars] to zhishi fenzi [intellectuals]
  - From nong to nongmin [peasants]
  - From gong to laodongren [workers]
  - From shang [merchants] to zichan jieji [bourgeoisie]
- State: from imperial to party-state bureaucracy
- Nation: from the Mandate of Heaven to Nationalism

Consequences of the Opium Wars

- Opening of treaty ports
  - The rise of Shanghai
- Extraterritoriality: the legal rights of foreigners
- Most favored nation clause
- Christian missionaries penetrate China
- China becomes a “semi-colony”

Major Rebellions and Recoveries

- Taiping Rebellion (1851-1864)
  - Hong Xiuquan (1813-1864): The Christian Revolutionary
- Self Strengthening
  - “Rich Nation Strong army”
- Japan’s Meiji Revolution 1868
  - The Sino – Japanese War, 1894-1895
- 1898: 100 Days of Reform
- 1900: The Boxers
- 1905: The Russo-Japanese War and Manchu Reform
- The Road to 1911

Internal Upheaval

- Taiping Rebellion / Revolutionary Movement (1850-1864)
  - Hong Xiuquan (1813-1864), the Christian revolutionary
- Recovery and Self-Strengthening
  - Zeng Guofan suppresses the Taiping
  - Technical education, armories, modern industry

China’s Humiliation by Japan



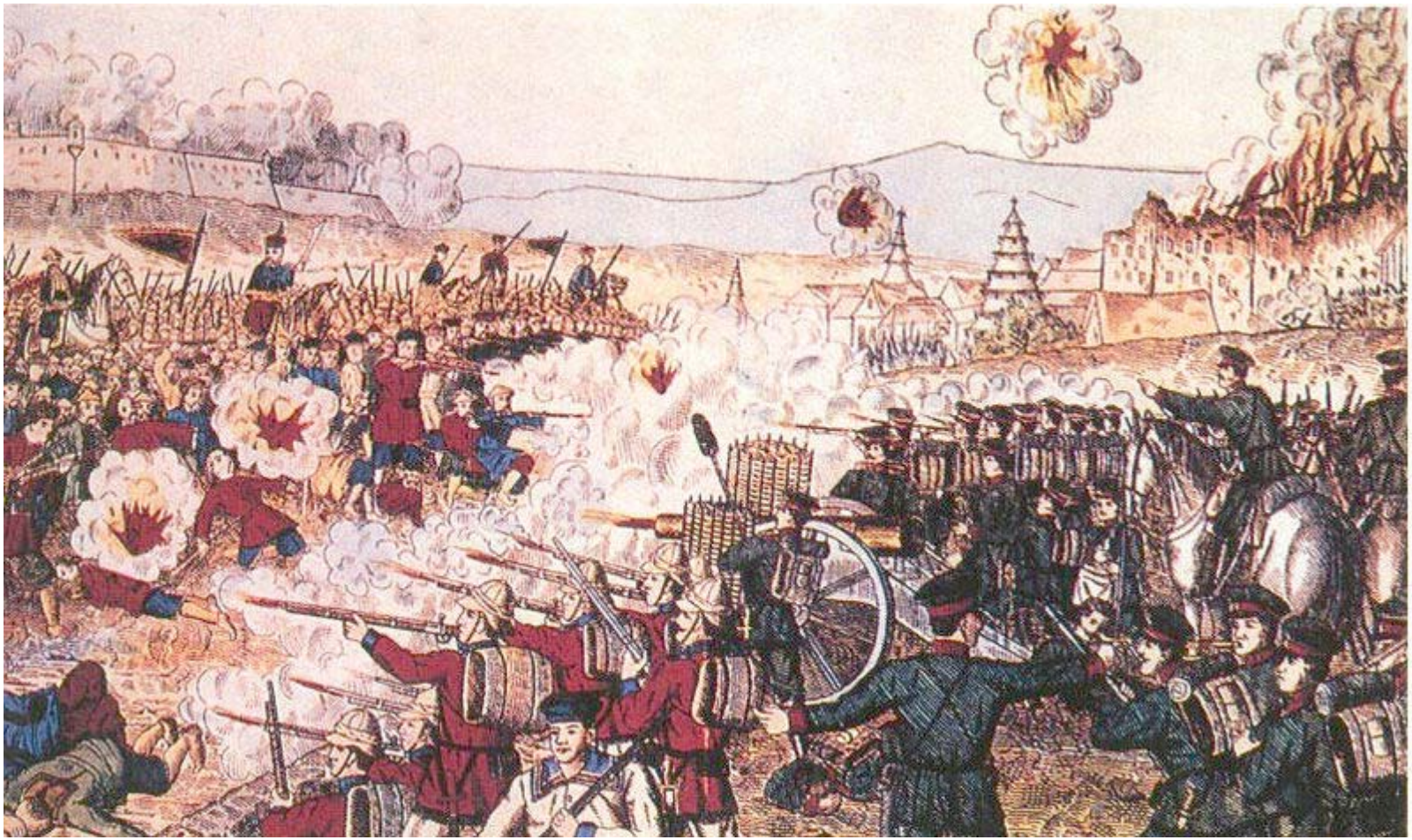
Radical Reform and the Boxers, 1898-1905

- 1898: 100 Days of Reform
- The Boxer Rebellion
- Manchu Reforms, 1905
  - Abolition of the Examination System
  - New Armies trained in Japan
  - Students sent abroad
- Revolutionaries and Reformers
  - Liang Qichao
  - Sun Yat-sen (1866-1925)

The Boxers' Revenge



Boxers Fight the English, French, and Japanese



Boxers attack the Cathedral



Fall of the Qing; China's Reunification

- The October 10 revolution, 1911
  - From Revolutionary Alliance to Nationalist Party [Guomindang]
- Yuan Shikai, militarist, President, and emperor
- Whampoa Military Academy and Chiang Kai-shek (1888-1975)

Marxism in China

- Mao Zedong (1893-1976)
- Li Dazhao, the founder of Marxism in China
  - China as a “proletarian nation”
  - Lenin’s Imperialism: The Highest Stage of Capitalism (1916)
  - Lenin and the Comintern
- The May 4th Movement, 1919

CCP and GMD in the First United Front

- The Northern Expedition, 1926-1927
- Chiang Kai-shek approaches Shanghai
- China “unified” under military leadership, Nationalist party ideology, capitalist finances, and underworld gangs.
- CCP destroyed?