

Nationalism and Revolution Around the World (1910–1939)

SECTION 1

STRUGGLE FOR CHANGE IN LATIN AMERICA

TEXT SUMMARY

After World War I, people all over the world wanted to control their own nations. Leaders spoke of self-determination. In some lands, they called for revolution.

Mexico was ruled by a dictator who welcomed foreign investors. They developed mines, built railroads, and drilled for oil. However, all the wealth and profits went to land and business owners. Most Mexicans were poor and had no land. In 1910, the people rebelled. They forced out the dictator, but the fight for sound government and freedom from foreign control lasted for years.

In 1917, a new constitution sought to reform laws governing land, religion, and workers. (See diagram at right.) In the 1920s, Mexican people became the first in Latin America to see real social and economic reform. Social change helped Indians regain land, supported labor unions, and spread education.

Nationalism swept throughout Latin America. By the 1920s, countries wanted economic independence from foreign nations, especially the United States. In response, the “Good Neighbor Policy” of the 1930s promised Latin America that

the United States would keep out of its affairs. Nationalism affected artists and writers as well. Art, books, and music showed a new pride in native culture.

THE BIG IDEA

Desires for land, better wages, and democratic reforms led to the Mexican Revolution.

GRAPHIC SUMMARY:

Mexico's Constitution

THE CONSTITUTION OF 1917

- Permits breakup of large estates
- Limits foreign ownership of Mexican land
- Returns some Indian lands
- Allows government takeover of natural resources
- Gives government control of church land
- Sets minimum wage for workers
- Protects the right of workers to strike
- Gives all men the right to vote
- Grants women some new rights

The constitution implemented reforms that were meant to serve all groups of society.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Why were Mexicans unhappy with their government in 1910?
2. **Chart Skills** Identify three ways that the new constitution helped Mexican workers.

NATIONALIST MOVEMENTS IN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST

TEXT SUMMARY

As World War I ended, the people of Africa were growing tired of their colonial status. They paid taxes to foreign nations, fought their wars, and worked their farms. During the 1920s and 1930s, nationalists spoke of returning Africa to the Africans. There were few total revolts, but many protests. (See chart below.) Only Egypt won its independence.

Nationalist movements also grew in the Middle East. After World War I, the Allies had divided the lands of the defeated Ottoman empire. The Turks, however, would not accept foreign control. In 1923, they made Turkey a republic and replaced old Muslim tradi-

tions with western ideas. Nationalists in Iran followed Turkey's lead.

During World War I, many Arabs had helped the Allies. In return, they had been promised independence. Instead, Britain and France took over territories, or **mandates**, throughout the Middle East. In the 1920s and 1930s, Arab nationalists sought to be free of foreign control. They hoped to unite all Arabs in their own state.

There was great conflict in the British mandate of Palestine. The Allies had promised Arabs land that included Palestine. They had also pledged to set up a Jewish nation in the same region. Even now, Arab and Jewish nationalists battle over this same land.

THE BIG IDEA

Following World War I, nationalist movements grew in Africa and the Middle East.

GRAPHIC SUMMARY: *African Nationalism in the 1920s and 1930s*

Kenya	South Africa	Nigeria
Leadership: Jomo Kenyatta	Leadership: African National Congress (ANC)	Leadership: Ibo women
Protests against: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of land • Forced labor • Heavy taxes • Laws forcing Africans to carry passes 	Protests against: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System of apartheid that separates races • White control of best jobs, lands, schools, etc. • Laws forcing black Africans to carry passes 	Protests against: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of rights for women • No voice in government
Results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jailing of nationalist leaders • Continuing protests 	Results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harsher system of apartheid 	Results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protests silenced by British guns

In the 1920s and 1930s, Africans protested their treatment under foreign rule.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What were two goals of Arab nationalists?

2. **Chart Skills** Name two reasons African nationalists protested foreign control.

TEXT SUMMARY

In 1858, India became officially a British colony. As time passed, Indians called for more freedom. (See time line below.) In 1885, nationalists set up the Indian National Congress (later called the Congress party). They worked to give Indians a voice in running their land.

World War I made the nationalist movement stronger. Indian soldiers had fought for Britain, yet they had few rights at home. Britain failed to fulfill its promise to grant India greater self-government. Post-war anger led to protest. On April 13, 1919, British troops killed nearly 400 protesters in the city of Amritsar.

In the 1920s and 1930s, Mohandas Gandhi led the nationalist movement in

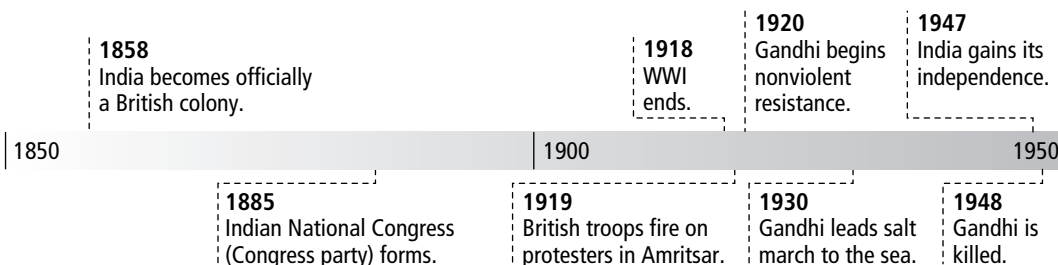
India. He taught that nonviolent resistance and **civil disobedience** (the refusal to obey unjust laws), not bloodshed, were the way to win rights. His followers did not buy British goods or follow their laws. Peaceful resistance won some new rights. However, India did not gain total independence until 1947, one year before Gandhi died.

As India struggled to be free, tensions grew between two religious groups. Muslims worried that the Hindu majority would rule a free India. Some wanted their own Muslim state, called Pakistan. This conflict would divide India for years.

THE BIG IDEA

After fighting for the British in World War I, Indian nationalists began demanding self-government.

GRAPHIC SUMMARY: *India and the Road to Self-Rule*



India was a British colony for almost 90 years.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Why were Indians angry after World War I?

2. **Time Line Skills** When did Gandhi begin leading peaceful protests against British rule?

TEXT SUMMARY

The new republic in China faced problems. There was upheaval in 1912 when Sun Yixian stepped down as president. The new leader tried to rule like an emperor. When he died in 1916, warlords from the provinces fought for power.

On May 4, 1919, students protested Japanese control of colonies in China. This began the May Fourth Movement. Its supporters aimed to make China stronger through modernization. Other groups looked to the revolutionary ideas of Marx and Lenin for answers.

By 1921, Chinese Communists had

formed their own party. Meanwhile, Sun Yixian had formed a Nationalist party, the **Guomindang**. At first, the two parties worked together to beat the warlords and unite China.

When Sun died in 1925, Jiang Jieshi, the new head of the Guomindang, saw the Communists as a threat. He began a fierce, 22-year war. A new Communist leader, Mao Zedong, turned to the peasants for support. He saw strength in their large numbers.

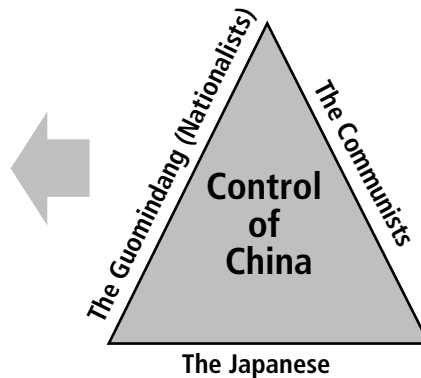
As the Nationalists and Communists waged civil war, Japan attacked. Until 1945, the Guomindang, the Communists, and the Japanese fought to control China.

THE BIG IDEA

The new republic of China was troubled by civil war and foreign invasion.

GRAPHIC SUMMARY: *Struggle for Control in China, 1931–1945*

- Leader: Jiang Jieshi
- Forces Communists into northern China in 1934
- Loses capital city to Japanese in 1937; moves inland to new capital



- Leader: Mao Zedong
- Flees Guomindang army in 1934
- Sets up base in northern China

- Invades Manchuria in 1931
- Attacks China in 1937 and seizes Nationalist capital

The Guomindang, the Communists, and the Japanese all struggled for control of China.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. When did civil war begin in China? What two parties fought for control?

2. **Chart Skills** Why did the Nationalist Guomindang move their capital in 1937?

EMPIRE OF THE RISING SUN

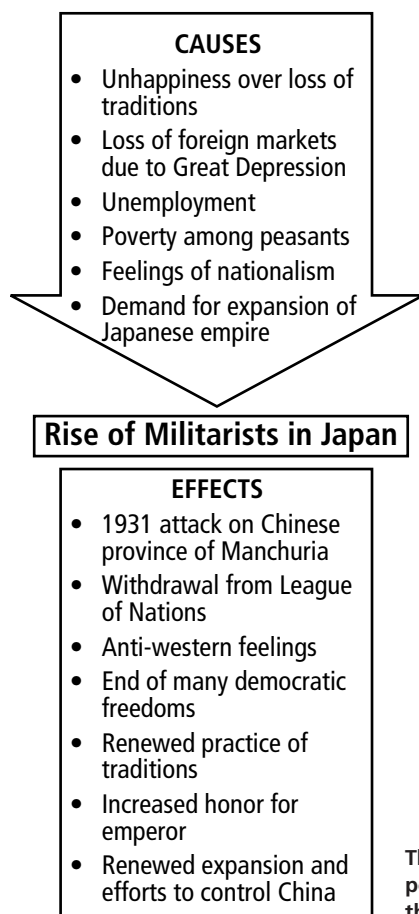
TEXT SUMMARY

World War I helped expand the economy of Japan. The Japanese exported goods to the Allies. However, the economy slowed in the 1920s. Peasants were poor, and workers earned low wages.

Looking for change, Japan moved

toward greater democracy. By 1925, all men could vote. Political parties were strong. The young Japanese backed the changes. They refused to follow traditions. They dressed in western styles and called for new rights.

GRAPHIC SUMMARY: *Japanese Militarists of the 1930s*



The militarists gained power in Japan during the 1930s.

In 1929, the world faced the **Great Depression**. During this period of economic downturn, nations could not afford to buy Japanese exports. Factories in Japan closed. Some Japanese blamed the democracy movement for the economic problems. Japan, they said, must expand its military and its empire.

Through the 1930s, these militarists gained power. (See diagram at left.) By 1937, democracy ended. Militarists demanded citizens serve the state and honor the emperor as a god. Schools encouraged nationalism and anti-western feelings.

During the 1930s, civil war raged in China. Seeing the chance to win lands, Japan attacked the weakened nation. (See Survey Chapter 29 and Modern Era Chapter 16, Section 4.) In 1939, as Japan fought for control in China, World War II broke out in Europe.

THE BIG IDEA

By the 1930s, the Japanese military dominated a government that emphasized service to the nation and a policy of imperialist expansion.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Why did the Great Depression cause problems in Japan?

2. **Chart Skills** What were two reasons the militarists were able to gain power in Japan?