

Deng Xiaoping and the Creation of Modern China



Mao's Economic Mistakes



- Strictly and radically followed Communist ideology
- The Great Leap Forward
 - People's Communes
 - Confusion, disorganization and bad weather
- The Great Famine

**“It doesn’t matter if the cat is black
or white, so long as it catches mice”
- Deng Xiaoping, 1962**



The Four Modernizations

The Dismantling of Mao's
Economy

1. Agriculture
 2. Industry and
Commerce
 3. National Defence
 4. Science and
Technology
-

AGRICULTURAL REFORM

The Chinese people could be productive without rigid governmental control.

- Families were responsible for working the land through long-term leases
 - Lifted price controls
 - Allowed to sell goods in the marketplace
 - Permitted to leave agricultural jobs
 - **Results:** 7 Years → Economic output increased by 48%
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Industry and Commercial Reform



- Engages in foreign relations, which had been halted during the Cultural Revolution of the 60s
- Establishes diplomatic ties with the United States
- Creates **Special Economic Zones** - SEZ - creates small, free market cities with tax incentives to attract investors and foreigners

Socialism vs. Communism

COMMUNISM

- Everything is owned by the working class and everyone works towards the same communal goal
- Ideally, no wealthy or poor -- all equal
- Production from the community is based on need, not on effort or amount of work.
- However, poor production, mass poverty and little advancement



SOCIALISM

- Similar, but less extreme
- Workers are paid and allowed to spend their wages as they choose, while the governing body owns and operates the means of production for the benefit of the working class.
- Each worker is provided with necessities so he is able to produce without worry for his basic needs

“Socialism with Chinese characteristics” - Deng Xiaoping

The government manages economic as well as social goods, such as healthcare and education. Most city workers in modern China obtain housing through their workplaces and pay very little rent.

Tiananmen Square Massacre - June 4, 1989

- Experienced a decade of economic growth and exposure to foreign ideas and institutions
- Students called for democracy and individual freedoms -- peacefully protested in Tiananmen Square for six weeks
- Communist leaders - including Deng - feared anarchy and insisted on forcible removal
- Martial law - Tanks and armed soldiers rolled into the square, killing 700 peaceful protesters
- Proved to the rest of the world that communism could only be maintained through violence



OPVL Reminders

1. **ORIGIN:** 1-2 sentences that explain where the source came from and that provides information about the author.
2. **PURPOSE:** 1-2 sentences that explain why the source was created and who the intended audience is.
3. **VALUE:** Point out at least two ways the document provides value to us as historians and learners studying this event. Use SPECIFIC references to the text and Origin and Purpose
4. **LIMITATIONS:** Point out at least two ways the document provides limitations to us as historians and learners studying this event. Use SPECIFIC references to the text and Origin and Purpose.