

HIST 3970: Modern China

Early Cultural and Economic Exchanges between China and Foreign Countries-Handout

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Chinese Names and Writing

- Mao Zedong or Mao Tse-Tung (Not Americanized)
- Chinese characters and writing



II. FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE QING

Questions?

- Identify neighboring countries of the Qing
- How would you feel about them if you were the Qing Emperor?
- What kinds of threats would these neighbors pose?
- How would you secure border control?
- What would you do if neighboring countries want to trade with you?



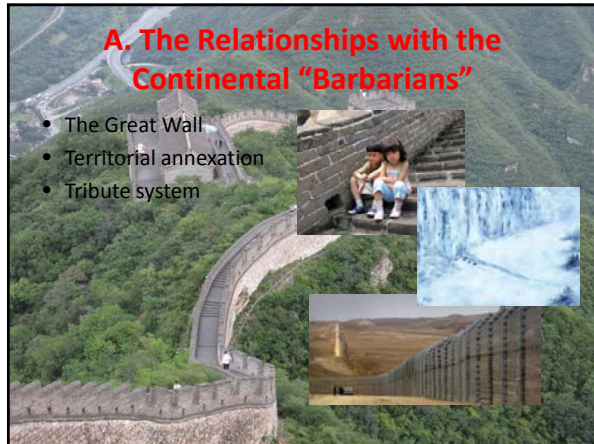
No Formal, Equal diplomatic Relationships

- Why?



A. The Relationships with the Continental "Barbarians"


- The Great Wall
- Territorial annexation
- Tribute system



B. The Tribute System

- The Qing
- Tribute states
- Different from European or Japanese feudal relations?

The basic logic behind the "tribute system" is the application of 文—which governed relations within Chinese society—to foreign relations



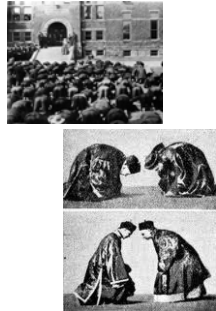
Hierarchical Foreign Relations

- Tribunal meetings in Beijing
- Japanese exception?



Foreign State Tribute to the Emperor

- Formal acknowledgment of China's cultural and political leadership



Emperor's Benevolence

- Recognized political legitimacy of the tribute states
- Allowed a controlled trade and visits in Beijing
- Gift giving and financing for the tributaries' stays in Beijing



Benefits of the Tributary System

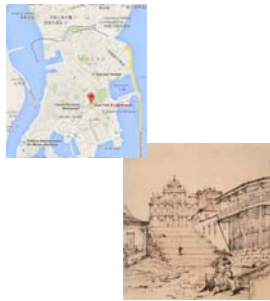
Qing	Tributary States

C. Relationships with Sea “Barbarians”

- From “King of Portugal” to “King of China”?
 - The Portuguese colonized the Malacca of Malay in 1511, a Sultanate tributary state to the Ming.
 - Portuguese King Manuel I in 1517 commissioned a diplomatic and trade mission to Canton.
 - Portuguese envoys fired a salute of cannon upon their arrival in Canton, which outraged Chinese sense of etiquette and required an immediate apology.
 - The Ming government treated them like tributaries and allowed them to visit Beijing.
 - The exiled Malaccan sultan lodged complaints to the Ming Emperor and asked for his help.
 - The rest of the Portuguese remained in Canton and built a fort with cannons and gallows that hanged their own sailor.
 - Accused of robbery, blackmail, buying Chinese children, they were imprisoned/ died or executed.

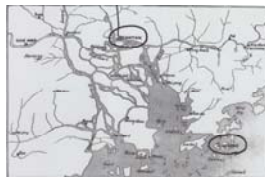
European Traders in Macao

- Portuguese trading in Macau
- Why?



D. The Canton System (1757-1842)

- The Qing’s attempts to safeguard the maritime frontier and control interaction with the West
- Canton (Guangzhou)
- Hoppos



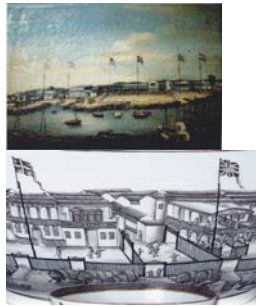
Cohong Merchants

- The Qing's attempts to monopolize commercial profits
- Cohong merchants (means: public business associations)
- Howqua (wealthiest and powerful)



European Traders

- European companies
- 13 Factories



E. Interpretations of Foreign Relations

- Traditional Account:
- Bias in this account?
- Revisionist Account: