

HIST 3970: Modern China

The Opium Crises, 1839-60 v.
9/21/14

I. THE ORIGINS OF THE OPIUM WAR

A. Growing Trade Imbalance

- Popularity of Chinese tea, silk, and china in Europe
- British manufactured goods not wanted in China



British Grievances Stonewalled

- Grievances?
- Lord Macartney's Embassy to Emperor Qianlong, 9/1793



B. The Opium Trade

- Traditional opium usage in China
- Official opium sale to China
- Ban on opium in China



Social Costs of the Opium Trade

- Opium smuggling to China
- Reversed the trade deficit for the British



Human Costs of the Opium Trade

- Growing Chinese addictions



C. Rise of British Free Traders

- Dissolution of the East India company's monopoly of China trade (1833)
- Dispatch of the British officials
- Private traders also demanded the changes.



D. Crackdown

- Debates in the Imperial court (Handout)
- Commissioner Lin Zexu



E. British Reactions

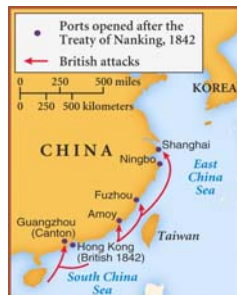
- Debates in the govt
 - Lord Palmerston, U.K. Prime Minister
 - Merchants William Jardine and James Matheson



II. THE OPIUM WAR

A. The First Opium War

- When did it begin?
- For the Chinese
- For the British



The British Military Victories

- Withdrawal into Hong Kong
- The British expeditionary forces



British Military Advantages

- The British



Military Unpreparedness of the Qing

- The Qing
- Qing forces in Nanjing



III. THE IMPACTS OF THE WAR

A. The Treaty of Nanjing (1842)



- Limits on China's sovereignty
- Indemnity payment

The Treaty of Bogue (1843)

- Extraterritoriality
- Most-favored nation clause
- Unequal treaty?

The Treaty of Tianjin (1858) & Beijing (1860)

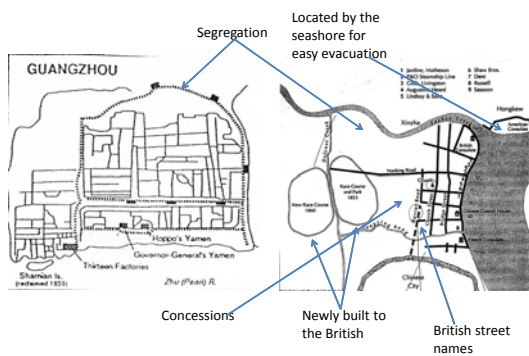
- Another Chinese defeats by the British and French
- Ten more treaty ports
- Freedom to go anywhere with passports
- Permanent residency of ambassadors in Beijing



B. The Treaty Port System (1842-1941)

- Opening of four more ports to trade and residency (1843)
- Abolition of the Cohong system
- Establishment of British consuls in treaty ports
- The system ended with the Pearl Harbor

Canton System v. Treaty Port System



Foreign Concessions in Treaty Ports

- Foreign concessions
- Foreigners
- Shanghai
- Fuzhou



Comparisons

	Tribute System	Canton System	Treaty Port System
Location	Beijing	Canton	More free ports
Time	Unfixed, short period	October-March	Unlimited access
Meeting w/ the Qing Emperor	Yes	No	No
Port Ownership	Qing	Qing	Foreign
Presence of Foreign Army	No	No	Yes

C. Continuous Opium Trade

- The War failed to stop opium trade and consumption
- The Treaty did not address the opium issue.
- 1860: Legalization of opium
- 1870: Opium (43% of China's imports); Cotton goods (28%)
- 1949: CCP closed down the opium dens and forced rehabilitation
- 1990: Return of opium to Shanghai