

## HIST 3970: Modern China

The Taiping Movements, 1851-64, v.  
10/7/14

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### I. RELIGION AND IDEOLOGY

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

#### A. Confucianism

- Confucius (Kong Qiu)
- Moral Philosophy, a set of ethical rules
- Five virtues of the Confucius
- Positive, secular view of humanity



仁  
義  
禮  
智  
信

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Can Ochocinco be regarded as a good Confucius person?**

- A doctrine of "right relationship"
- Justification of hierarchal social order
- People's rights to rebel against unjust or immoral rulers



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**B. Christianity before the War**

- Protestant missionaries
- Chinese ministers



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Christianity after the War**

- Treaty port missions



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## II. THE TAIPING MOVEMENTS, 1851-64

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### A. Southern Devastations

- The War exacerbated the existing problems.
- The incompetent central govt undermined the imperial prestige and control.



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### B. Hong Xiuquan (洪秀全)



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### A Hakka Chinese

- Hakka (guest people)
- Culturally conservative Han ethnic groups
- Hong was born into the poor peasantry family



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### A Frustrated Intellectual

- Failed civil service exams
- Encountered mental illness
- Encountered Christianity



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### A Leader of Religious Sects

- Preferred reading of the Old Testament
  - Han as the chosen people (Israel)
  - Manchu as the oppressor (Egypt)
  - Militant messages were more appealing than the messages of love your neighbors
- Aim to overthrow the Qing
  - Rebellion against the Manchu demons w/ the God's help
- Establishment of egalitarian society
  - Heaven on Earth
  - Belief in heaven and hell
- PIX:
  - Church service (segregation by genders)
  - Did not wear Qipao



---

---

---

---

---

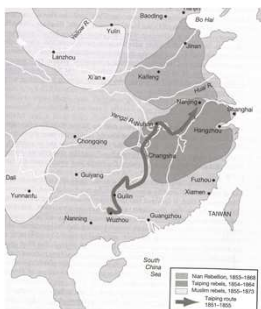
---

---

---

### A Leader of the Heavenly Kingdom of Great Peace

- Armed resistance against the Qing in Gwangsi (1850)
- 太平天國 (Taiping Tianguo)




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### C. Taiping Christianity

- Church services
- Amalgam of East-West ideas and practices




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### "Conservative" Religion

- Strict adherence to the Ten Commandments




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### D. Social "Reforms"

- Influence of traditional Chinese utopian ideas
- Commune structure
- War on social ills



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Economic "Reforms"

- Abolition of private property
- Distribution of the land
- Common sharing of the crops



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Gender "Reforms"

- Civil and military officers
- Equal job opportunities for work and soldiering
- Ban on footbinding
- Moved away from arranged marriage



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### E. Bloody Civil Wars

- Prevented the successful reforms
- Massive suffering



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Western Challenges

- From neutrality to hostility with the British
- Ever-victorious Army



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Limits of Taiping Christianity?

- Source of internal cohesion
- Source of external isolation



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Scholar-Gentry Oppositions

- Rise of Han Chinese militias
- Collapse of the movement



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---