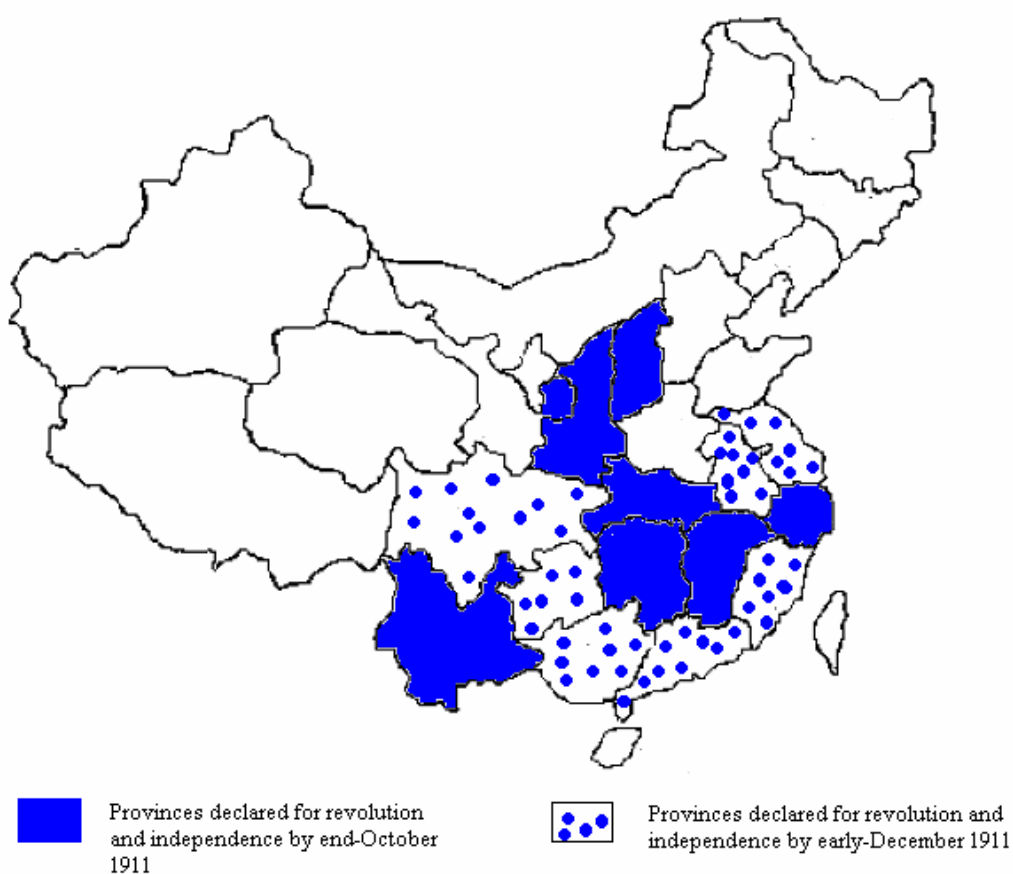


Content Focus 1: Early attempts in modernization – the impact of 1911 Revolution and attempts in modernization of the Nanjing Government

Study Sources A, B, C and D carefully.

Source A

The map below shows political changes in the provinces of China shortly after the Wuchang Uprising.



Source B

The following extract is about the 1911 Revolution.

...on October 10, 1911, a revolution against the existing Manchu dynasty had broken out; on February 12, 1912, the Manchus signed their Edict of Abdication. A republican form of government had already been set up at Nanking (Nanjing), with Dr. Sun Yat-sen (Sun Yixian) as Provisional President; when the Manchus abdicated, Dr. Sun voluntarily gave place to Yuan Shih-kai (Yuan Shikai), who became the first President of the Chinese Republic.

Source C

The following extract is cited from an article that assesses the impact of the 1911 Revolution.

The revolutionary movement is less important for what it contributed to the events of 1900-1913 than for the revolutionary tradition that it created.

Source D

The following paragraph reflects a scholar's view on the 1911 Revolution.

Mary Clabaugh Wright argued that the 1911 Revolution reflected the importance of nationalism and social change in China at the time. But she doubted the meaning of the Revolution generated by both the Chinese Nationalist Party and Communist Party: the Chinese Nationalist Party associated the Revolution with a powerful upsurge of anti-Manchu nationalism and the Chinese Communist Party associated the Revolution with a bourgeois revolution that failed.

History (S4-5)

Theme A: Modernization and Transformation of Twentieth-Century Asia

Sub-theme b: Modernization and Transformation of China

Questions

- a. With reference to Source A, what was the immediate effect of the 1911 Revolution on Chinese politics?
- b. What kind of historical material is Source B most likely to be? Explain your answer with reference to relevant clues from Source B.
- c. Do you agree with the view in Source C? Explain your answer with reference to specific historical facts in the period 1900-2000.
- d. Are the Chinese people uniform in their understanding of the 1911 Revolution? Explain your answer with reference to Source D.

History (S4-5)

Theme A: Modernization and Transformation of Twentieth-Century Asia

Sub-theme b: Modernization and Transformation of China

Study Sources E and F carefully.

Source E

The following picture, taken in the early Republican period, shows a man (seated) having his pigtail cut. His barber, Francis E. Stafford, was an American journalist who worked in the 1910s at the Commercial Press, Shanghai, as a photographer



For reference by teachers (Source E)

Manchus males had the custom of braiding hair into pigtail. In his early ruling years, Emperor Shunzhi ordered that all Han males had to follow this custom. Any man who was seen without pigtail was to be beheaded.

Note: “Emperor Shunzhi” means 順治帝.

Source F

Dr. Sun Yat-sen (Sun Yixian) gave a lecture on the Three People’s Principle in January, 1924. He said:

What Chinese people worship is family and clan, so China only adheres to the doctrines of family and clan, not to the state-nation. Foreign observers say that Chinese are a sheet of loose sand. Why is this? It’s because the people as a whole care about the doctrines of the family and clan, but not the state-nation.

History (S4-5)

Theme A: Modernization and Transformation of Twentieth-Century Asia

Sub-theme b: Modernization and Transformation of China

Questions

- a. Why did cutting pigtail become fashionable in the early years of the Republic? Explain your answer by exploring the symbolic meaning of pigtails and the political changes in the period immediately after the founding of the Republic of China, as reflected in Source E.

- b. “Sun Yat-sen’s revolutionary career was full of difficulties.” Justify the statement with reference to Source F and using your own knowledge.

Study Sources G, H and I carefully.

Source G

Sun Yat-sen's (Sun Yixian's) *Programs for the Building of China*, published in 1924, theorizes that the process of China's national construction shall undergo three periods as follows. Sun's theory was followed after the Nanjing Government was founded.

Stage I: Military rule
(Period of destruction)
“army is to break down (as it did) Manchu despotism, sweep away official corruptions, and reform vicious customs.”



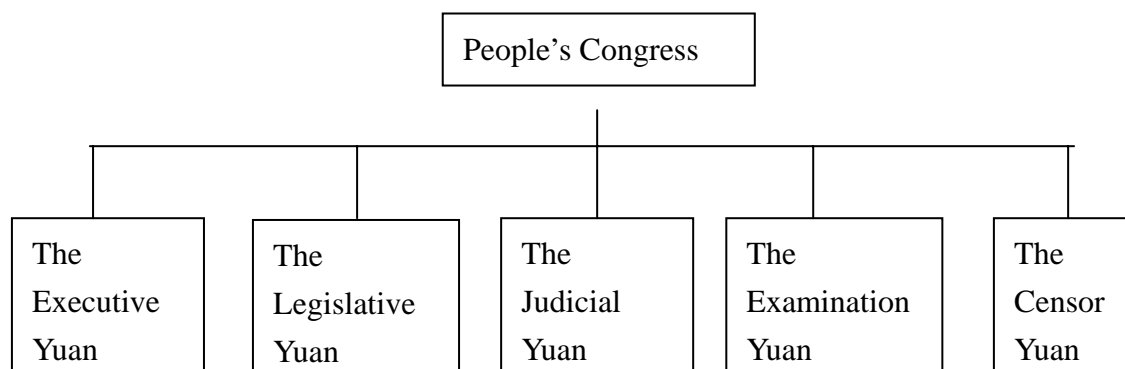
Stage II: Political tutelage
(Transitional period)
“...a provisional constitution will be promulgated. Its object is to build a local self-government system for the development of democracy...Six years after the whole nation is restored to peace and order, each local government may elect one delegate, and these delegates will form the People's Congress to adopt the five-power constitution.”



Stage III: Constitutional government
“The third stage, which marks the completion of national reconstruction, will usher in constitutional government. During this period the self-governing bodies in the various districts should exercise the direct political powers of the people.”

Source H

The following diagram shows Sun Yat-sen's (Sun Yixian's) idea of central government in the second stage of revolution.



The president of the Executive Yuan would serve as the prime minister, directing the work of the subordinate ministries of foreign affairs, finance, education, commerce, etc.

Source I

The following extract, cited from the writing of a department head of the Executive Yuan during the Nanjing decade, reflects the author's view of Jiang Jieshi's status and power in the Nanjing Government.

To what extent and where the government exerted its authority depended upon Jiang Jieshi's whereabouts. He led everything.

Questions

- With reference to Sources G and H, what are the differences between the idea of governance of the Guomintang and that of traditional China?
- What problems in Chinese politics in the 1930s do Source I reflect?

Study Sources J, K, L and M carefully.

Source J

The following extract is cited from a recent publication on China's economic conditions under the Nanjing Government.

The Chinese economy was overwhelmingly agrarian and traditional. In 1933, for example, the modern sector of manufacturing, mining, and utilities accounted for only about 3.4 percent of the net domestic product. Four out of every five Chinese, on the other hand were employed in agriculture and produced about 65 per cent of the net domestic product.... The irrigation projects were also utterly insignificant relative to China's needs, bringing water to an area that totaled only about 6,000 square miles.

Source K

The following extract is cited from a recent publication on the Nanjing Government's agricultural reforms.

It sponsored research on new seed varieties, pesticides and fertilizers. To prevent flood, the Yangtze, Yellow, and Hwai Rivers were dredged and the dikes were strengthened. Irrigation systems were constructed and efforts were made to revitalize the production of silk, cotton and tea through the introduction of disease-resistant plants, and improved marketing techniques.

These reform projects had slight impact on the rural areas. Less than 4 per cent of the government's total expenditures for the years 1934-6, for example, was devoted to economic development.

Source L

The following extract is cited from a recent publication on the Nanjing Government's land policy.

This law (Land Law), promulgated in 1930, imposed a maximum on rents (37.5% of the harvest). It also held out the prospect of eliminating landlordism by authorizing tenants of an absentee owner to purchase their farms if they had farmed the land for more than ten years. The 1930 Land Law remained nothing more than an admirable expression of intent for it was never implemented by the Nanking authorities. Rents, 50-70 % of the main crop, continued to be exacted, and approximately half the Chinese farmers continued to rent all or part of their land.

Source M

The following extract is cited from a recent publication on the Nanjing Government's policy of industrial modernization.

This commission, created in 1935, was an agency of Chiang's Military Affairs Commission, and its purpose was to create an industrial base that would support the nation's armed forces. To accomplish this goal, the National Resources Commission in 1936 drafted a five-year plan of industrialization, with a planned capitalization of ¥270 million. Central to the commission's work was the creation of an industrial zone in the interior, safely removed, supposedly, from the coastal centers which were vulnerable to enemy attack. ...

...

From the beginning, however, the Commission suffered from financial shortages; it received only ¥30 million of the projected ¥270 million.

History (S4-5)

Theme A: Modernization and Transformation of Twentieth-Century Asia

Sub-theme b: Modernization and Transformation of China

Questions

- a. With reference to Sources J, K, L and M, what were the goals of economic construction under the Nanjing Government?
- b. Had the goals you pointed out in (a) been accomplished? Explain your answer with reference to Sources J, K, L and M.
- c. Do you think that financing constituted the largest obstacle to economic development under the rule of the Nationalist Government? Explain your answer with reference to Source J, K, L and M and using your own knowledge.

Provenance of sources

Source A: J. A. G. Roberts, *Modern China: An Illustrated History* (Stroud, Gloucestershire: Sutton Pub., 1998), p.132.

Source B: W. Reginald Wheeler, *China and the World War* (online), Chapter 1, <http://www.lib.byu.edu/~rdh/wwi/comment/chinawwi/ChinaC1.htm> [accessed 26 March 2004]. The book was first published by the Macmillan Company, New York, in 1919.

Source C: Michael Gasster, “The Republican Revolutionary Movement,” in John K. Fairbank and Liu Kwang-ching eds., *The Cambridge History of China: Late Ch’ing 1800-1911* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1980), vol. 11, p.463.

Source D: Mary Clabaugh Wright, *Introduction*, in Wright ed., *China in Revolution: the First Phase 1900-1913* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1968), pp.12-44.

Source E: 精彩上海 – 一位美國攝影師鏡頭裡的歷史 – 90 年前的上海，【在線】，http://shanghai.online.sh.cn/big5/culture/wgr/wgr_10a.htm [下載日期：2004 年 3 月 22 日]。

Source F: Colin Mackerras, *China in Transformation 1900-1949* (London: Longman, 1998), p.101.

Source G: Lloyd E. Eastman, “Nationalist China during the Nanking Decade 1927–1937,” John K. Fairbank and Albert Feuerwerker eds., *The Cambridge History of China: Republican China 1912–1949* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1986), vol. 13, p.134.

Sun Yat Sen, “Fundamentals of National Reconstruction” (online), <http://acc6.its.brooklyn.cuny.edu/~phalshall/texts/sunyat.html> [accessed 26 March 2004].

Source H: Sun Yat Sen, “Fundamentals of National Reconstruction” (online), <http://acc6.its.brooklyn.cuny.edu/~phalshall/texts/sunyat.html> [accessed 26 March 2004].

Lloyd E. Eastman, “Nationalist China during the Nanking Decade 1927–1937,” John K. Fairbank and Albert Feuerwerker eds., *The Cambridge History of China: Republican China 1912–1949* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1986), vol. 13, p.135.

Source I: Lloyd E. Eastman, “Nationalist China during the Nanking Decade 1927–1937,” John K. Fairbank and Albert Feuerwerker eds., *The Cambridge History of China: Republican China 1912–1949* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1986), vol. 13, p.135.

Source J: Lloyd E. Eastman, “Nationalist China during the Nanking Decade 1927–1937,” John K. Fairbank and Albert Feuerwerker eds., *The Cambridge History of China: Republican China 1912–1949* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1986), vol. 13, pp.151-153.

Source K: Lloyd E. Eastman, “Nationalist China during the Nanking Decade 1927–1937,” John K. Fairbank and Albert Feuerwerker eds., *The Cambridge History of China: Republican China 1912–1949* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1986), vol. 13, p.152.

Source L: Lloyd E. Eastman, “Nationalist China during the Nanking Decade 1927–1937,” John K. Fairbank and Albert Feuerwerker eds., *The Cambridge History of China: Republican China 1912–1949* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1986), vol. 13, pp.151-52.

Source M: Lloyd E. Eastman, “Nationalist China during the Nanking Decade 1927–1937,” John K. Fairbank and Albert Feuerwerker eds., *The Cambridge History of China: Republican China 1912–1949* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1986), vol. 13, p.159.