East Asia

Tuesday, May 27
GEOG 1982

Lecture Outline

• Physical Geography, Population
• History
  – China
  – Japan
  – Korea
  – Taiwan
• Last 30 years in China
• Three Gorges Dam
4 “steps”: 1- Plateau of Tibet, 2- low mountains, plateaus, basins, 3- low mountains, hills, coastal plain 4- continental shelf (mostly underwater + Hong Kong, Taiwan, Hainan)

Major Rivers: Zhujiang (Pearl River) Chang Jiang Huang He (Yellow R)

Major Cities: Beijing, Shanghai (China), Taipei (Taiwan), Tokyo (Japan)

China: 90% of population on 1/6 land area
History

• Late 13th century: Hangzhou – city of 900,000
• Opium Wars – 1839-1860
  – Britain won control of Hong Kong
  – Britain won trading access

China and Japan

• Sino-Japanese War – 1895
  – Japan beat China
  – Chinese government collapsed
• Japan invaded China – 1937, controlled China until end of WWII (1945)
Korea

- Japan occupied Korea until WWII
- 1950-1953 Korean War
  - USSR invaded Korea in 1945
  - U.S. proposed national division & controlled South Korea
  - 1950 North Korea (supported by USSR, & China) attacked South Korea
- North Korea - military government, closed country

http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/view/id/244 (6:30)
China and Taiwan

- Chang Kai-shek & the Kuomintang (KMT)
  - Instituted Leninist (socialist) policy in 1924
  - Supported by urban upper and middle classes & by the U.S.
- Chinese Communist Party (CCP) opposed KMT
  - Supported by farmers
- 1949 – Mao Zedong & CCP took control
  - KMT fled to Formosa (now Taiwan)
  - KMT claimed to be a government-in-exile

China’s Communist Era

- Centrally controlled command economy
  - Integrated outlying areas (northeast & west)
  - Invaded Tibet
- Improved condition
  - Reallocation of land, wealth to farmers, landless
  - Better health, better education
  - Huge public works projects
- Problems
  - Persecution, famines resulting from poor planning
  - Cultural Revolution (1966)
    - forced support of communist (Mao’s) party
    - persecution of intellectuals and other “dissenters”
China’s Last 30 Years

- 1978 Deng Xiaoping mixed communist (state-controlled) economy with neoliberal economic policy

- 2001 China joined the WTO

SEZs, ETDZs
Hukou system: residence registration system – now restricts people’s movements; “floating population” (p. 371)
• 1989 Tiananmen Square protests
  – 100,000 students & workers demanded more freedom of expression and government accountability
  – Government fired into crowd, killed hundreds, injured thousands

• Olympics (8-8-08)

• Earthquake
  
  [Video links provided]

Three Gorges Dam, China

• Chang Jiang
• Reservoir 370 miles long
• 1.3 million people displaced
  – 13 major cities
  – 140 large towns
  – 100s of small villages

[Video links provided]