

CIS 160: Introduction to East Asian Studies
Fall 2003 M,W,F 9:30—10:20, Chambers 305

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Lecture Notes, 15 October 2003

Themes from the Socialist Period

Periods:

- Land Reform (1950-53): continued private ownership of land, building of local party base, assignment of class labels; increasing levels of cooperative ventures and collectivization of land
- Great Leap Forward (1958-1960): highest level of collectivization of land - the proletarianization of agriculture; (1961 Famine creates retrenchment of collectivization)
- Cultural Revolution (1966-1976): resurgence of Mao, red over expert; mobilization of youth against party; years of chaos in initial stages (1966-69), until army takes over; death of Mao in 1976
- Post-Mao period: introduction of market reforms, starts with agricultural responsibility system in 1980; liberalization of policies over areas such as religion; entrepreneurs encouraged
- Tian'anmen Incident: June 4, 1989
- Today: continued privatization of state-owned enterprises



Cycles of Political Campaigns:

- 1) “Big Push” Mobilization
- 2) Participation and Involvement
- 3) Decline in Enthusiasm and Routinization
- 4) Alienation and Coercion
- 5) Retrenchment

“Two steps forward, one step back.”

Red
Radicals
(Maoists)



Mao Zedong



“Politics in Command” and “Class
Struggle”

vs.
vs.

Expert
Pragmatists
(Reformers)



Deng Xiaoping



“Socialism with Chinese
Characteristics”

Anti-Illiteracy Campaigns: Example of Character Simplification

Simplified Characters

国 8 strokes

华 6 strokes

马 3 strokes

Traditional Characters

國 11 strokes

華 12 strokes

馬 10 strokes