

China, the Ottoman Empire, and Japan (1800-1914)

Internal Troubles, External Threats

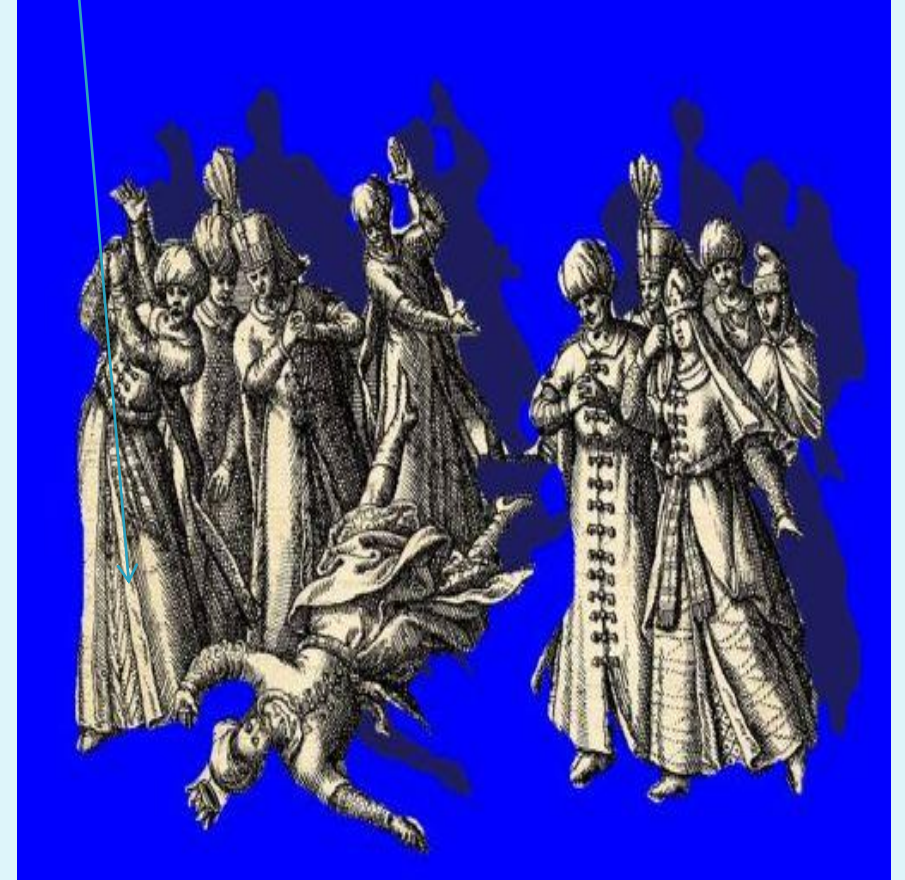


THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE AND THE WEST IN THE 19TH CENTURY

**AP WORLD HISTORY
CHAPTER 19**

The Ottoman Empire: “Sick Man of Europe”

- In the 1800s= the Ottoman Empire went from being a great power in the world to one of the weakest territories
- Could no longer keep up with Western Europe
- Unable to prevent region after region from falling under European control



Causes of Territorial Losses



Napoleon's Invasion of Egypt

- Cause #1 = European aggression
 - Invasions from Russia, Britain, France, and Austria
 - Example: one of the earliest invasions = in 1798 = Napoleon's invasion of Egypt
- Cause #2 = Nationalism and independence movements by different groups within the Ottoman Empire
 - Independence achieved by: Greece, Serbia, Bulgaria, and Romania (with help of European militaries)
 - Driven by nationalism

The Contraction of the Ottoman Empire



Map 19.2 The Contraction of the Ottoman Empire
Chapter 19, *Ways of the World: A Brief Global History with Sources*, First Edition
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More Problems for the Ottoman Empire

- Weak central government
- Increasing power of local authorities and rulers
- Unable to effectively raise revenue (taxes)
- Growing technological and military gap with Europe
- Decreasing power of the Janissaries (elite infantry units of the Ottoman Empire)



Economic Problems for the Ottoman Empire



*An Ottoman Merchant in Istanbul
(with no customers) ☹*

- The economy of the Ottoman Empire weakened for several reasons:
 - Europeans achieved direct sea access to Asia = no longer a need for them to go through the Ottoman and Arab land routes to get there = loss of revenue for those groups
 - Ottoman artisans and workers hit hard by competition from cheap European manufactured goods

Economic Problems for the Ottoman Empire



- Series of unbalanced agreements between European powers and the Ottoman Empire = allowed Europeans many exemptions from Ottoman law and taxation
 - ✦ Allowed these Westerners to easily “infiltrate” the Ottoman economy
- Ottoman Empire came to rely on foreign loans to sustain itself
 - ✦ Unable to repay those debts OR the interest on them
 - ✦ Led to foreign control of much of its revenue-generating system



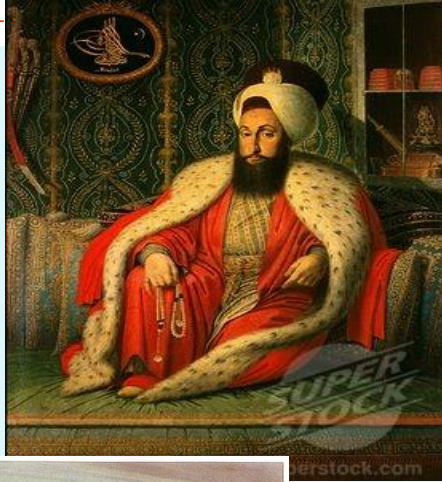
The Ottoman Empire: Attempts at Reform



- Ottoman Empire began programs of “defensive modernization”
 - Earlier, more sustained, and more vigorous than the “self-strengthening” policies of China
 - Several factors contributed to this:

<u>The Ottoman Empire</u>	<u>China</u>
No internal upheavals	Taiping Rebellion
Only nationalist revolts on edges of empire	Peasant rebellions at the center of the state
No explosive population growth	Massive population growth
Ottoman leaders = Turkic and Muslim (similar to their people)	China’s rulers = Qing rulers = Manchu (considered foreigners & NOT like their people)

The Ottoman Empire: Attempts at Reform



- Reforms began in the late 1700s with Sultan Selim III
- Wanted to reorganize and update the army
- Wanted to draw on European advisors and techniques
- Result = opposition from *ulama* (Muslim religious scholars) and the Janissaries
 - Believed these reforms would threaten their power and that they conflicted with Islam
 - Selim III = overthrown and murdered in 1807

The Ottoman Empire: Attempts at Reform



- Future sultans crushed the Janissaries and brought the *ulama* under state control
- Started the *Tanzimat* (reorganization) reform:
 - Factories making cloth, paper, and arms
 - Modern mining operations
 - Resettlement of agricultural land
 - Telegraphs, steamships, railroads, modern postal service
 - Western-style law codes and courts
 - New elementary and secondary schools
 - Equal rights (under law) for Muslims AND non-Muslims



*The Ottoman Constitution, 1895
(Extended equal rights to all)*

Supporters of Ottoman Reforms



- Supporters of these reforms = called the “Young Ottomans”
 - Lower-level officials and military officers, writers, poets, journalists
- Had a new view of the Ottoman Empire = a secular state whose people were loyal to the dynasty that ruled it, rather than a state based on religion
- Wanted a European-style democratic, constitutional government
 - Only way to overcome “backwardness” and stop European aggression

Supporters of Ottoman Reforms



- “Islamic modernism” = idea that Muslim societies can embrace Western technical and scientific knowledge, while rejecting its materialism
 - Islam can be modern AND maintain its religious character

Supporters of Ottoman Reforms



- The Young Ottomans did not have much success → authoritarian rule continued in the Ottoman Empire
- “Young Turks” = group of military and civilian elites
 - Opposed this tyrannical rule
 - Wanted a completely secular (non-religious) law code
 - Supported continuing modernization based on European achievements
 - Viewed the Ottoman Empire as a “Turkish national state”
 - ✦ This antagonized non-Turkic peoples and helped stimulate Arab and other nationalisms → contributed to disintegration of Ottoman Empire after WWI



*A photograph of Young Turks from
1902*

Supporters of Ottoman Reforms



Photo by]

FRATERNITY.

[FAigle.

A Turkish *mollah* (in the centre) is shown sitting at the voting-table with a Greek priest on his right and an Armenian priest on his left. Behind are two little girls bearing the emblem of the Constitution decorated with flowers; in front is the ballot-box. The wall at the back is the façade of a Greek church.

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- 1908 = successful military coup by the Young Turks
- Reforms that they implemented:
 - Secularized schools, courts, and law codes
 - Allowed elections and political parties
 - Established a “Law of Family Rights” for all people
 - Opened up modern schools for women
 - Allowed women to wear Western clothing
 - Restricted polygamy
 - Allowed women to get divorces in some situations
 - Encouraged Turkish as the official language

*Declaration of the Young Turk
Revolution*

Comparing China and the Ottoman Empire



- Both shared several similarities by the beginning of the 20th century:
 - Both “semi-colonies” within the “informal empires” of Europe
 - Both were hurt by a rapidly shifting balance of global power
 - Kept formal independence
 - Attempted to modernize, but never truly succeeded; no industrial economies
 - No restoration of a strong state
 - Both gave rise to new nationalist views of society
 - Both empires officially collapsed in the early 20th century

Comparing China and the Ottoman Empire



- There were also key differences between China and the Ottoman Empire in the aftermath of European imperialism:

<u>China</u>	<u>The Ottoman Empire</u>
Collapse of the Chinese empire in 1911 was followed by a revolutionary upheaval that led to a communist government by 1949	Collapse of the Ottoman Empire was followed by the creation of new, smaller nation-states – including Turkey
Rejection of Confucian culture -Viewed as secular and elitist - Confucianism was always tied to a single state (China); not thriving elsewhere	Islam retained a hold on civilization -Islamic religious tradition = personally meaningful to its followers - Islam = never tied to a <i>single</i> state; many independent centers