

The Opium Wars Outline: Alex, Nick, Stuart, Elaina

- I. Preview
- II. HTS: periodization, synthesis, historical context,
- III. DBQ/LEQ Stimulus Question: “To what extent were the Opium wars a turning point in East-West relations? Focus your answer on the years 1810 to 1890.”
- IV. Before The Opium wars
 - A. England
 1. Around 1820 the East India Trading Company was paying 3.6 million pounds of silver per year for 23 million pounds of tea from China (Perdue)
 2. In order to combat this the British found and planted Opium in very large quantities (Perdue)
 3. Fast sailing ships called clippers could make two voyages a year, doubling the previous amount, used to carry tea to western markets they also became the target for opium smuggling from Calcutta to Canton (Perdue)
 4. Opium was easy for the English to get because they got it from Bengal and Malwa which was under the British East India Company. (Perdue)
 - B. China
 1. Had strict laws on foreign trade and the canton system established by Qianlong in the Qing Dynasty in 1757 (Perdue, 2011)
 2. The Canton system was a system where all trade went through one port in an attempt to control trade within china. All trade items went through 1 of 13 factories in canton on the pearl river. (Perdue, 2011)
 3. This also limited the amount of ship loads the west could bring because it was far away in the south west of china (Perdue, 2011)
 4. It is estimated that there were 10 million opium smokers in China and up to 20% of central government officials consumed opium around the 1830s (Perdue, 2011)
 5. By the early 19th century, the British had sold 4500 chests of opium each weighing 133 pounds illegally to merchants on the southern China coast. (Stearns, 2017)
- V. The First Opium War (1839-1842)
 - A. One of the main causes of the First Opium War was the event where the emperor’s high commissioner, Lin, confiscated opium in Canton and destroyed it. Lin also ordered the blockade of European trade in Canton (Stearns, 2017)
 - B. Lin then banned foreign trade because the British were still trying to sneak Opium into canton.
 - C. This quickly reached Britain leading to a dramatic conflict between the British and Chinese governments(Cleary)
 - D. In November 1839 the Royal Navy sank a number of Chinese vessels near Canton

- E. Chinese losses forced China to open trade to foreign nations abolishing the Canton system (Perdue)
- F. The First Opium War ended with the Treaty of Nanjing in 1842
 1. The treaty contained 13 articles for the most part stating that there will be peaceful trade relations between Great Britain and China. It also stated that a total of 21 million dollars will be paid to Great Britain over 3 years (Great Britain)
 2. This treaty also forced the Chinese to allow British appointed officials to permanently live in Canton, Amoy, Foochow-fu, Ningpo, and Shanghai who made sure that the terms of the treaty were followed as well as acting as a medium of communication between the Chinese and the foreign merchants (Great Britain)

VI. Happy Analysis

- A. **H** - This is a painter's depiction of an East India Company ship destroying a Chinese war junk.
- B. **A** - This is a painter's depiction of the ship *nemesis* destroying a Chinese junk, it illustrates the destruction and dominance of the British during the first Opium wars.
- C. **P** - This was painted by Edward Duncan (1803-1882) in 1843.
- D. **P** - The purpose of this painting was to show the dominance of the British navy during the Opium wars. Which overall, was a large advantage for the British in the Opium wars.
- E. **Y** - This impacts the audience's views of the war's, painting the British as immensely dominant. In addition, it emphasises the significance of British clipper ships which proved a useful advantage for the British.

VII. The Second Opium War (1856-1860)

- A. Chinese execution of a missionary, Father August Chapdelaine, started the second Opium war and the British brought in back up and fought China with the U.S., Russia, and later on France. (Allingham)
- B. Chinese refused to allow the British into the city of Canton, only allowing them to trade outside of its walls over a disagreement in the translated language in the original treaty. (Cleary)

- C. On October 8th 1856 China seized a vessel named The Arrow and arrested the british crewmen on it. The British requested that the men be released under the treaty of nanking and the chinese refused (Allingham)
 - D. These causes overall led to the dispatchment of troop to attack Canton from the United States, Russia, France, and Great Britain (Allingham)
 - E. From the start of the second war the European military technology was superior and the Europeans quickly demolished the Chinese naval fleet. After which, the Chinese lured the opponents inland only to be overwhelmed having their forts and armies destroyed by the European armies. (Cleary)
 - F. At one point in the war the French and British armies consisted of only 3500 soldiers against 20,000 Chinese soldiers. The Europeans managed to win due to their superior cavalry, professional soldiers, and new breech loading Enfield rifles. (Cleary)
 - G. The Second war was ended in 1860 after the ratification of the Treaty of Tientsin (Allingham)
- VIII. Song
- IX. Relations After The Opium Wars
- A. The Chinese opened 11 new ports after the west forced them to sign the treaty, Tientsin (Allingham)
 - B. On October 18 1860, the ports of Hankou, Niuzhuang, Danshui, and Nanjing were opened to foreign trade and Missionaries.
 - C. China had to pay 10 million taels (1.3 oz. coin) of silver to france, another 2 million taels of silver to british merchants. And a total of 31 million to great Britain
 - D. China ceded the port of Kowloon to Great Britain, and agreed to permit the export of indentured Chinese labourers to the Americas
 - E. China loss also led directly to the fall of the Manchu Dynasty
 - F. Forced to allow religious freedom and legalize the opium trade (Hickman, 2015)
- X. Synthesis: Opium Wars .vs. American Revolutionary War
- A. Similarities (Cleary, 2017)
 - 1. Both involved Britain
 - 2. Both involved gaining power over trade routes
 - 3. Trade routes were largely dependent for income
 - 4. Both involved a treaty that set them apart from foreign relations
 - a) Treaty of Nanjing in 1842
 - b) Treaty of Paris
 - B. Differences (Cleary, 2017)
 - 1. There were in total 2 Opium wars
 - 2. There was only one American Revolutionary War

3. Opium wars were in the 19th century
 - a) First war was between (1839-1842)
 - b) Second war was between (1856-1860)
4. American Revolutionary War was in the 18th century (April 19, 1775)

XI. Hystography

A. Background about Kiying

1. Born on March 21 1787 in Beijing, China
2. Died on June 29 1858 at the age of 71 in Beijing, China
3. Government Official that concluded many treaties including the Treaty of Nanking
4. He was demoted many times because of his corruption in office.
5. "It is because of the inevitable that we asked, in our precious memorial, to grant large sums of money in order to save the country" (Kuo, 1973)

B. His Perspective

1. He thought the west was out of control and that it was time to get the west under chinese control.
2. He thought if they did not keep the "Barbarians" under control the loss of the chinese lives would be insignificant to the amount of access to the capitals of the provinces of Anhwei, Kiangsi, and Hupeh, and the destruction the west would cause.
3. He thought the points under the treaty were possessive of the west but were not harmful and would be better than the disasters ahead if the chinese did not sign the treaty.
4. He was very impressed with the fierce cannons and ships of the west

C. Background of J. Elliot Bingham

1. He joined the Navy September 23 1820 and became a commander July 6 1841
2. He was the son of a clergyman which is ironic because of his lack of morality.
3. He wrote about the British side of the Opium War to Glorify the British and to cause the public to be exited.

4. "I must question whether there are not as many English gin sufferers as there are Chinese opium sufferers" (Bingham, 1843)

D. His perspective

1. He claimed the Opium Trade was not forced on to China and that China wanted it.
2. He believed that the Chinese officials were unmoral and were all drug addicts and accepted and run off bribes.
3. He also believed that the health of the Chinese didn't matter because the benefit was swinging in their favor so who cared.

XII. Thesis: Opium wars were a turning point in eastern and western relations between years 1810 and 1890 to the extent of China having to open trade to foreign nations abolishing the canton system, British officials had been given the right to live in canton and other cities and lastly the Treaty of Nanjing in 1842 caused China to pay 21 million taels of silver over three year period. In all the opium wars had a mostly negative impact on China and a positive impact on European officials.

XIII. Questions And Quiz

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