MODERN CHINESE HISTORY

Explore highlights of modern Chinese history from 1912 to the present.

1912 Republican Era
1949 People's Republic of China
1966 Chinese Cultural Revolution
1989 Tiananmen Square
Present High Growth Era

REPUBLICAN ERA
- The first Republic of China, established in 1912 after overthrow of the Qing dynasty.
- Highlights: Peking University plays key role, Chinese Communist Party (CCP) forms in 1921.
- Image: Peking University

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
- The People's Republic of China was established in 1949 after the Chinese Civil War.
- Highlights: Nationalists from Republic of China move to Taiwan.
- Image: Chairman Mao Zedong (1954)

CULTURAL REVOLUTION
- The Cultural Revolution (Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution) started by Chairman Mao Zedong from 1966 - 1976.
- Highlights: Chinese youth formed “Red Guard” to show devotion to Chairman Mao and enforce his ideas.
- Image: Red Guard (1971)

TIANANMEN SQUARE
- The Democratic Movement of 1989: youth gather in Beijing’s Tiananmen Square to call for political reform, including democracy.
- June 4, 1989: military force used to remove students, many died.
- Image: Tiananmen Square, Beijing (1989)

HIGH GROWTH ERA
- Growth of economic and international influence.
- Highlights: Beijing Olympics, Belt and Road Initiative, environmental concerns, issues still remain with international status of Taiwan.
- Image: Belt and Road Initiative (2020)

SUMMARY
China’s history is complex and influenced by many segments of society.