

The development of China

If you look at your everyday tool nowadays, you can see that everything you use nowadays label made in China. Even the iPhone, the product that can change the world still made in China. Is China one of the most powerful countries in the world? This country consists of 1.4 billion people and covers an area of 9.3 million square kilometers. The country's GDP in 2022 will be around 17.46 trillion U.S. dollars, ranking second in the world. China is one of the most powerful countries in the world, but how has China become so influential in just three decades. To see how China became so powerful, we must look back at its history.

The history of China starts with a steady situation. The economy was not growing enough, and the country did not have power, but after 1980, China's economy rapidly grew. What happens to China, and what situation makes China get better.

Around 1900, China's economy was still not developed. Most of the area of China still be rural area. People still live in the countryside and do agriculture as their main job. As they do agriculture, the labor is necessary to make it function. To get a high amount of agricultural product, the farmer must put in much work to prepare the field and make it ready to plant. The birth rate is higher, and the population got big to support agriculture, but income and consumption are lower than usual, but it does not reach zero as the labor always enters the market.

The first changing point in the economy in China was in 1912. China's revolution led to the end of the Qing dynasty. This action leads to the establishment of the Republic of China. A group of people had to overthrow the dynasty because the people had to suffer from poverty, natural disasters, and conflict between groups due to the Qing dynasty failing to rule the kingdom. When Dr. Sun Yat-sen tried to gather the people to rebel against the domain, they won and used the republic.

After the revolution, China still has a problem. President Sun Yat-sen lived in the position for a short period because the other group tried to overthrow him. Even change as many as government. The government is still weak and cannot control and manage everything. There still was a conflict between a group of people trying to seize the country, leaving China's economy underdeveloped and leading to the end of the republic.

The second turning point that makes China escape from an undeveloped country in the year of 1949. Before World War 2, China divides into two political groups. Chiang Kai-shek led the first group, and Mao Tse Tun, a communist, was the second group. Those groups have a conflict with each other until world war 2. Japan has attacked China. This situation makes those two groups join together to defend their hometown. But seem like even with their flight with each other, the conflict between those two groups still occurs. After World War II, the civil war started again, and the group led by Mao Zedong won and changed China into a communist. After the course, he declares the establishment of the People's Republic of China. The group Mao Zedong tried to commit revolution because the government at that time could not manage and control anything. The other reason is that Mao wants the people to live in a communist. He believes it will reduce poverty and the gap between the rich and the poor.

In the Mao Zedong period, he wanted to develop the country as fast as possible. It made him create the Great Leap Forward policy. This policy forces every household to bring tools and instruments that consist of steel and smelting to use in the industry. Every day around 8:00 p.m. to 10 p.m., you will see the light coming out of every community and household due to the smelting steel given the order from the government. This action stole the time to do agriculture, and without the excellent technology making a million tons of the steel that had been smelting useless. In the meantime, the lack of time to do agriculture affects the lack of food to survive. This situation caused a million people to starve and die. The government has to order the rice from abroad to replace the lost product because farmers use time smelting the steel. Communism makes everyone in society equal, which means the person who works hard doesn't want to work since they will pay the same amount. The great leap forward policy failed. This policy shows that even if you put much effort into the work without good technology and knowledge, it may lead to the failure of the work. The other failure situation in the Mao period was the cultural revolution from the beginning of 1960 to the middle of 1970. Mao arouses a group of students to attack Mao's political enemy. This group of students called themselves the name "Red Guard." This group leads to the change in the social culture in China. They change the mindset of the traffic light to be the red sign that should stop and change the green movement that should go. The reason that the red color of the traffic sign should go since the red color represents communism. Not only that, but the Red Guards' group also destroyed the temple, shrine, and buddha statues with the hammer and killed the political enemy. Not only that, Mao's wife used her husband's power to order the red guard. Effect the China society into chaos. All of these make China stop developing in all sectors. Mao died at the end of his era in 1976 and left China without a leader. It led to the end of the cultural revolution.

The third turning point was after Mao died, the group of politicians tried to be the new leader of China. This fight is between two groups. The first group is Hua Guofeng and Deng Xiaoping, and the second group is a gang of four. The one who won was the group of Hua Guofeng and Deng Xiaoping. They created the policy "Four Modernization," which will support four sectors. The four industries are agricultural, industrial, technology, and military—the four modernizations focus on developing their country in four ways like the western countries. First agricultural, the government set up the policy to increase new theory agriculture. Allows the farmer to increase production and let the excess product sell out to the market. The farmer that can produce more can make a high profit on their own—allowing the community to plan the method to increase their product and have time for the people to do the agriculture. Next, the industrial sector expands the current industrial policy. They were growing the light industry to increase the export. Expanding the investment from abroad allows foreigners to invest in China. Develop the city near the ocean to increase the export and import. They are improving the basic structure of the town and using the demand and supply to control the market. The military sector decreases soldiers—increases knowledge of the military and the latest weapon.

The latest sector is science and technology. The government will increase the fund to develop the technology and set a root to prepare for the design of the technology. It is boosting the people to learn more about technology.

The four modernization effects are sound and harmful to the Chinese economy. On the good side, this policy has made the economy of China rapidly grow. Poverty reduction, and higher income and higher education. This policy's harmful side is that the government allows foreigners to invest in the country, which causes inflation in the Chinese economy. An example of this is Samsung, and Sony, the big brand from Korea and Japan, which found that only the productivity in their country is not enough to serve their customer. Hence, they are trying to find a new plant abroad, and China is the country selected. The income distribution stuck in the developed city, making the people want to move into the town and creating social problems like drugs and crime.

The revolution of China in 1976 made the Chinese economy strong, and due to the high population, increased labor in the market and on the consumer side. China also has a high consumption rate. Expanding the country's productivity and technology affect a lot of the world.

In conclusion, you can see that China does not robust as they were in the past due to its forcing on agricultural product before 1949, making the development process slow. But as a leader shift focus to heavy industry, a lack of good knowledge and technology leads to the project's failure. The last revolution made it different from the past and significantly changed the Chinese economy. The government supports every section of the economy and provides funds to boost quality outcomes. Giving the policy that made people want to do their best. If you do more, you get more, not unlike communism which paid everyone the same even if you do more work. In my opinion, the critical factor to making China successful is a good leader, a good policy, and the people who believe in their leader.

Bibliography

The Development of China. mgonline.com,

<https://mgonline.com/daily/detail/9520000118515>. Accessed 3 July 2022.

The modern economy of China. Satit.up.ac.th,

http://www.satit.up.ac.th/BBC07/AboutStudent/Document/Hist_ModernWorld/Century20th/pdf/China1.pdf. Accessed 3 July 2022.

China in Deng Xiaoping. Satit.up.ac.th,

http://www.satit.up.ac.th/BBC07/AboutStudent/Document/Hist_ModernWorld/PolHist/PolChina/PolChina_Doc/China2.pdf. Accessed 3 July 2022.

Communism in China. mgonline.com, <https://mgonline.com/china/detail/9640000063833>.

Accessed 3 July 2022.

Naughton, Barry J. *The Chinese Economy*. 2006, <https://doi.org/10.1604/9780262640640>.