

---

# CHAPTER 31 – SOCIETIES AT CROSSROADS

## VIDEO AND THINGLINK PROJECT

### CHAPTER OVERVIEW:

In the nineteenth century the Ottoman Empire, the Russian empire, Qing China, and Tokugawa Japan all faced serious problems...some of which were common to all four. All suffered from military weakness, which left them vulnerable, especially to the industrial powers of Western Europe and the United States. All four faced confrontations with these powers, which resulted in incredible opportunities for the western nations. All four nations also faced population pressures and government corruption. During the second half of the century, all faced serious internal turmoil. Internal strife only exacerbated military weaknesses. Sometimes, western powers intervened to protect their own interests.

These problems were the source of the “crossroads” in this chapter’s title. Without political, social, and economic reform, these four societies faced continued decline. Vigorous reform movements emerged in all four societies, but the results were very different. Only Japan would enjoy thorough reform by the dawn of the twentieth century; the Ottoman, Romanov, and Qing dynasties faced collapse.

### THEMES

**Military confrontations.** All four societies fought wars or engaged in military confrontations with industrialized nations. In each case, those confrontations brought the realization of military weakness in the face of these rising powers.

**Internal weaknesses.** All four societies’ internal weaknesses included declining agricultural productivity, famine, falling government revenue, and corrupt governments. With such internal turmoil, success against industrialized nations was practically impossible.

**Reform movements.** All four societies experienced reform movements, but in the Ottoman Empire, Russian empire, and Qing China, the ruling classes viewed reform with suspicion; they were determined to keep their privileges. The result was that all three were on the verge of collapse by the turn of the century. The fall of the Tokugawa dynasty in Japan paved the way for reform efforts, which would result in Japan’s emergence as an industrial power.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR VIDEO (50 POINTS)

You and your group will be responsible for creating a video presentation that describes the causes and impacts of industrialization in the Ottoman Empire, Russia, China, and Japan. Here are the details:

- Each video must be 8-10 minutes in length (no more, no less)
- Each group will have 4-6 people (grades will be tied together to ensure accountability)
- Each group will be assigned one of the four empires to research
- Each group will have a series of essential questions that **MUST** be addressed in your video
- The “stories” that you tell will be told from two different perspectives in your video...one from the point of the Imperialists (Great Britain, United States, etc.), and the other from those of the Ottoman Empire, Russia, China, and Japan. It is crucial to understand that there are two sides to every story/event, so be sure to explain the story from both sides.
- You will have the freedom to choose how you want your video to look. You can create a documentary or use some sort of presentation software. The video needs to have voice-overs explaining your information.
- Under **NO** circumstances are you to sit and read slides to us over your video.
- Be a storyteller, be creative!!
- A “Works Cited” must be submitted in MLA format
- Your video link will be shared with my AP World History Facebook group for authentic criticism, as well as your classmates and with parents so they can see/enjoy what you are doing in class...so make it good!

## FOCUS

In addition to the “Essential Questions” that you will address in your video, you also must explain the following concepts:

1. What were the economic benefits or liabilities of industrializing in your empire?
2. In what ways did your imperial government respond to their own social, political, and economic circumstances when considering industrialization?
3. Explain the reform movements and rebellions in your empire. Who sponsored them, who opposed them, and what were the outcomes?
4. Explain the key advantages that the Western industrialized countries had over these empires.

## ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

### OTTOMAN EMPIRE

1. In what ways did the Turkish people respond to the development and spread of global capitalism?
2. Describe how increasing discontent with imperial rule propelled reformist and revolutionary movements.
3. Explain the purpose of the Tanzimat movement.

4. Explain how the old land-based Ottoman Empire collapsed due to a combination of the following internal and external factors.
  - Economic hardship
  - Political and social discontent
  - Technological stagnation
  - Military defeat

## RUSSIAN EMPIRE

1. In what ways did the Russian people respond to the development and spread of global capitalism?
2. Describe how increasing discontent with Russian imperial rule propelled reformist and revolutionary movements.
3. Explain how the old land-based Russian Empire collapsed due to a combination of the following internal and external factors.
  - Economic hardship
  - Political and social discontent
  - Technological stagnation
  - Military defeat

## CHINESE EMPIRE

1. How did the rapid increases in productivity caused by industrial production influence the British and French in their attempts to “open up” the Chinese market during the nineteenth century?
2. In what ways did the Chinese people respond to the development and spread of global capitalism?
3. Explain how the British establish an empire throughout Asia and the Pacific, while Spanish and Portuguese influence declined.
4. How did the British and French expand their influence in China through the Opium Wars?
5. Describe how increasing discontent with imperial rule propelled reformist and revolutionary movements.
6. Explain how increasing questions about political authority and growing nationalism contributed to the Boxer Rebellion in China.
7. Describe the religious ideas that influenced the Taiping Rebellion.
8. Explain the purpose of the Self-Strengthening Movement.
9. What roles did the Chinese indentured servitude play in the new global capitalist economy?
10. Explain how the old land-based Chinese Empire collapsed due to a combination of the following internal and external factors.
  - Economic hardship
  - Political and social discontent
  - Technological stagnation
  - Military defeat

## JAPAN

1. How did industrialization occur in Japan?
2. In what ways did the Japanese people respond to the development and spread of global capitalism?
3. Explain how the Americans established an empire throughout Asia and the Pacific, while Spanish and Portuguese influence declined.
4. What role did the United States and Europe play in Japan that led to the decline of the Tokugawa Shogunate and the emergence of Meiji Japan?

## YOUTUBE SUBMISSION

You may use any movie-making software that you choose, just make sure that you are able to upload your final product onto YouTube. Your video needs to be on the setting of “UNLISTED” so that it is not searchable, and only people with the link may view it. When you have completed the assignment, submit the URL link into the drop box in CANVAS. Only one submission per group is necessary.

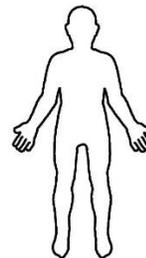
## AUTOPSY OF AN EMPIRE (10 POINTS)

In addition to your video, each group must submit a ThingLink that will serve as an “autopsy” to your empire. Your job will be to serve as the “medical examiner” and explain what it was that “killed” your empire. The following information needs to be on your ThingLink:

### PART ONE: EMPIRE OBITUARY

Give a clear picture of what this empire was like during healthier times, broken down into the following categories:

- Head: Significant Leaders & Accomplishments
- Ribs: Social Structure
- Hands: Art, Architecture & Technological Advances
- Legs: Labor Systems
- Spine: Political Structure
- Heart: Religious Beliefs
- Feet: Economy / Trade



Once you have labeled your autopsy report, create a separate “pin” at the top of your diagram where you give a summary overview of your empire. In other words, give an explanation of the empire that you just diagramed.

## PART TWO: AUTOPSY REPORT

Create a separate “pin” at the bottom of your diagram where you will give your “autopsy report.” Here you will clearly explain the following:

- What led to the decline of this empire?
- What weakened it? What led to their demise?

## THINGLINK INSTRUCTIONS

### DOWNLOAD THE DIAGRAM

1. Go to the CANVAS
2. Go to MODULES and download the Blank Autopsy Diagram
3. Download that diagram onto your desktop, or somewhere that can be easily retrieved

### THINGLINK ACCOUNT

1. Go to [ThingLink.com](https://www.thinglink.com) and log in to your account (or create one if necessary)
2. Click the CREATE button in the upper right hand corner.
3. Add the image that is on CANVAS titled “Blank Autopsy Diagram”

### REQUIREMENTS

Create a pin for each of the categories listed above. Within each “pin,” you will complete the following:

1. A digital picture or illustration that aids in our understanding of the category
  - This can be done by searching online for an image
  - Right-click that image and then “COPY IMAGE ADDRESS”
  - Simply paste that link into the required area on the pin, and your image should immediately upload
2. A thorough description of each category written IN YOUR OWN WORDS

## WORKS CITED

A “Works Cited” must be submitted in proper MLA format that covers ALL sources used in BOTH the Video and ThingLink. The Works Cited must be in electronic format and emailed in to me.

## DUE DATE

Both the video link and the ThingLink need to be submitted NO LATER than 7:00AM on Monday, February 26, 2018. **Late work will NOT be accepted.**