

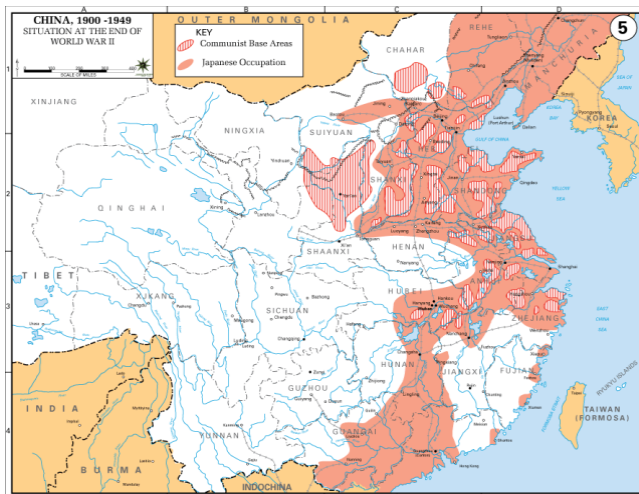


Sino-Japan Youth Conference 2021 History Session

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2nd Sino-Japanese War (1937-1945)

The **Second Sino-Japanese War** occurred in **1937** and ended in **1945**. There were many key events, such as the **Marco Polo Bridge Incident**, **bombing of the Wanping city**, and **Nanjing Massacre**. There are many perspectives from involved parties regarding the origin and effects of the war. In this section, the different perspectives will be analyzed.



Japan:

According to Japan's point of view, the Sino-Japanese War began due to the Marco Polo Bridge Incident in December 1937. The Japanese occupied Nanking, the capital of the Nationalist Government, and massacred many prisoners of war and civilians in and around the city. Later, Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist government, which had moved its capital to Chongqing, continued its resistance against the Japanese invasion, while the Communists waged guerrilla warfare in rural areas to wear down the Japanese forces.

Although Japan wanted the war to end shortly, the Chinese resisted; this led to the long, 8 year war. To end the war, Japan tried tactics such as implementing the National Mobilization Law (increased subsidization of the army).

PRC:

According to China's point of view, the Sino-Japanese War was caused by the Japanese army bombarding the Wanping city on July 7th, 1937 and the occupation of Shenyang.

At the end of July, Peking and Tianjin were lost. In the meantime, the civilians in the occupied cities were suffering from the torture of the Japanese government.

The war was ended 8 years later, the second Sino-Japanese war brings only harm to both China and Japan and both of them benefit nothing from it.



HK:

According to Hong Kong's point of view, the 2nd Sino Japanese War began with the invasion of Manchuria. They think both China, Japan and other countries should take responsibility. The Great Depression (1919) had greatly hit the economy in Japan. To get enough resources, Japan can only invade China. At that time, China was suffering from the civil war and partisan struggle. This gave Japan a good chance to invade China. Moreover, the western countries are busy dealing with the disputes in Europe. They have no time and effort to care about Asian affairs.

There are 3 stages of war: 1. Retreat 2. Stalemate 3. Final victory

- **Positive impact:** Many colonists got administrative experience during the occupation.
- **Negative impact:** The war crimes, Great destruction

Hong Kong's characteristics:

Hong Kong people helped China to resist Japanese invasion in the 1930s. Many people from the mainland escaped to Hong Kong. The government and local organizations provided these mainland refugees with food and shelter. Hong Kong people also helped raise money for China's efforts against Japan. During the Second Sino-Japanese War, some Hong Kong people took part in anti-Japanese activities.

Taiwan:

According to Taiwan's point of view, the Sino-Japanese War is caused by the Japanese army drilled near Wanping City, a suburb of Peiping, on the pretext that a soldier disappeared and asked for a search in the city, so it launched an offensive and the national army struggled to resist. Opened up eight years of resistance against Japan.

After Japan announced its surrender in World War II, the national government of the Republic of China took over Taiwan and the Penghu Islands from the Great Japanese Empire, marking the end of the Japanese rule of Taiwan.

Conclusion:

Each country has different points of view about the cause of the war. However, it is clear that the war led to violence and suffering in each country involved.

Bibliography:

Image 1:(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Sino-Japanese_War)

Image 2:(http://www.dzkbw.com/books/rjb/lishi/8s_2017/088.html) Mainland China's 8th grade textbook

Image 3: (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Sino-Japanese_War)