

Anti-Manchu Revolutionary Movement

1895-1905

- They are Not Organized
- Lack clear cut goals/programs for what to do after the revolution--vague
- Most are not in positions of leadership—they are students, cadets, young officers in new military
- They have few direct links to the old system—coming of age in a new environment, with new opportunities.
- Many have romantic notions of heroic sacrifice through individual acts of defiance and violence against the regime.
- They share a common desire to get rid of the Manchus and establish a “Chinese” nation.

Zou Rong and Qiu Jin

Zou Rong (1885-1905): “On Revolution”—

- He is a student, with experience abroad in Japan, where he was exposed to various political philosophies, and enjoyed freedom to criticize the Qing.
- He shares the belief in the need for a nation, for a national consciousness (Liang Qichao), he also frames revolution in evolutionary terms—that it is a necessary stage of evolution.
- He advocates overthrow and murder of Manchus, and a republic.

Qiu Jin (1875-1907):

- An empowered revolutionary woman, she, like many of her generation, goes to Japan to study.
- She imagined herself in a romanticized light, as an individual revolutionary hero—not carrying out any organized plot, more like heroic individual sacrifice.
- She was executed after resolutely refusing to give up names of her fellow revolutionaries.



Sun Yat-sen (Sun Zhongshan)

孙中山 (1867-1925)

- Born into a farming family in Guangdong province, he is educated in British schools, and also overseas, in Hawaii, finally, trained as a doctor in Hong Kong.
- Forms the Revolutionary Alliance (Tongmeng hui) 同盟会 in 1905—an early version of a modern political party
- Tongmen hui eventually re-organized to become the Guomindang or Nationalist Party after 1911

Manifesto of the Revolutionary Alliance

1905

- Drive out the Manchus.
- Restore China: China is the China of the Chinese (Han) (here is Zou Rong's call)
- Establish a Republic
- Equalize Land Ownership

Political Stages of Revolution as formulated by Sun Yatsen

- 1: a military phase—getting things done with a strong arm, then
- 2: a provisional constitution (with military still in charge) and finally
- 3: full constitutional government

Sun Yat-sen's Ideology: Three People's Principles: 三民主义

- 1) “nationalism”: get rid of the Manchus and their dynasty and remove the foreign imperialists from Chinese soil
- 2) “democracy”: build a republican form of government
- 3) “peoples livelihood”: vague notions of socialism, land equalization



- Two other key groups in the 1911 Revolution:
- --Urban Elites, particularly those empowered by late-Qing reforms
- --military men
- While Sun Yatsen and student radicals go down in history as ‘revolutionaries’—the participation of reformist elites and military was essential for the ‘success’ of the 1911 Revolution



1911 Revolution: Accomplishments

- Ends the Qing dynasty, removes the emperor and his court
- Republican form of government is established
- Vague system of federalism: semi-autonomous provinces
- First wave of active nationalism

Ambiguities and Shortcomings

- Revolutionaries fail to set themselves up with any real power in the new government
- Rise of strong provincialism despite hopes for unity
- Lacks any program for social change
- Door never completely shut on monarchical system

Yuan Shikai 袁世凱

(1859-1916)

- The most powerful Qing official at the end of the dynasty
- An active reformer in the final decade of Qing rule
- Asked by Sun Yat-sen to serve as provisional president
- Assassinate Song Jiaoren--the newly elected president of the Republic's assembly-- in March 1913
- Abolishes parliament and sets up a dictatorship in 1914
- Proclaims himself emperor: Jan. 1- March 22, 1916



Japan and the Twenty-one Demands

- Yuan forced to sign on May 7, 1915
- Europe, preoccupied with World War I so Japan capitalizes on this and steps up their efforts to control China
- Call for Japanese control of Manchuria, Mongolia, the Yangtze River, Fujian and coastal areas
- Right to own land and develop industries in these areas