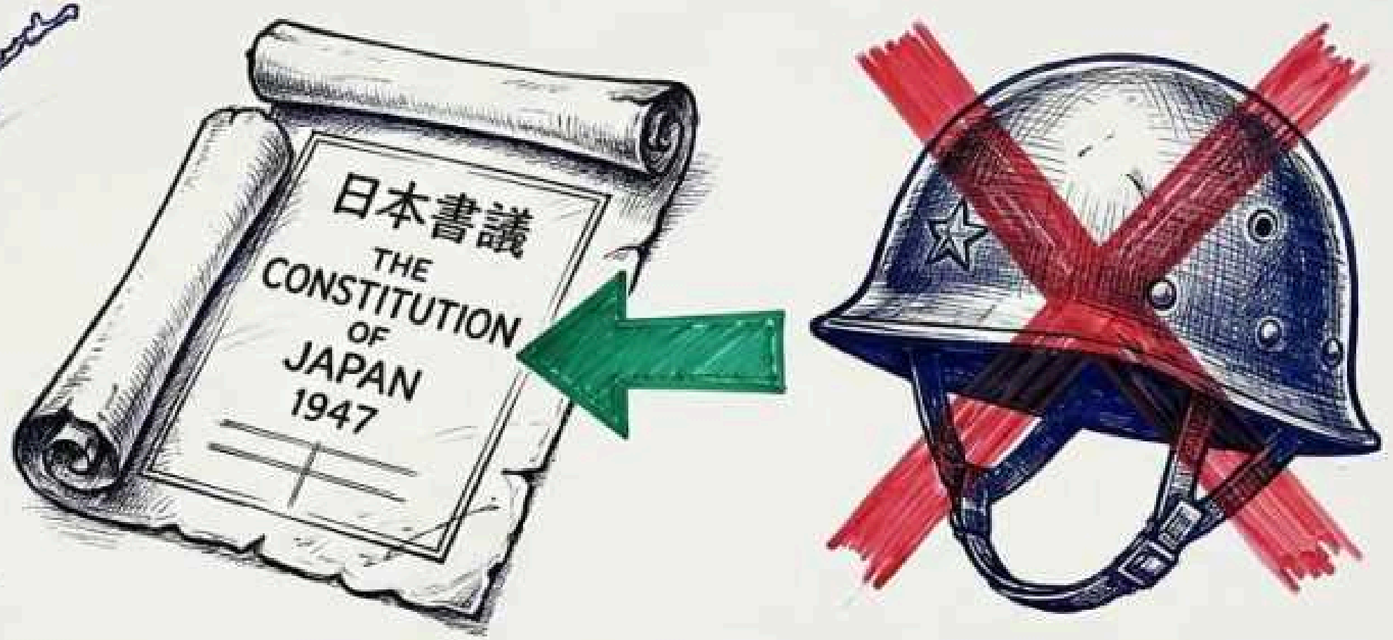
The American Occupation & Article 9

¶6.1





Timeline: 1945–1952 (Under Gen. Douglas MacArthur)

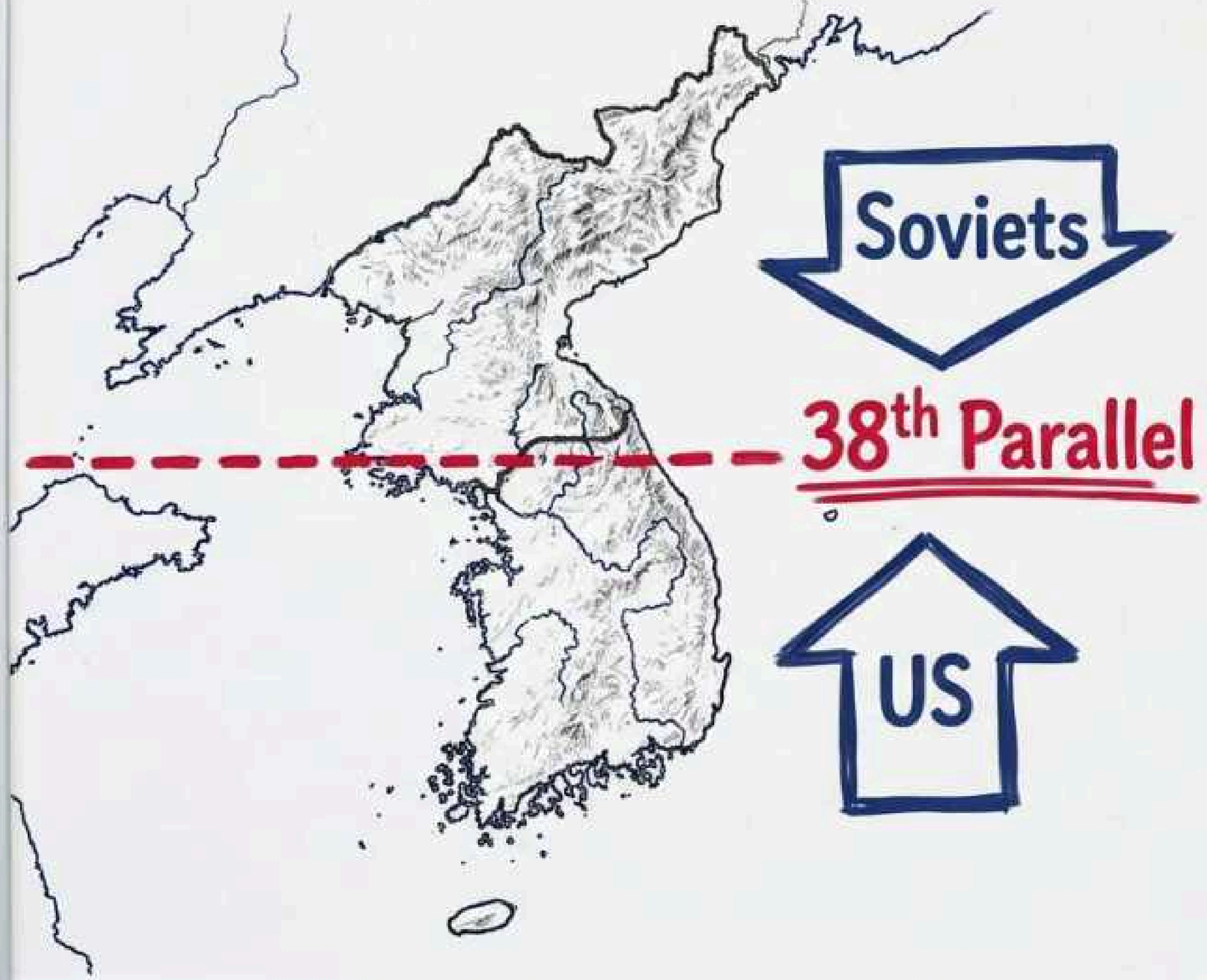
Reforms: Disarmament | Breakup of large business groups | Land redistributed to tenant farmers

Article 9: Japan officially renounces war. (No offensive military)

The Emperor: Stripped of ~~divine authority~~; → retained exclusively as a symbol of the state.

The 38th Parallel: A Nation Divided

¶6.2



1945: Peninsula structurally divided at the 38th parallel.

1948 - Two States Emerge:

North: Democratic People's Republic of Korea (led by Kim Il-sung)

South: Republic of Korea (led by Syngman Rhee)

June 1950: North Korea invades the South, triggering war.

Stalemate and Armistice

¶6.3

Phase 2: China intervenes with massive troops



Phase 1: US/UN forces push North

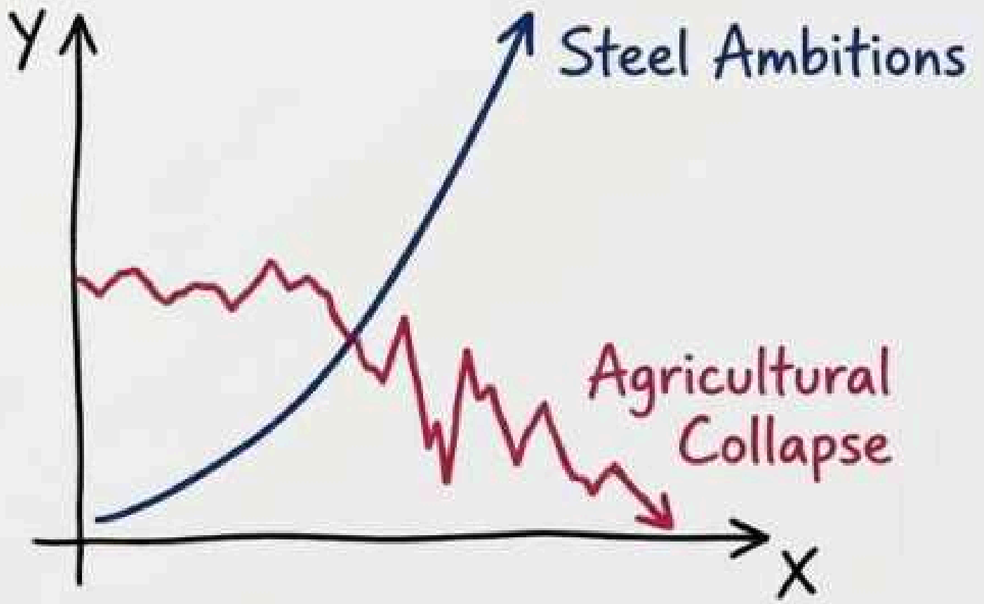
The Result: Brutal stalemate near the 38th parallel

- 1953 Armistice: Fighting ends, but no peace treaty is ever signed.
- Legacy: The heavily fortified Demilitarised Zone (DMZ) remains.
- Human Cost: ~3,000,000 Korean deaths.

The Great Leap Forward (1958)

¶ 6.4





Initial Steps: Communist Party executes violent land reform (landlords killed) and collectivizes agriculture.

The Goal (1958): Overtake Britain in steel production via backyard furnaces and giant agricultural communes.

The Formula for Tragedy:

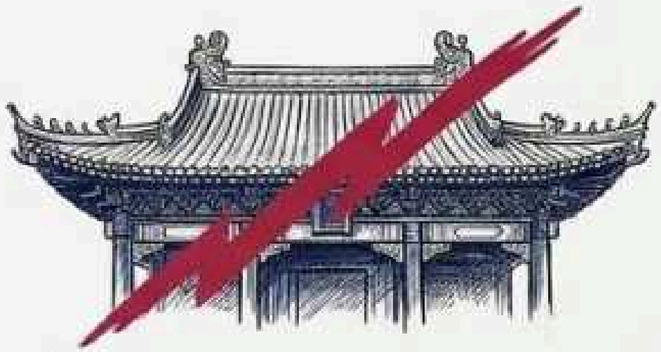
Reported Harvests $\gg$ Actual Harvests $\rightarrow$ Increased Grain Exports

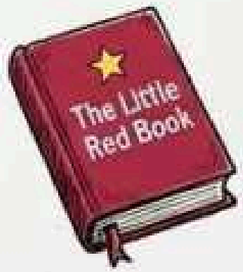
The Consequence: Severe famine (1959–1961) resulting in $\geq$ 30,000,000 deaths.

The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution

¶ 6.5

Objective: Purge political rivals and forcefully renew revolutionary spirit.





The Red Guards: Youth mobilized to systematically attack teachers, officials, and the old (temples, books, traditions).



1966 — 1976

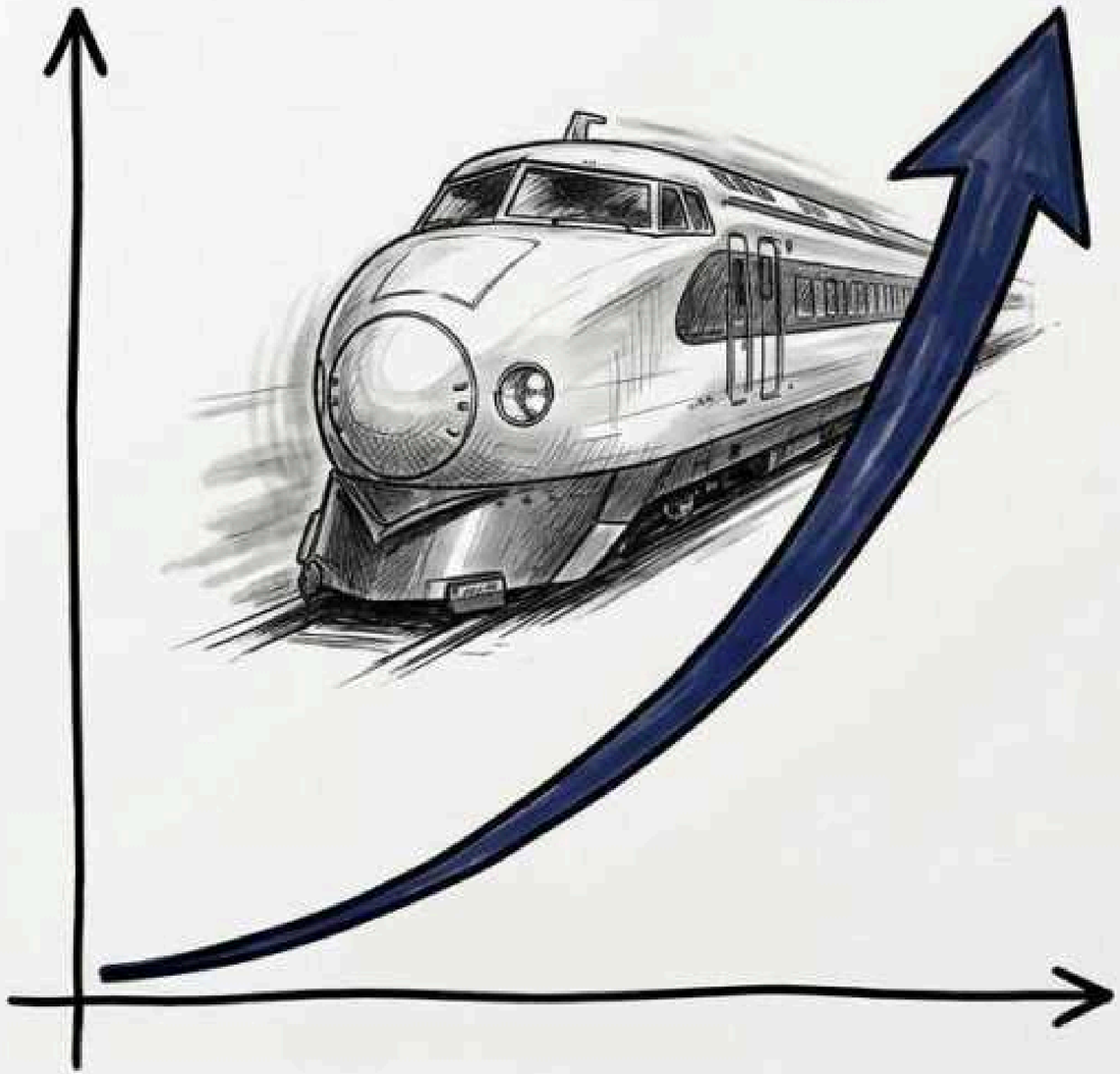
Human Cost: Millions persecuted, forcibly sent to the countryside, or killed.



Historical Verdict: The Party officially claims Mao's achievements outweighed his errors; a verdict highly disputed by historians.

The Post-War Economic Miracle

¶ 6.6



Growth Equation: Δ GDP ≈ +10% / year
(Throughout the 1950s & 1960s)

The Catalysts:
Sustained US support + Educated workforce
+ High domestic savings
+ Tight Government/Business cooperation.

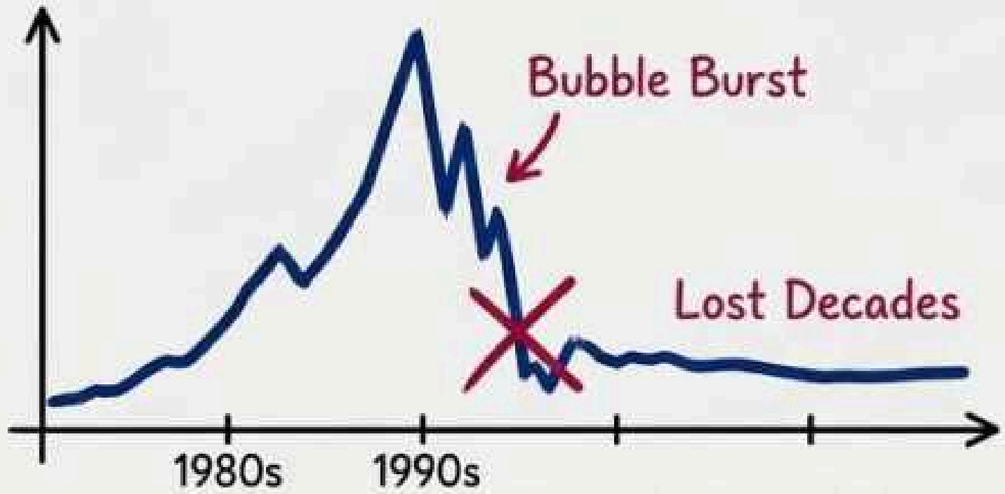
1964 Milestones: Hosting the Tokyo Olympics & launch of the Shinkansen.

1968 Status:
Reached world's 2nd-largest economy
(Led by powerhouses like Toyota and Sony).

¶ 6.7

Asset Collapse and Cultural Export

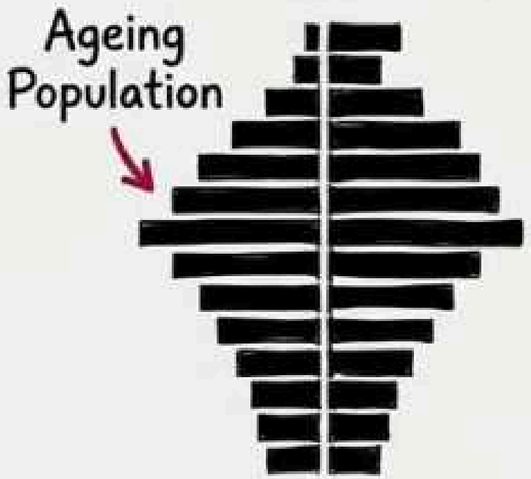
The Economy



The Turning Point: Massive asset bubble collapses in the early 1990s → leading to The Lost Decades of persistent slow growth.

Modern Status: Despite slow growth, remains profoundly wealthy, peaceful, and technologically advanced.

Society & Culture





Demographics: Currently facing one of the world's fastest-ageing populations.

Soft Power: Massive global integration of Japanese pop culture (anime, video games).

Reform and Opening (1978)



Leadership: After Mao's death, Deng Xiaoping emerges to initiate sweeping market reforms.

Deng's Pragmatism Theorem:

$$\text{If } (\text{Cat} = \text{Black} \lor \text{Cat} = \text{White}) \land \text{Catches(Mice)} \rightarrow \text{Good Cat}$$

Policy Shifts: Farmers permitted to sell surplus crops | Private businesses allowed to return | SEZs established to welcome foreign capital.

Result: Triggered three subsequent decades of ~10% annual economic growth.



Economic Reform ≠ Political Freedom

¶6.9

June 4, 1989

Spring 1989: Thousands of students and workers gather in Beijing's Tiananmen Square demanding democracy and anti-corruption measures.

The Crackdown: On 4 June, the army clears the square and surrounding streets with lethal force; hundreds (or more) are killed.

The State Response: Absolute, ongoing censorship of the event within China.

The Modern Formula:
Market Economics + Absolute One-Party Rule = Present-Day China

¶ 6.10

The Workshop of the World

2001 Milestone

China joins the World Trade Organisation (WTO), cementing its role as a global manufacturing hub.

2010 Milestone

Surpasses Japan to officially become the 2nd-largest economy.

2012–Present (The Xi Jinping Era)



External Assertiveness: Building artificial military islands in the South China Sea; launching the global Belt and Road Initiative.

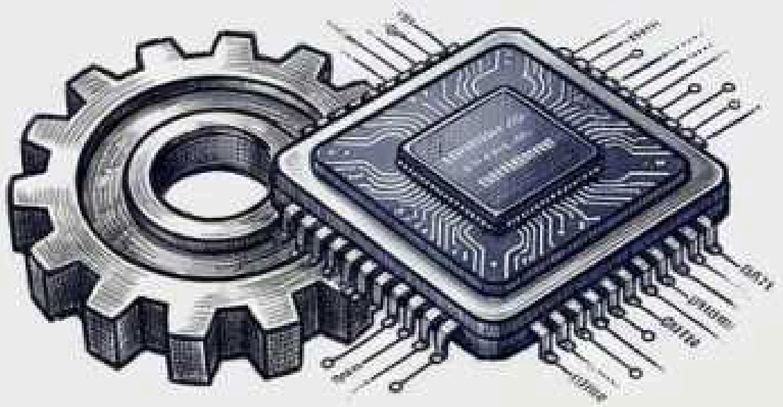
Internal Control: Tightening domestic political repression, specifically in Hong Kong and Xinjiang.



Opposite Paths: North and South Korea

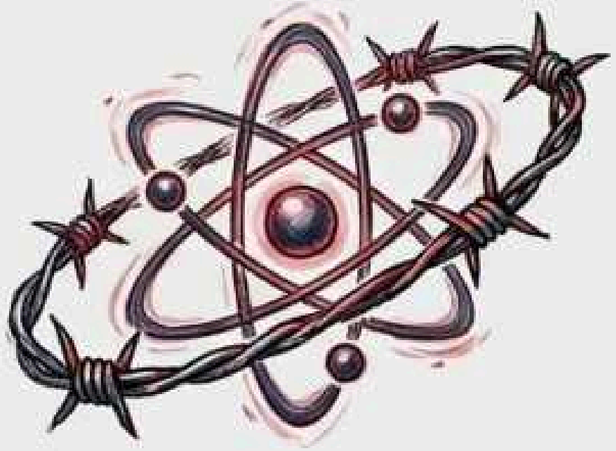
¶ 6.11

South Korea (Republic of Korea)



- Began poor and ruled by military governments.
- Rapid industrialization under Park Chung-hee (1960s+).
- Rise of massive family conglomerates (Samsung, Hyundai).
- Transitioned to full democracy after mass protests (1987).

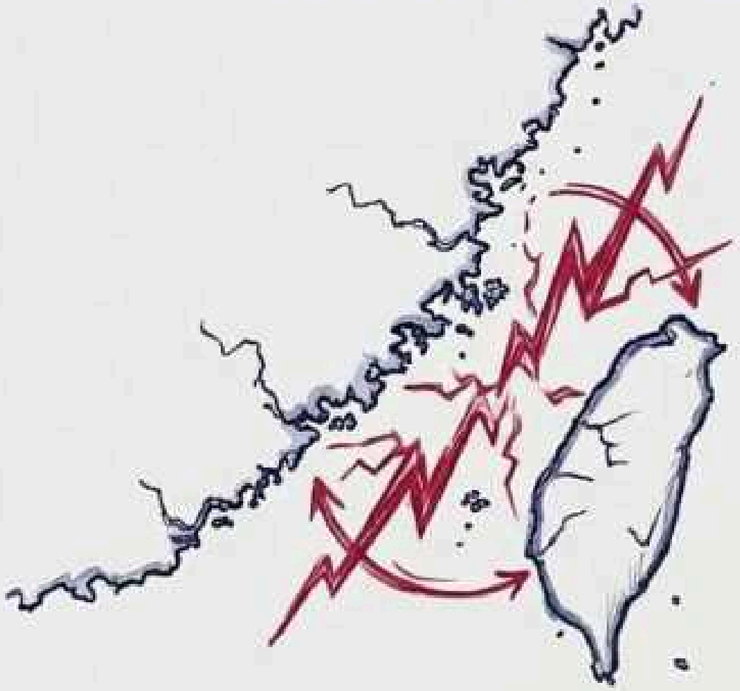
North Korea (DPRK)



- Ruled continuously by the Kim dynasty (Il-sung, Jong-il, Jong-un).
- Descended into one of the most isolated and repressive states on earth.
- Focused national resources on the development of nuclear weapons.

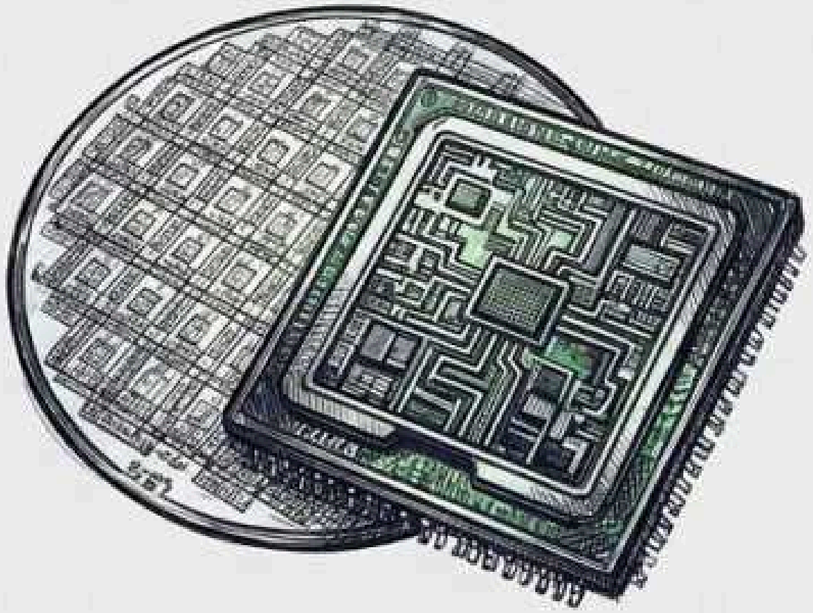
Taiwan: From Martial Law to Microchips

¶ 6.12



Political Evolution: Exited Nationalist martial law in 1987 → Transitioned to democracy (First direct presidential election held in 1996).

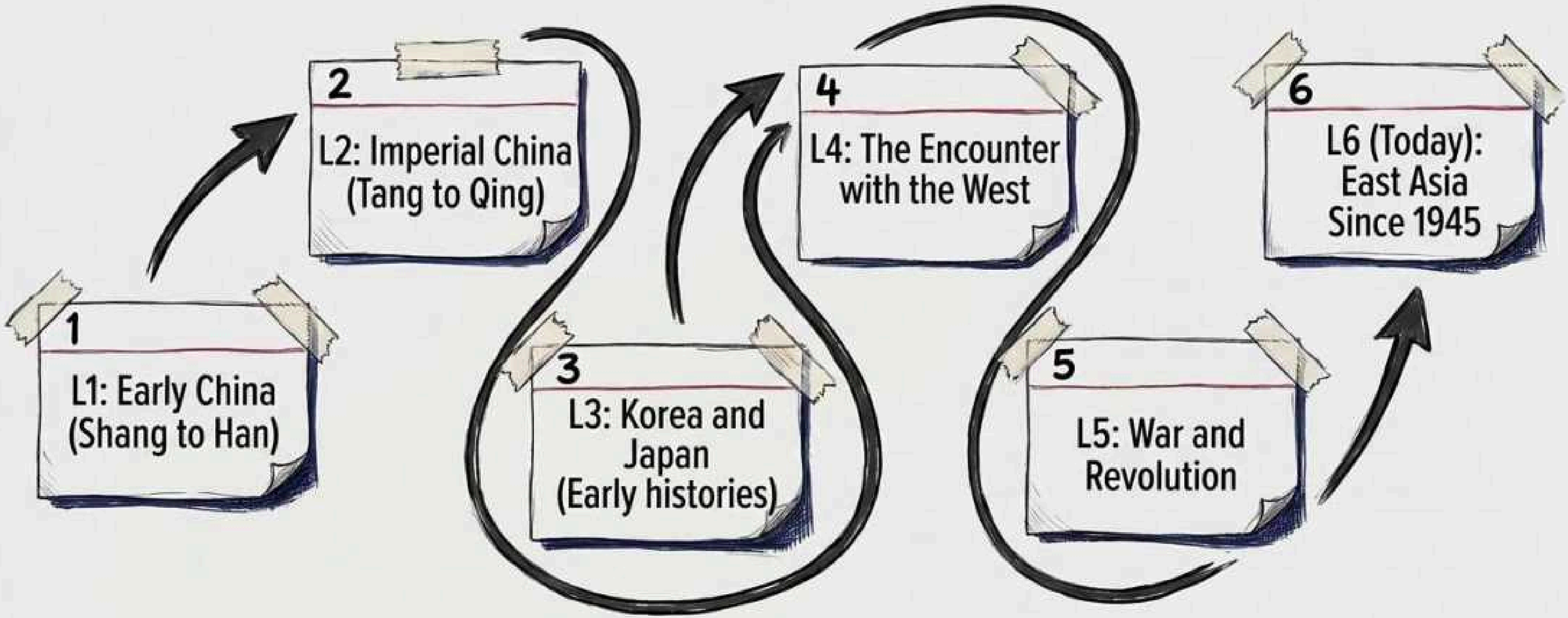
Economy: Achieved rapid industrialization; now stands as a leading global producer of advanced computer chips.



- **Political Evolution:** Exited Nationalist martial law in 1987 → Transitioned to democracy
- **Economy:** Achieved rapid industrialization; now stands as a leading global producer of advanced computer chips.
- **Geopolitics:** Beijing explicitly regards Taiwan as part of China and has not ruled out the use of force to unify it.
- **Status:** The Taiwan Strait remains a primary, high-stakes geopolitical flashpoint for the United States and the region.

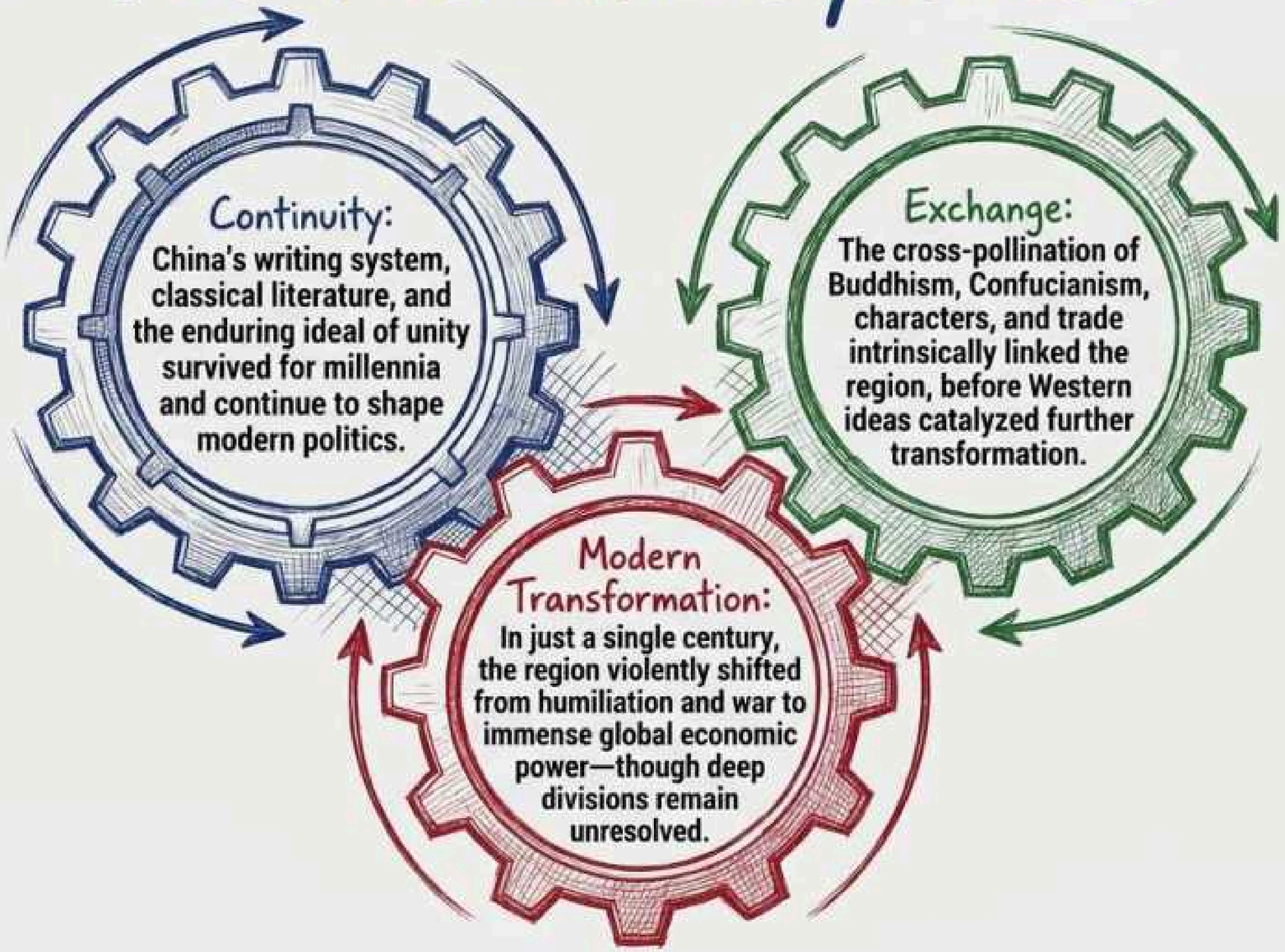
¶ 6.13

Course Retrospective: Six Epochs



The Thematic Synthesis

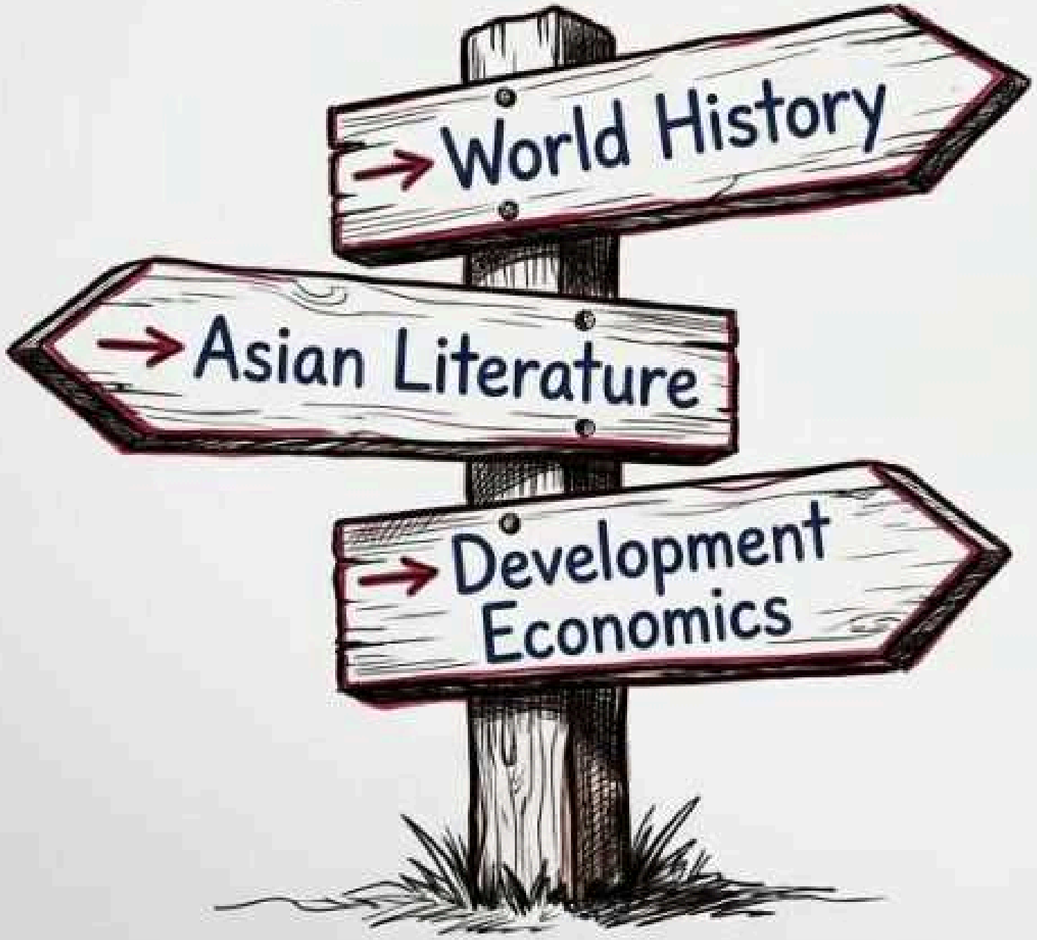
¶ 6.14



Looking Ahead

¶ 6.15

Further Courses
(Building on this foundation)

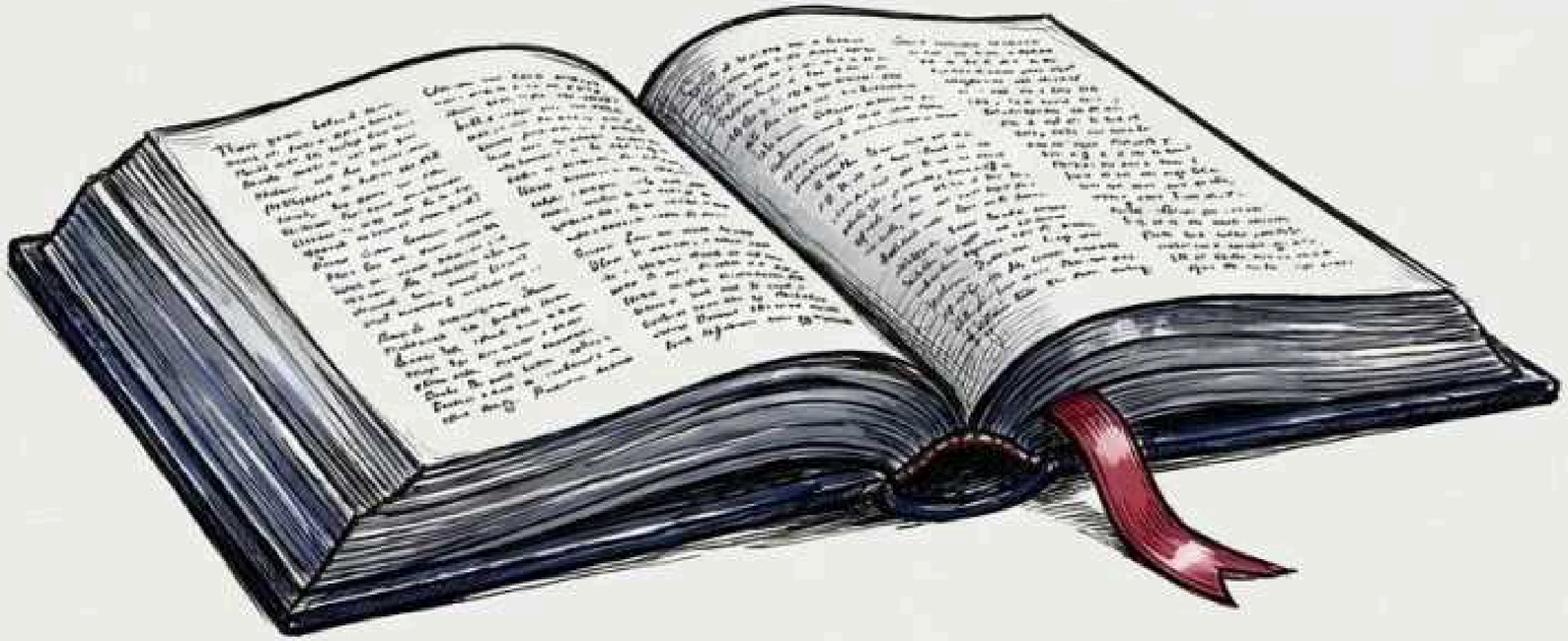


To-Do

Required Next Steps for HIST 120B

- [ ] Complete the Quizzes
- [ ] The Final Exam
- [ ] The Tripos Paper

Thank You



Thank you for taking History 120 B: History of East Asia.

Questions or feedback:
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