

TOPIC 8.4 THE SPREAD OF COMMUNISM

Learning Objective 1:

- Explain the causes and consequences of China's adoption of Communism.

- A. As a result of internal tension and Japanese aggression, Chinese Communists seized power.

Chinese Civil War

- 1927 – Japan invades China, two sides (one democratic, one communist) agree to pause war and work together
- 1949 – Communists win, set up People's Republic of China, install Mao Zedong as leader
 - Redistributing land to peasants, promoting nationalism



- B. In communist China, the government controlled the national economy through the Great Leap Forward.

Great Leap Forward

- Purpose
 - To speed up China's economic development



- Characteristics
 - Elimination of private property
 - Collectives
 - Farmed, lived, ate together under government supervision
 - Small scale industry



- Results
 - Harvests fail, 20 million die of starvation



- C. In communist China, the government attempted to repress dissent through the Cultural Revolution.

Cultural Revolution

- Purpose
 - To reassert Mao's leadership after disasters of the Great Leap Forward
 - Create a "cult of personality"
 - Silence critics



- Characteristics
 - Propaganda
 - Red Guards – group of indoctrinated students who seized officials and teachers
 - Re-education camps – hard labor
 - Little Red Book – collection of Mao quotes that were solutions to all problems



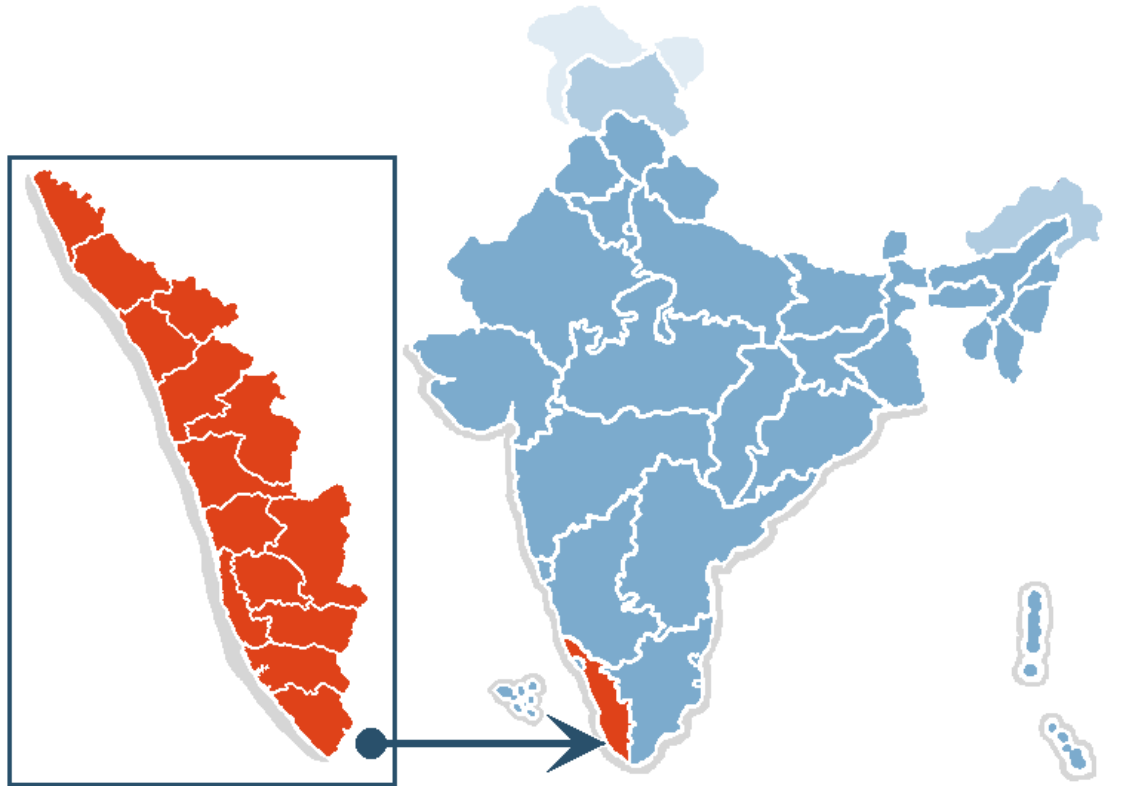
Learning Objective 2

- Explain the causes and effects of movements to redistribute economic resources.

- A. Movements to redistribute land and resources developed within states in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, sometimes advocating communism or socialism.

Land Reform in Kerala, India

- Purpose – to eliminate the “feudal” ownership of land that was a legacy of British colonialism
- Policies
 - Redistribute land to the landless, protect land renters, cooperative farming



White Revolution in Iran

- Purpose
 - To undercut traditional landowners, get support from peasants
- Policy
 - Bought land from owners, sold to peasants at low price
 - 90% of sharecroppers became landowners

