

## Managing Information Flows in China

Some grabbag items:

One millenium of Chinese history, from [http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/timelines/china\\_timeline.htm](http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/timelines/china_timeline.htm)

Years	Dynasty	Description
960-1279	Song (Sung): Northern Song (960-1127) and Southern Song (1127-1279)	An era of significant economic and social changes: the monetization of the economy; growth in commerce and maritime trade; urban expansion and technological innovations. The examination system for bureaucratic recruitment of neo-Confucianism was to provide the intellectual underpinning for the political and social order of the late imperial period.
1279-1368	Yuan	Founded by the Mongols as part of their conquest of much of the world. Beijing was made the capital. Dramas, such as the famous Story of the Western Wing, flourished.
1368-1644	Ming	The first Ming emperor, Hongwu, laid the basis of an authoritarian political culture. Despite early expansion, it was an inward-looking state with an emphasis on its agrarian base. Gradual burgeoning of the commercial sector; important changes in the economy and social relations in the latter part of the dynasty; also a vibrant literary scene as represented by publication of the novel Journey to the West.
1644-1912	Qing (Ch'ing)	A Manchu dynasty. Continued the economic developments of the late Ming, leading to prosperity but also complacency and a dramatic increase in population. The acclaimed novel Dream of the Red Chamber was written in this period. Strains on the polity were intensified by a rapid incorporation of substantial new territories. Its authoritarian structure was subsequently unable to meet the military and cultural challenge of an expansive West.
1912-1949	Republic Period	Weak central government following the collapse of the dynastic system in 1911-12; Western influence was shown by the promotion of "science" and "democracy" during the New Culture Movement. The attempt of the Nationalist government (est. 1928) to bring the entire country under its control was thwarted by both domestic revolts and the Japanese occupation (1937-45). The Nationalists fled to Taiwan after defeat by the Communists.
1949-present	People's Republic of China	Communist government. The drive for remaking society ended in disasters such as the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution. Economic reform and political retrenchment since around 1978.

**“The Dynasties Song”**

Also from [http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/timelines/china\\_timeline.htm](http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/timelines/china_timeline.htm)

This “dynasties song,” sung to the tune of “Frère Jacques.”

Shang, Zhou, Qin, Han Shang, Zhou, Qin, Han

Sui, Tang, Song Sui, Tang, Song

Yuan, Ming, Qing, Republic Yuan, Ming, Qing, Republic

Mao Zedong Mao Zedong