

Session 8 China part II

Activity 1

The Great Leap Forward

1. Watch the following video about The Great Leap Forward. Runtime approximately 12 minutes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bkR-ulXXcHo>

2. Watch the following video about The Great Leap Forward. Runtime approximately 49 minutes. The footage is from the CIA but the narration appears to not be.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zwbo59USPQs>

3. Please note that video 1 uses some footage that would be seen in video 2

Questions: Part 1

What differences did you notice between video 1 and 2?

Was one anti-China/anti-Great Leap Forward, was one pro-China/pro-Great Leap Forward?

How do you explain the difference in tone between the first and second video?

What is collectivization?

How was it presented in each video? Was it successful?

Did any of the conditions or situations stand out as surprisingly negative (for example: mother's being given 25 minutes per day to feed their infants)

Questions: Part 2

Use the following link to access United Nations' definitions for Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity, War Crimes, and Ethnic Cleansing

<https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/genocide.shtml>

Identify any instances during The Great Leap Forward that match with the United Nations definitions on Genocide and the other three Mass Human Rights violations

Questions: Part 3

Using the Session 8 China part II The Great Leap Forward definitions supplement

1. List the philosophy or philosophies that utilize centralization of the economy and/or society
2. identify which philosophy or philosophies best match with China during The Great Leap Forward
3. Based on China during The Great Leap Forward, how would you assess central planning? Is it effective? Could it lead to Mass Human Rights violations? If yes, is that because of the nature of central planning or could it be a coincidence?