



Vietnam's Road to Independence

How did nationalism lead to independence in Vietnam?

Let's Review

What is nationalism?

**a feeling of pride, loyalty,
and devotion to a country**



Turn to your elbow neighbor...

- Describe one time you experienced nationalism.
- Discuss how colonialism might spark a rise in nationalism among people who are under colonial rule.

Colonial Rule Weakens

- ▶ Long under colonial domination, many Southeast Asian nations achieved independence in the years immediately following WWII.
- ▶ The transition, however, was not always a smooth one.

Find Vietnam on the map below. Which European country controlled it until 1954?



GEOGRAPHY SKILLS INTERPRETING MAPS

Many colonies in Southeast Asia won their independence after World War II.

Place What former colonies had gained their independence by 1965?

Vietnam's Struggle for Independence

- ▶ Although some Western countries decided to end their colonial presence in Southeast Asia willingly, others did not.
- ▶ In Vietnam, a group known as **Vietminh** fought French troops to win independence.
- ▶ They were led by a man named Ho Chi Minh who was communist.
 - The Vietminh received assistance from China and the Soviet Union.
 - Their major goal was independence, not expansion of communism.
 - After years of fighting, the Vietminh defeated France to gain independence.



Who was Ho Chi Minh?

FACES OF HISTORY

HO
Chi Minh
1890–1969



Born in the colony of French Indochina, Ho Chi Minh began to fight for Vietnamese independence when he moved to France during

World War I. He was inspired by U.S. president Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points, which called for allowing all people to decide how they want to be governed.

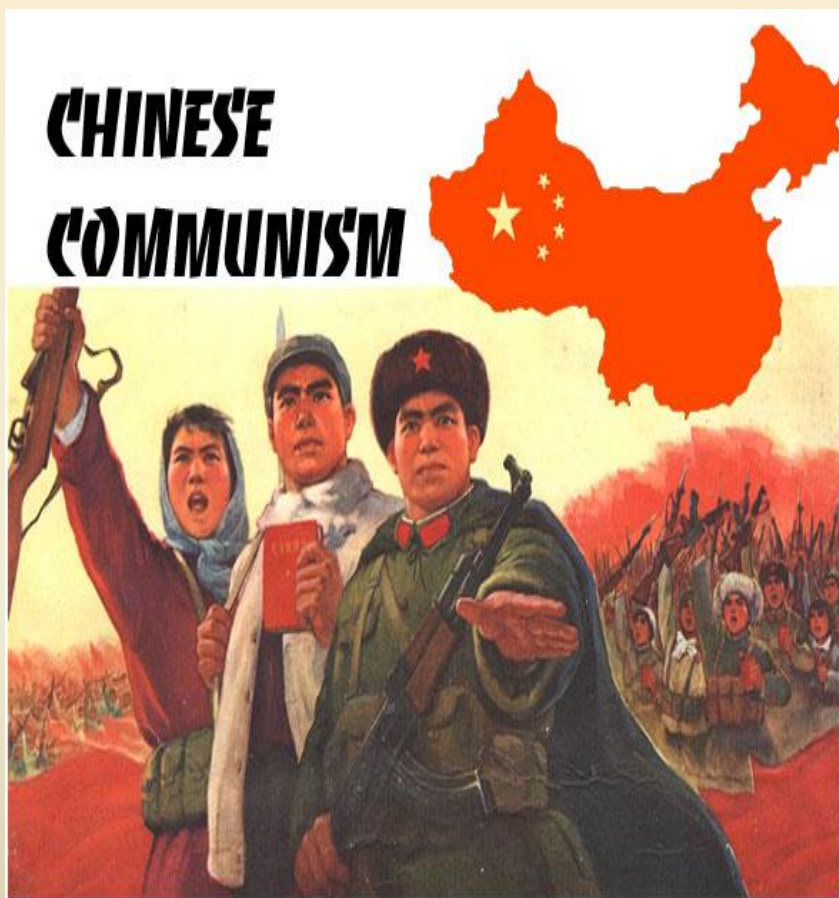
When world leaders met in Paris to negotiate the post-World War I peace treaty, Ho Chi Minh sent them a petition demanding Vietnam's independence, but received no response. He soon began to use Communist ideas in his struggle for independence, believing that peasants would play a key role in the fight for an independent Vietnam.

Find the Main Idea How did the Fourteen Points affect Ho Chi Minh?



- ▶ 1890 Born in Vietnam
- ▶ 1912 Travels to USA
 - to find work
- ▶ 1913 Travels to England
 - to find work
- ▶ 1919 Travels to France
 - founding member of French Communist Party

Communism: learn & practice



- ▶ 1923 Travels to Russia
 - Studies Russian communism
- ▶ 1924 Travels to China
 - Nationalists vs Communists
- ▶ 1927 Leaves China
 - Flees from Nationalists
- ▶ 1938 Returns to China
 - Becomes advisor to Communist Army

Changes Name



Nguyen Tat Thanh

changes his name to

Ho Chi Minh

which means

Bringer of Light

Viet Minh:

Vietnam's Communist Party

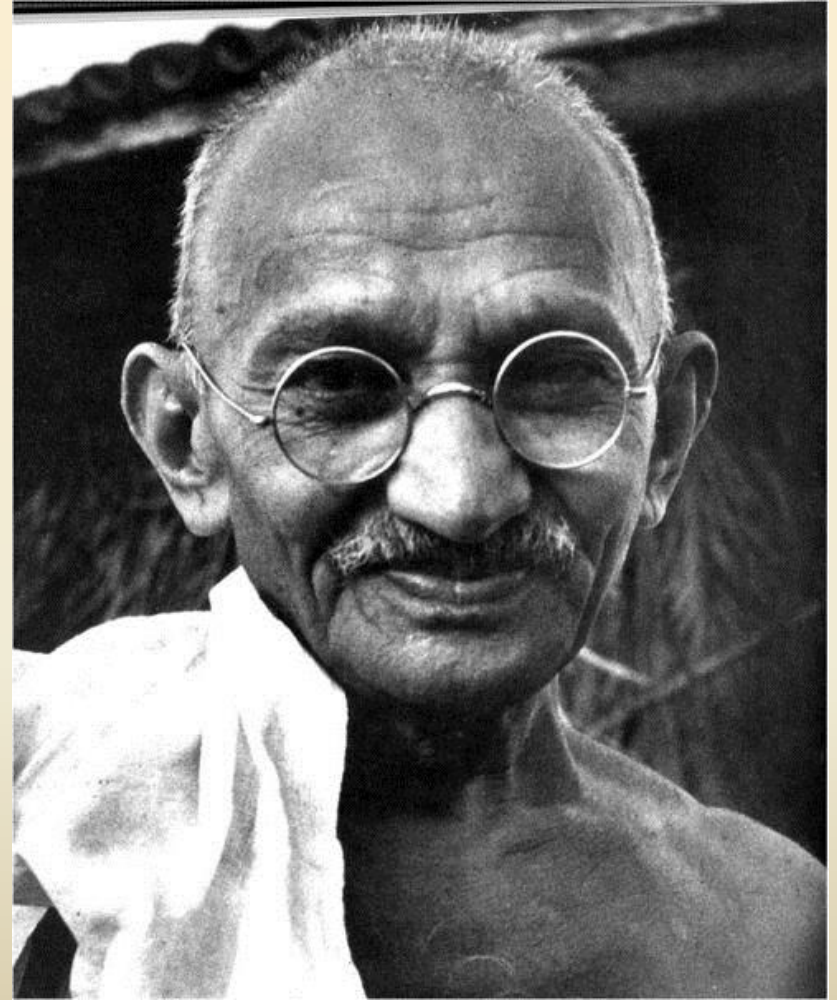
- ▶ 1941 Returns to Vietnam
 - Starts Viet Minh
 - Fights the Japanese during WWII
- ▶ 1945 World War II ends
- ▶ 1949 Mao & Communists take over China
- ▶ 1950 Meets with Stalin (Russia) and Mao
 - China will support Viet Minh with \$\$, supplies, and training

Vietnam vs France

- 1945 – 1954 fight for Independence
 - On again & off again fighting
 - Uses Guerrilla Tactics to fight French
- 1954 Major defeat for French
 - 10,000 French troops surrender in a battle
- 1954 Geneva Accords (peace treaty)
 - Divide Vietnam at the 17th parallel
 - North: Communist South: non-Communist
 - 300 days for Vietnamese to get to a side

Nationalism & Independence

Different Approaches



Turn to your elbow neighbor...

- ▶ and talk about Mohandas Gandhi and Ho Chi Minh.
- ▶ What did these two men have in common?



Now...

- ▶ Complete the Venn diagram.
- ▶ Compare the life, goals, and methods of Mohandas Gandhi and Ho Chi Minh.

Let's Summarize—Ticket Out the Door!

- ▶ Write **three** facts about Ho Chi Minh.
- ▶ Write the names of **two** countries that supported the Vietminh in their fight for independence.
- ▶ In **one** sentence, answer the essential question: How did nationalism lead to independence in Vietnam?

