



▲ Summary diagram: Establishing communist rule, 1949–57.

Recommended reading

- J. Brown and P. Pickowicz (eds.), *The Dilemmas of Victory: The Early Years of the People's Republic of China* (Harvard University Press, 2010). Rigorous analysis of the early years of the communist regime. Very challenging, but extremely detailed essays by top scholars in this field.
- M. Burleigh, *Small Wars, Faraway Places* (Pan, 2013). Chapter 5 supplies an up-to-date analysis of the Korean War.
- F. Dikotter, *The Tragedy of Liberation: A History of the Chinese Revolution, 1945–57* (Bloomsbury, 2013). Recent and detailed examination of the early consolidation of the communist regime.
- J. Melby, *The Mandate of Heaven: Record of a Civil War, China 1945–49* (University of Toronto Press, 1968). Melby was an American diplomat stationed in China during the Civil War. His book is a collection of his diary extracts recording the coming to power of the CCP.
- J. Spence, *The Search for Modern China*, 2nd edition (W.W. Norton, 1999). Especially Chapter 19 entitled 'The Birth of the People's Republic'. Also includes a very detailed account of the Civil War, not necessary for the exam but useful for understanding the background of the communist revolution.
- D. Twitchett and John K. Fairbank (eds.), *The Cambridge History of China*, Volume 14 (Cambridge University Press, 1987). Especially Part I which deals with the consolidation of the new regime.
- C. Tyler, *Wild West China: The Taming of Xinjiang* (John Murray, 2003). A history of Xinjiang, including an analysis of the difficulties faced by the People's Republic in suppressing the fiercely independent people of the region.