

Summary

Subject matter: China: the opposition to the Japanese expansion (late XIX–mid-XX cc.).

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Topicality of the research is conditioned by the fact that the experience of China's struggle against the Japanese aggression for its sovereignty, its own independence, has not lost its significance up to the present. Despite the objective and subjective problems the Chinese succeeded in standing their ground in this difficult struggle. In this they were assisted by the USSR that was gradually building with China a strategic alliance, beneficial for both countries. The historical parallels with the present day make this topic acute, especially as the military expansion as before is used in the political practice.

Objective of the research: the study of the circumstances of China's struggle against the Japanese aggression for the preservation of its sovereignty during its more than half a century period.

Tasks of the research:

- to show the causes, course and effects of the Japanese-Chinese war in 1894-1895;
- to reveal the circumstances of the extension of the Japanese influence on China in the first decades of the XXth century; to show the causes of the failures of the Chinese in the struggle for the preservation of their independence;
- to discover the specific features of the Japanese expansion into Manchuria and characterize the peculiarities of the existence of the puppet state of Manchukuo;
- to analyze the circumstances of the war between China and Japan in 1937-1945 and detect the factors that either promoted or hindered the repulsion of the aggression of the "Country of the Rising Sun".

Theoretical and practical significance of the research is explained by the fact that it forms and solves a problem, very important from the point of view of sinology, connected with the study of the circumstances of the struggle of the Chinese people for their independence, of the opposition to the Japanese expansion in the late XIX – first half of the XX century. This theme was more than once the object of the scientific interest of the specialists in Chinese studies of different generations, but has not lost its cognitive topicality. This material can be used in the course of the study of the history of China by the students of higher education institutions, in the research work.

Results of the research showed that in an attempt to retain its sovereignty in the conditions of the active expansion of the Western powers into Asia, Japan after the Meiji revolution, was rapidly transforming itself into the imperialistic plunderer. The ruling circles of Japan considered imperialism the most effective means of the preservation of the country's independence. Having taken the path of annexations and contributions Japan, first of all, fastened its eyes on its Asian neighbours – Korea and China, whose seizure and subjection could have given the Mikado the material and human opportunities for the building of the Japanese Empire. The Expansion dragged on for half a century. In the end China succeeded in standing its ground in the difficult struggle against the Japanese aggression and with the help of the countries of the anti-Hitler and anti-Japanese coalition regained its independence.

Recommendations:

1. To discover the causes of the military failures of the Chinese armed forces in the struggle against the Japanese aggressors and to show the affords of the country's authorities to overcome such a situation.

2. To find out why the military-political alliance between China and the USSR became possible and what role the Japanese factor played in it.