Causes of the Chinese Civil War-Two Visions for the Future of China

I.B. History HL

**Instructions:**

After the collapse of the Qing dynasty in 1912 China was divided and socially chaotic. Yuan Shikai’s new republic had little real control over the country and when he died in 1916, China fell into the Warlord Era (1916-1928). From this chaos emerged two competing political parties and ideologies that struggled for control of China. In today’s lesson we are going to explore the long term and short term causes of the Chinese Civil War. There will be a mix of video, lecture discussion. By the end of today’s lesson, you should be able to give a developed explanation of why the Chinese Civil War begins in 1927.

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| **Long Term Cause 1-Qing Dynasty and Forced Opening of the West**  What were the social, political, environmental, cultural and economic effects of the 19th Century? |
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| **Long Term Cause 2- Rise of the KMT/GMD and the CCP** | |
| The Nationalist Party (KMT/GMD) | The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) |
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| **Short Term Causes- The First United Front, Death of SYS and the Northern Expedition** | | |
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| **Immediate Cause- Shanghai Massacre, Purge of the Communists, and the Jiangxi Soviet** |
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**Discussion Questions:**

1. **What were the differing views for the future of China? How did these visions each reflect the legacy of the turmoil of the 19th century?**
2. **Who/what is to blame for the collapse of the First United Front?**
3. **Why was radical change necessary to create a modern nation state in China? Try to support your explanation with specific events.**