

## **What's the origin of the Taiwan question?**

Taiwan has been part of China since ancient times. Starting from the Song and Yuan dynasties, the central governments of China all set up administrative bodies to exercise jurisdiction over Taiwan.

During the Qing dynasty, Japan launched a war of aggression against China in 1894, the defeated Qing government was forced to cede Taiwan, and starting in 1895, Taiwan had been under the colonial rule of Japan for 50 years. Following Japan's surrender in World War II, the Chinese government resumed the exercise of sovereignty over Taiwan in 1945. Then after the civil war, the Kuomintang was driven out of the mainland China. Taking advantage of the barrier of Taiwan Strait and the support of external forces, they took Taiwan as their last stronghold. The two sides of the Taiwan Strait then fell into a special state of protracted political confrontation, which resulted in the Taiwan Question ever since.

This period of history tells us that Taiwan has always been part of Chinese territory and Taiwan has never been a country.