

# A BRIEF PRESENTATION ON CHINA'S FAMOUS DRAMAS

## CHINESE DRAMAS

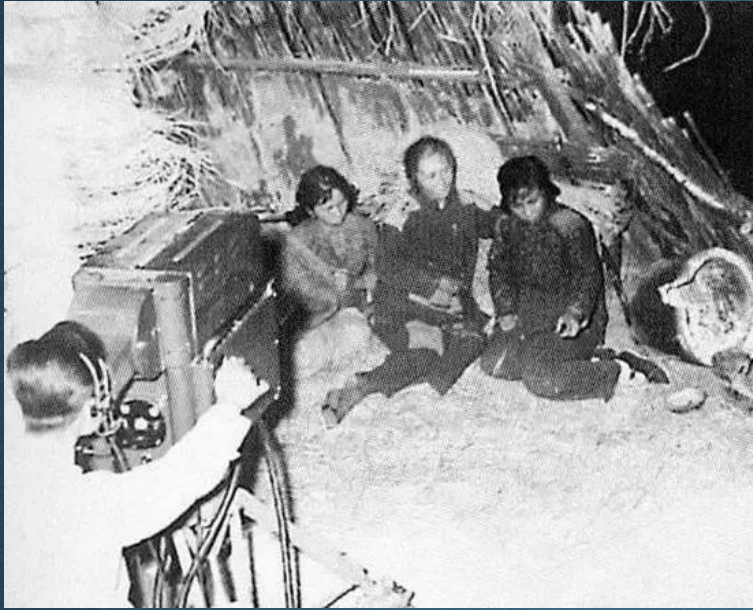
Mar Martinez





# HISTORY

In 1958, China's first broadcasting station "Beijing TV" (now called CCTV) aired the first Chinese drama. "A Mouthful of Vegetable Pancake" is a single episode drama about a little girl teaching her sister not to waste food.



An image showing the filming of “A Mouthful of Vegetable Pancake.”

The purpose of the episode was an attempt by the CCP to promote frugality during a time of food insecurity. Between 1958 and 1966, Chinese broadcasting stations would go on to air over 200 dramas, each promoting socialist values. These dramas were funded and produced by the state to function as propaganda.

# DRAMAS DURING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION

1966 saw the emergence of the Chinese Cultural Revolution. After the beginning of the revolution, Mao Zedong's wife, Jiang Qing, prohibited all forms of theater. After inspecting 1000 Peking operas, she suggested banning most of them.

The CCP's literature committees dictated what was allowed to be preformed and broadcasted. For about a decade, the only entertainment aired on Chinese TV was limited to eight revolutionary operas, three war movies and some song renditions.



Promotional Poster for the Chinese film "Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy"



# Dramas After the Cultural Revolution

The first full-series drama to air after the end of the Cultural Revolution was “18 Years in the Enemy Camp,” a nine-episode drama that did not do well with audiences.

## Fun Facts

- The show solidified China’s ability to produce original content
- Although unpopular, it contributed to China’s growing popularity of watch TV
- The drama focuses on navigating hardships and conflict



# HENGDIAN WORLD STUDIOS



“HOLLYWOOD OF  
THE EAST”

The largest film and television production base in China, where 70% of Chinese historical dramas are filmed. It is very important when in Chinese film and television. Some of the dramas filmed there include “The Untamed,” “Love Like the Galaxy,” and “Love in a World of Fire.”



# CHINA'S SOFT POWER AND DRAMAS

Although entertaining, China's popular dramas are building up the nation's soft power and spot on the world stage. Dramas with international distribution promote Chinese history and culture. They introduce Chinese music, history, and language to an international audience. The success of dramas such as *The Untamed* have sparked interest in China and its cultural. This newfound interested has encouraged many to travel to China, increasing its tourism.



谢谢

The image features a dark blue background representing a night sky. In the center, a large, bright yellow moon is depicted with a textured, slightly grainy surface. The moon is surrounded by a soft, glowing aura of small, golden-yellow particles. Below the moon, there are two large, fluffy clouds in shades of light blue and white. Scattered throughout the sky are several small, five-pointed teal stars of varying sizes.

# RESOURCES

- <https://mydramalist.com/article/a-brief-history-of-chinese-dramas>
- <https://disco.teak.fi/asia/the-cultural-revolution/#:~:text=They%20included%20Taking%20Tiger%20Mountain,%20Dhu%20t'uan> ).
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese\\_television\\_drama](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese_television_drama)
- <https://www.ask.com/entertainment/unveiling-cultural-significance-chinese-tv-dramas-modern-society>