# **HIS 100 Historical Context Chart**

**Prompt**: To understand your topic, you need to understand the world in which the events related to that topic took place. First, list your research topic and the revised research question you plan to address moving forward. Then, choose two secondary sources related to your research topic and provide the citation for each in the chart. You may use secondary sources from previous assignments.Next, explain in the chart what each source tells you about the **historical context** of a chosen event and how it relates to your topic. In the last chart column, explain how the context provided by the source will help you write your **thesis statement**, answering your research question.

Replace the bracketed text with the relevant information.

## Historical Context Chart

**Research Topic:** Mao Zedong’s China

**Selected Revised Research Question:** There is an obvious dichotomy in opinion when referring to sentiment behind Mao’s rule. How was the narrative of Mao’s rule controlled during this time?

| **Secondary Source Citation** | **Historical Context of Event** | **Support Your Thesis Statement** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Dong, Z. (2014). Mao Zedong and the independent and comprehensive industrial system and the modernization of New China. World Review of Political Economy, 5(4), 472–487. | Before Mao’s rule, China was a very technologically underdeveloped area in a time when becoming a more developed country was very slim. Mao saw Communism as a way to launch China into a new era, but wanted industrial independence, which was not what the Soviet Union wanted for China. | This source gives one perspective of the sentiment in regard to Mao. While this source was written well after Mao’s rule, much of his legacy still lives on and it is interesting that this article barely touches on any of Mao’s unignorable shortcomings as a ruler. |
| Boon, H. T. (2018). China's global identity: Considering the responsibilities of great power. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press. | There is a larger “Central Kingdom” perception amongst the Chinese people. This was brought on by some feudal rulers during their time. Eventually China was viewed as weak and in the 1920s, leaders strove to “restore China’s lost grandeur”. | This source talks about China’s innate drive to be seen as a responsible, world power. If this is a feeling that permeates the Chinese at even the lower class levels, this could be used as a motivator to amplify narratives that paint leaders in a positive light and minimize the narratives of choices they made that may be viewed as bad. |