The Rape of Nanking

1. What was the Japanese objective in capturing Nanking?

2. What was the "Three All Policy?"
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3. What is the significance of the Ancient Chinese legend that Nanking "would die when the mountain burned?"

4. Why were the Japanese able to march right into the city? (What mistakes did Chiang and the Chinese army make?)

5. Why did the quick surrender of the Chinese soldiers infuriate the Japanese?

6. What was the role of the Japanese media in the atrocities in Nanking? What does that tell you about the Japanese attitude toward the Chinese?
7. Why didn't the West respond?

8. What is the irony of General Matsui's conviction and execution for war crimes because of the atrocities in Nanking?

9. What was the role of the Westerners during the Rape of Nanking?

10. What is the irony of the German businessman, John Rabe's actions during the Rape of Nanking?

11. Why did the Japanese re-introduce opium to Nanking?

12. Why were the atrocities of Nanking covered up or passed over during the war crime trials in Tokyo after the war?

13. What is the difference between the German reaction to their war crimes and criminals and the Japanese reaction?
14. **Summation:** How did the Japanese imperialist attitude and beliefs foster (encourage) the genocidal brutality that occurred in Nanking in December 1937 and January 1938?

15. **Summation:** Which do you think is worse the violence of the ancient civilizations like Rome or the Middle Ages or the genocidal brutality of World War II and the recent past?