THE PATTERN OF THE CHINESE PAST

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A SATISFACTORY COMPREHENSIVE HISTORY OF THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF PRE MODERN CHINA THE LARGEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD IN TERMS OF POPULATION AND WITH A DOCUMENTARY RECORD COVERING THREE MILLENNIA IS STILL FAR FROM POSSIBLE THE PRESENT WORK IS ONLY AN ATTEMPT

TO DISENGAGE THE MAJOR THEMES THAT SEEM TO BE OF RELEVANCE TO OUR UNDERSTANDING OF CHINA TODAY IN PARTICULAR THIS VOLUME STUDIES THREE QUESTIONS WHY DID THE CHINESE EMPIRE STAY TOGETHER WHEN THE ROMAN EMPIRE AND EVERY OTHER EMPIRE OF ANTIQUITY OF THE MIDDLE AGES ULTIMATELY COLLAPSED WHAT WERE THE CAUSES OF THE MEDIEVAL REVOLUTION WHICH MADE THE CHINESE ECONOMY AFTER ABOUT 1100 THE MOST ADVANCED IN THE WORLD AND WHY DID CHINA AFTER ABOUT 1350 FAIL TO MAINTAIN HER EARLIER PACE OF TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCE WHILE STILL IN MANY RESPECTS ADVANCING ECONOMICALLY THE THREE SECTIONS OF THE BOOK DEAL WITH THESE PROBLEMS IN TURN BUT THE DIVISION OF A SUBJECT MATTER IS TO SOME EXTENT ONLY ONE OF CONVENIENCE THESE TOPICS ARE SO INTERRELATED THAT IN THE LAST ANALYSIS NONE OF THEM CAN BE CONSIDERED IN ISOLATION FROM THE OTHERS

BY ONE OF THE LEADING EXPERTS ON MODERN CHINESE HISTORY AND HISTORIOGRAPHY THIS VOLUME

ARGUES FOR FRESH WAYS OF APPROACHING THE CHINESE PAST SPOTLIGHTING WESTERN HISTORIANS CHINESE

HISTORIANS AND THE HISTORY ITSELF

SERIOUS STUDY OF NINETEENTH AND TWENTIETH CENTURY CHINESE HISTORY DID NOT REALLY GET UNDER WAY IN THE UNITED STATES UNTIL AFTER WORLD WAR II SINCE THEN SCHOLARLY PUBLICATION HAS PROLIFERATED AND A GENUINE PROFESSIONAL FIELD BY FAR THE LARGEST AND MOST ACTIVE IN THE WEST HAS TAKEN SHAPE NOW FOR THE FIRST TIME WE HAVE A CRITICAL BOOK LENGTH ANALYSIS OF THIS DEVELOPMENT WRITTEN BY AN INSIDER AND STRUCTURED AROUND THE LEADING CONCEPTUAL APPROACHES THAT HAVE INFORMED AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIP IN THE POSTWAR DECADES IN PAUL A COHEN S VIEW THE SUPREME PROBLEM FOR AMERICAN STUDENTS OF CHINESE HISTORY PARTICULARLY IN ITS POST WESTERN IMPACT PHASE HAS BEEN ONE OF ETHNOCENTRIC DISTORTION THE FIRST TWO CHAPTERS OF THE BOOK EXPLORE THIS PROBLEM IN CONNECTION WITH THE TWO APPROACHES THAT WERE MOST INFLUENTIAL IN AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIP OF THE 1950S AND 1960S THE IMPACT RESPONSE AND MODERNIZATION TRADITION MODERNITY APPROACHES IN CHAPTER THREE DR COHEN ARGUES THAT A THIRD MAJOR APPROACH THE IMPERIALISM APPROACH ALTHOUGH EMERGING IN THE LATE 1960s AS A CRITIQUE OF THE TWO EARLIER APPROACHES HAS BEEN NO LESS WESTERN CENTRIC IN ITS BASIC PRESUPPOSITIONS THE FINAL CHAPTER TRACES THE INCREASING EFFORTS OF AMERICAN HISTORIANS TO MOVE BEYOND THE WESTERN CENTRIC PARADIGMS OF THE PAST TOWARD A MORE CHINA CENTERED APPROACH TO RECENT CHINESE HISTORY AN APPROACH THAT STRIVES EMPATHETICALLY TO RECONSTRUCT THE CHINESE PAST AS THE

CHINESE THEMSELVES EXPERIENCED IT RATHER THAN IN TERMS OF AN IMPORTED SENSE OF HISTORICAL PROBLEM DR COHEN CONCLUDES WITH A DISCUSSION OF SOME OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS NEW APPROACH FOR OUR UNDERSTANDING OF RECENT CHINESE HISTORY STUDENTS OF CHINESE HISTORY SINO AMERICAN RELATIONS AND THE EVOLUTION OF AMERICAN HISTORICAL SCHOLARSHIP ON NON WESTERN SOCIETIES WILL WELCOME THIS PERCEPTIVE AND THOUGHT PROVOKING BOOK

A PANORAMIC SURVEY OF THE COURSE OF CHINESE CIVILIZATION FROM PREHISTORY TO 1850 WHEN THE OLD CHINA BEGAN TO GIVE WAY

HAS ANNUAL INDEXES

THIS COLLECTION OF ESSAYS BY AND ABOUT WANG GUNGWU BRINGS TOGETHER SOME OF WANG S MOST RECENT AND REPRESENTATIVE WRITING ABOUT THE ETHNIC CHINESE OUTSIDE CHINA GIVING THE READER A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF HIS VIEWS ON MIGRATION IDENTITY NATIONALISM AND CULTURE ALL KEY ISSUES IN MODERN ASIA S TRANSFORMATION THE BOOK COLLECTS INTERVIEWS SPEECHES AND ESSAYS THAT ILLUSTRATE THE DEVELOPMENT AND DIRECTION OF WANG S SCHOLARSHIP ON ETHNIC AND DIASPORIC CHINESE

THIS WORK HAS BEEN SELECTED BY SCHOLARS AS BEING CULTURALLY IMPORTANT AND IS PART OF THE KNOWLEDGE BASE OF CIVILIZATION AS WE KNOW IT THIS WORK WAS REPRODUCED FROM THE ORIGINAL ARTIFACT AND REMAINS AS TRUE TO THE ORIGINAL WORK AS POSSIBLE THEREFORE YOU WILL SEE THE ORIGINAL COPYRIGHT REFERENCES LIBRARY STAMPS AS MOST OF THESE WORKS HAVE BEEN HOUSED IN OUR MOST IMPORTANT LIBRARIES AROUND THE WORLD AND OTHER NOTATIONS IN THE WORK THIS WORK IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND POSSIBLY OTHER NATIONS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES YOU MAY FREELY COPY AND DISTRIBUTE THIS WORK AS NO ENTITY INDIVIDUAL OR CORPORATE HAS A COPYRIGHT ON THE BODY OF THE WORK AS A REPRODUCTION OF A HISTORICAL ARTIFACT THIS WORK MAY CONTAIN MISSING OR BLURRED PAGES POOR PICTURES ERRANT MARKS ETC SCHOLARS BELIEVE AND WE CONCUR THAT THIS WORK IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO BE PRESERVED REPRODUCED AND MADE GENERALLY AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT OF THE PRESERVATION PROCESS AND THANK YOU FOR BEING AN IMPORTANT PART OF KEEPING THIS KNOWLEDGE ALIVE AND RELEVANT

EXCERPT FROM THE CHINESE EMPIRE PAST AND PRESENT AS THE CHINESE LANGUAGE HAS NO ALPHABET BUT

DEPENDS ON A COMBINATION OF ABOUT FIVE HUNDRED SYLLABLES FOREIGNERS CAN ONLY IMITATE THE SOUNDS OF THESE SYLLABLES AS NEARLY AS POSSIBLE WITH THE LETTERS OF THEIR OWN ALPHABET CHINESE WORDS ARE THEREFORE TO BE PRONOUNCED PRECISELY AS THEY ARE SPELLED WITH A SORT OF SEPARATE EMPHASIS ON EACH SYLLABLE THE DIFFICULTY LIES IN THE FACT THAT THE VOWELS HAVE DIFFER ENT SOUNDS IN THE DIFFERENT WESTERN LANGUAGES THUS MAPS MADE IN GERMANY WILL HAVE ONE SPELLING AND MAPS MADE IN ENGLAND WILL HAVE ANOTHER ABOUT THE PUBLISHER FORGOTTEN BOOKS PUBLISHES HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF RARE AND CLASSIC BOOKS FIND MORE AT FORGOTTENBOOKS COM THIS BOOK IS A REPRODUCTION OF AN IMPORTANT HISTORICAL WORK FORGOTTEN BOOKS USES STATE OF THE ART TECHNOLOGY TO DIGITALLY RECONSTRUCT THE WORK PRESERVING THE ORIGINAL FORMAT WHILST REPAIRING IMPERFECTIONS PRESENT IN THE AGED COPY IN RARE CASES AN IMPERFECTION IN THE ORIGINAL SUCH AS A BLEMISH OR MISSING PAGE MAY BE REPLICATED IN OUR EDITION WE DO HOWEVER REPAIR THE VAST MAJORITY OF IMPERFECTIONS SUCCESSFULLY ANY IMPERFECTIONS THAT REMAIN ARE INTENTIONALLY LEFT TO PRESERVE THE STATE OF SUCH HISTORICAL WORKS

CHINA IS KNOWN FOR ITS DEEP VENERATION OF HISTORY FAR MORE THAN A RECORD OF THE PAST HISTORY TO THE CHINESE IS THE MAGISTER VITAE TEACHER OF LIFE THE STOREHOUSE OF MORAL LESSONS AND BUREAUCRATIC PRECEDENTS MIRRORING THE PAST PRESENTS A COMPREHENSIVE HISTORY OF TRADITIONAL CHINESE HISTORIOGRAPHY FROM ANTIQUITY TO THE MID QING PERIOD ORGANIZED CHRONOLOGICALLY THE BOOK TRACES THE DEVELOPMENT OF HISTORICAL THINKING AND WRITING IN IMPERIAL CHINA BEGINNING WITH THE EARLIEST FORMS OF HISTORICAL CONSCIOUSNESS AND ENDING WITH ADUMBRATIONS OF THE FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT VIEWS ENGENDERED BY MID NINETEENTH CENTURY ENCOUNTERS WITH THE WEST THE HISTORIOGRAPHY OF EACH ERA IS EXPLORED ON TWO LEVELS FIRST THE GATHERING OF MATERIAL AND THE WRITING AND PRODUCTION OF NARRATIVES TO DESCRIBE PAST EVENTS SECOND THE THINKING AND REFLECTING ON MEANINGS AND PATTERNS OF THE PAST SIGNIFICANTLY THE BOOK EMBEDS WITHIN THIS CHRONOLOGICAL STRUCTURE INTEGRATED VIEWS OF CHINESE HISTORIOGRAPHY BRINGING TO LIGHT THE PURPOSIVE DIDACTIC AND NORMATIVE USES OF THE PAST EXAMINING BOTH THE WORLDS OF OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL HISTORIOGRAPHY THE AUTHORS LAY BARE THE INGENIOUS WAYS IN WHICH CHINESE SCHOLARS EXTRACTED TRUTH FROM EVENTS AND REVEAL HOW SCHEMAS AND PHILOSOPHIES OF HISTORY WERE CONSTRUCTED AND ESPOUSED THEY HIGHLIGHT THE DYNAMIC NATURE OF CHINESE HISTORIOGRAPHY REVEALING THAT HISTORICAL WORKS MAPPED THE CONTOURS OF CHINESE CIVILIZATION NOT FOR THE SAKE OF UNDERSTANDING HISTORY AS DISEMBODIED AND THEORETICAL LEARNING BUT FOR THE PRAGMATIC PURPOSE OF GUIDING THE WORLD BY MIRRORING THE PAST IN ALL ITS SPLENDOR AND SQUALOR

THIS BOOK DEVELOPS A NEW APPROACH TO HISTORICAL CHANGE AT THE TURN OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY A CRUCIAL STAGE IN THE UNFOLDING OF CHINESE MODERNITY ITS FOCUS IS ON THE FRAUGHT AND MOMENTOUS WOMAN QUESTION WHICH FOREGROUNDED THE CULTURAL PARADOXES AND POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS THAT DEFINE THE ERA JUDGE PROBES CHINESE APPROACHES TO THEIR OWN PAST AND THE MODERN WEST MEDIATED VIA JAPAN THROUGH A CLOSE EXAMINATION OF THE VARIED CULTURAL AND POLITICAL USES OF FEMALE BIOGRAPHY A GENRE WITH A 2 000 YEAR HISTORY IN CHINA AND A NEW POLITICAL SALIENCE IN THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY

THIS FULLY UPDATED SECOND EDITION PROVIDES A SUCCINCT AND SELF CONTAINED HISTORY OF CHINA THE TEXT EMPHASIZES THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHINA S MODERN ERA AND ITS PAST EMPLOYING A UNIQUE APPROACH THAT PRESENTS THE STORY IN TERMS OF TRADITIONAL CHINESE HISTORICAL THEORIES WHEN THE WEST ENTERS THE SCENE IN MODERN TIMES SCHRECKER FITS ITS IMPACT INTO THE CHINESE STORY RATHER THAN THE REVERSE AS IS COMMONLY DONE THIS STUDY DEMONSTRATES THAT TRADITIONAL CHINA WAS NOT HOMOGENEOUS OR CHANGELESS THUS OFFERING A MUCH NEEDED CORRECTIVE TO COMMON STEREOTYPES ABOUT OTHER CULTURES THAT IS ESSENTIAL FOR BOTH CLASSROOM USE AND FOR THE GENERAL READER THE CHINESE REVOLUTION IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE AVAILABLE HERE IN A FULLY UPDATED SECOND EDITION PROVIDES A SUCCINCT AND SELF CONTAINED HISTORY OF CHINA THE TEXT EMPHASIZES THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHINA S MODERN ERA AND ITS PAST EMPLOYING A UNIQUE APPROACH THAT PRESENTS THE STORY IN TERMS OF TRADITIONAL CHINESE HISTORICAL THEORIES WHEN THE WEST ENTERS THE SCENE IN MODERN TIMES SCHRECKER FITS ITS IMPACT INTO THE CHINESE STORY RATHER THAN THE REVERSE AS IS COMMONLY DONE THIS STUDY DEMONSTRATES THAT TRADITIONAL CHINA WAS NOT HOMOGENEOUS OR CHANGELESS THUS OFFERING A MUCH NEEDED CORRECTIVE TO COMMON STEREOTYPES ABOUT OTHER CULTURES THAT IS ESSENTIAL FOR BOTH CLASSROOM USE AND FOR THE GENERAL READER SCHRECKER S APPROACH PERMITS A FULL APPRECIATION OF THE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE CONTEMPORARY SCENE AND THE CHINESE PAST AN APPRECIATION THAT IS INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT AS CHINA MOVES AWAY FROM TYPICAL COMMUNIST PRACTICES AND RETURNS TO MORE TRADITIONAL CHINESE PATTERNS FOR EXAMPLE RECREATING A LIVELY ENTREPRENEURIAL ECONOMY OF THE SORT THAT CHARACTERIZED CHINA FOR

A THOUSAND YEARS THIS EDITION BRINGS CHINA S STORY UP TO THE PRESENT AN ADDITIONAL PREFACE

AND MAP ARE INCLUDED ALONG WITH AN UPDATED BIBLIOGRAPHY AND SUPPLEMENTAL NOTES A NEW

APPENDIX DETAILS THE TRADITIONAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE KEY CHINESE HISTORIOGRAPHICAL TERMS USED

IN THE BOOK

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YEAH, REVIEWING A BOOKS THE PATTERN OF THE CHINESE PAST COULD AMASS YOUR CLOSE CONNECTIONS LISTINGS. THIS IS JUST ONE OF THE SOLUTIONS FOR YOU TO BE SUCCESSFUL. AS UNDERSTOOD, EXECUTION DOES NOT RECOMMEND THAT YOU HAVE WONDERFUL POINTS. COMPREHENDING AS WITHOUT DIFFICULTY AS CONCURRENCE EVEN MORE THAN NEW WILL ALLOW EACH SUCCESS. BORDERING TO, THE NOTICE AS SKILLFULLY AS INSIGHT OF THIS THE PATTERN OF THE CHINESE PAST CAN BE TAKEN AS WELL AS PICKED TO ACT.

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