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ch ing china and tokugawa japan were unusually urbanized premodern societies where about one half of the world s urban population lived as late as 1800 gilbert rozman has drawn on both sociology and history to develop original methods of illuminating the historical urbanization of china and japan and to provide a way of relating urban patterns to other characteristics of social structure in premodern societies the author also hopes to redirect the analysis of premodern societies into areas where china and japan can be compared with each other and with other large scale societies the author divides central places into seven levels and determines how many levels were present in each country century by century through this method he is able to demonstrate how japan was rapidly narrowing china s lead in urbanization and show that japan was relatively efficient in concentrating resources in high level cities explanations for differences in urban concentration are sought in a general discussion of the social structure of each country an analysis of marketing patterns a detailed study of chihli province and the kant region an examination of regional variations and a comparison of peking and edo which were probably the world s largest cities throughout the eighteenth century originally published in 1974 the princeton legacy library uses the latest print on demand technology to again make available previously out of print books from the distinguished backlist of princeton university press these editions preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback and hardcover editions the goal of the princeton legacy library is

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why did it take china more than a century after its defeat in the first opium war to begin systematically acquiring the fruits of modern technology to what extent did the rapid economic developments after 1949 depend on features unique to china and to chinese history as well as on the socialist reorganization of society these are the major questions examined in this collection of papers which challenges many previously accepted generalizations about the nature and extent of advances in china s economy during the twentieth century the papers discuss the positive and negative effects of foreign imperialism on chinese economic development the adequacy of china s financial resources for major economic initiatives the state of science and technology in late traditional china the changing structure of national product and distribution of income the cotton textile and small machine building industries as examples of pre 1949 economic bases the village market town structure of rural china the tradition of cooperative efforts in agriculture and the influence of the yenan period on the economic thinking of china s leaders

after the 1911 fall of the manchus came the most hideous breakdown in chinese history sheridan a northwestern university scholar concentrates on the kuomintang movement of chiang kai shek insisting that we judge a political force by whether it solves the problems posed to it not as chiang s partisans prefer by means of what if s sheridan s focus on the kmt brings more to light than do many surveys of mao s revolutionaries the kmt failed either to create an effective dictatorship or to mobilize fascist passions which could ensure willingness to sacrifice thus the difficulty in squeezing enough wealth out of the peasantry to meet a foreign debt which totaled half the national revenue the kmt did ensure that forced opium production took up at least a fifth of chinese cropland by the 1929 1933 period and they consolidated a soldier recruitment system that approximated nazi roundups however the book underlines chiang s failure to give the masses a strength through joy spirit and as wartime inflation of 300 gave way to postwar collapse the anti

communist pitch became emptier and emptier the kuomintang turned into a mere holding operation and faded into chaos sheridan gives a strong sense of the rapine of the warlords who were chiang s off and on allies and of the feeble heritage of sun yat sen s patriotic platitudes he leaves out explicit investigation of the international context while underlining more than most writers chiang s commitment to repay external debt at the expense of the chinese people a sound and striking approach to these decades of desperation in the lives of a quarter of the human population if not bypassed in the glut of china books it may encourage students and academics to go further kirkus reviews

focusing on china during the last twenty five years the author illuminates the country s traditions customs political structure and economy

the contributors to this book explore a variety of issues concerned with mainland china s political processes military structure and economic development among them changes in both the ideological superstructure and the organizational base of chinese politics the problem of succession military strategies and civil military relations the use o

most writing on modern china dwells on those aspects which are new to china since the communist takeover stressing above all politics marxism economic and agricultural development first published in 1985 modern china argues that all this writing creates a false impression of what present day china is really like this book contends that much of traditional china remains particularly at the grass roots level and that buddhism and the buddhist tradition continue to exert an influence politics in communist china is best understood in the context of this tradition throughout arguments are supported by revealing how tradition continues in the economy in society and the family by examining in detail the buddhist tradition and by using the case study of education to show the interplay between modern and customary forces

sweet potatoes were among the american crops christopher columbus brought back to europe where they were thought to be an aphrodisiac in china this versatile root became a staple that fueled rapid population growth introduced to japan to stave off famine sweet potatoes later sustained the country s imperial expansion because this hardy plant can thrive in almost any soil it has long been cultivated as a subsistence crop in southeast asia africa and oceania in recent years western health experts have begun touting the humble sweet potato as a superfood with numerous nutritional benefits considering these events and many others staple to superfood explores the sweet potato s rich history and remarkable global influence q edward wang demonstrates how this resilient root has not only nourished communities but also defined their identities tracing its journeys through the intricate networks of global trade and cultural exchange he shows how the sweet potato transformed agricultural practices culinary traditions and social structures worldwide from the americas to europe to asia and the pacific the spread of this crop illuminates the varied paths that global development has taken wang also contrasts the sweet potato with its botanically unrelated namesake the white potato blending agricultural cultural and historical perspectives staple to superfood offers a fresh look at the power of food to transform societies it is a compelling exploration of how the sweet potato shaped the modern world and continues to influence global food systems today

analyse af holdningen i kina til agitation kritik politisk opposition og regimets reaktion herpå

provides a comprehensive history of the near east while also incorporating the most recent scholarship ancient china japan korea and vietnam readers interested in learning about the history and development of east asia

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