

Wu Zhao Chinas Female Emperor

Wu Zhao Educational Memory of Chinese Female Intellectuals in Early Twentieth Century Women Writers in Postsocialist China Women in China from Earliest Times to the Present Images of Women in Chinese Thought and Culture The World of Wu Zhao Biographical Dictionary of Chinese Women Women in Tang China Women of China Famous Women of China Emperor Wu Zhao and Her Pantheon of Devis, Divinities, and Dynastic Mothers Women in China China Chinese Women Film Censorship in China, 1927-1937 Through China with a Camera Heroines of Jiangyong Women and Sexuality in China China Report The Modern Centuries N. Harry Rothschild Lijing Jiang Kay Schaffer Robin D. S. Yates Robin Wang N. Harry Rothschild Lily Xiao Hong Lee Bret Hinsch Ernst Faber N. Harry Rothschild Mechthild Leutner John Makeham Barbara-Sue White Zhiwei Xiao John Thomson Harriet Evans Peter N. Stearns

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the story chronicles wu zhao s humble beginnings as the daughter of a provincial official and follows her path to the inner palace where she improbably rose from a fifth ranked concubine to emperor using buddhist rhetoric architecture court rituals and a network of cruel officials to cow her many opponents in court wu zhao inaugurated a new dynasty in 690 the zhou she ruled as emperor for fifteen years proving eminently competent in the art of governance balancing factions in court staving off the encroachment of turks and tibetans and fostering the state s economic growth

this book studies three female chinese intellectuals in the first half of the 20th century namely feng

yuanjun lu yin and cheng junying the first graduates of beijing female higher normal college which was the first ever national higher educational institution for women in modern china combining narrative inquiry life history oral history and psychohistory methods it comprehensively explores the specific developmental paths and mental processes of the post may fourth female intellectuals and examines the complex interrelationships between various factors including social academic gender and educational evolution in the first half of the 20th century and the emergence of modern chinese female intellectuals the book is highly recommended for all scholars undergraduate and graduate students of modern chinese history gender and women s studies history of education history of higher education etc and for all those who are interested in female chinese intellectuals

what does it mean to read from elsewhere women writers in postsocialist china introduces readers to a range and variety of contemporary chinese women s writing which has seen phenomenal growth in recent years the book addresses the different ways women s issues are understood in china and the west attending to the processes of translation adaptation and the grafting of new ideas with existing chinese understandings of gender feminism subjectivity consumerism and post modernism by focusing on women s autobiographical biographical fictional and historical writing the book engages in a transcultural flow of ideas between western and indigenous chinese feminisms taking account of the accretions of social cultural geographic literary economic and political movements and trends cultural formations and ways of thinking it asks how the texts and the concepts they negotiate might be understood in the social and cultural spaces within china and how they might be interpreted differently elsewhere in the global locations in which they circulate the book argues that women centred writing in china has a direct bearing on global feminist theory and practice this critical study of selected genres and writers highlights the shifts in feminist perspectives within contemporary local and global cultural landscapes

this essential reference work provides an alphabetic listing with an extensive index of studies on women in china from earliest times to the present day written in western languages primarily english french german and italian containing more than 2500 citations of books chapters in books and articles especially those published in the last thirty years and more than 100 titles of doctoral dissertations and masters theses it covers works written in the disciplines of anthropology and sociology art and archaeology demography economics education fashion film and media studies history interdisciplinary studies law literature music medicine science and technology political science and religion and philosophy it also contains many citations of studies of women in hong kong and taiwan

this rich collection of writings many translated especially for this volume and some available in english for the first time provides a journey through the history of chinese culture tracing the chinese understanding of women as elucidated in writings spanning more than two thousand years from the earliest oracle bone inscriptions of the pre qin period through the poems and stories of the song dynasty these works shed light on chinese images of women and their roles in society in terms of such topics as human nature cosmology gender and virtue

this annotated translation of zhang zhao s collection of miscellany court and country offers a lively folksy and novel perspective on the empire of wu zhao china s first and only female emperor that will amuse and shock readers prompting them to recalibrate everything they think they know about medieval china the world of wu zhao includes separate chapters on a number of different themes and topics buddhist and daoist monks the female emperor s male favorites who dressed up in rainbow feathered garments and pranced around her court astride wooden red capped cranes cruel officials bloodthirsty henchmen who took an aesthetic delight in their vocation as well as sections on flora and fauna the common folk artisans and craftsmen the military spirits and the supernatural the borderlands and local officials

this important book provides the first comprehensive survey of women in china during the sui and tang dynasties from the sixth through tenth centuries ce bret hinsch provides rich insight into female life in the medieval era ranging from political power wealth and work to family religious roles and virtues he explores women s lived experiences but also delves into the subjective side of their emotional life and the ideals they pursued deeply researched the book draws on a wide range of sources including standard histories poetry prose literature and epigraphic sources such as epitaphs commemorative religious inscriptions and dunhuang documents building on the best western and japanese scholarship hinsch also draws heavily on chinese scholarship most of which is unknown outside china as the first study in english about women in the medieval era this groundbreaking work will open a new window into chinese history for western readers

wu zhao 624 705 better known as wu zetian or empress wu is the only woman to have ruled china as emperor over the course of its 5 000 year history how did she in a predominantly patriarchal and androcentric society ascend the dragon throne exploring a mystery that has confounded scholars for centuries this multifaceted history suggests that china s rich pantheon of female divinities and eminent women played an integral part in the construction of wu zhao s sovereignty wu zhao deftly deployed language symbol and ideology to harness the cultural resonance maternal force divine energy

and historical weight of buddhist deities confucian exemplars daoist immortals and mythic goddesses establishing legitimacy within and beyond the confines of confucian ideology tapping into powerful subterranean reservoirs of female power wu zhao built a pantheon of female divinities carefully calibrated to meet her needs at court her pageant was promoted in scripted rhetoric reinforced through poetry celebrated in theatrical productions and inscribed on steles rendered with deft political acumen and aesthetic flair these affiliations significantly enhanced wu zhao s authority and cast her as the human vessel through which the pantheon s divine energy flowed her strategy is a model of political brilliance and proof that medieval chinese women enjoyed a more complex social status than previously known

the chinese republican period often seen as representing a continuum between imperial china and the people s republic of china was shaped by profound upheavals that also impacted strongly on gender relations this volume presents the latest research on the situation of women during the republican period placing it in historical perspective in addition to contributions dealing with theoretical and methodological approaches to china related women s research a broad spectrum of experiences and discourses related to women in china is also considered women and the state women and the nation political women and their posthumous careers little traditions and discourses of otherness women in social and economic life and women s education mechtild leutner is professor of chinese studies at the freie universitt in berlin nicola spakowski is a professor at the international university in bremen

china boasts a recorded history that dates back more than 3 500 years and the chinese have endowed the rest of the world with an enduring legacy china examines the turbulent history of this immense nation including the inventiveness of the bronze age society the barbarian invasions the conquest by genghis khan the rise and fall of the dynasties and the opium wars it takes in the architecture of the emperors the magnificent buildings of the forbidden city the imperial tombs and the mysterious entombed warriors it also surveys chinese culture and social history including the rise of confucianism taoism and buddhism and the cult of ancestor worship

this anthology brings together scores of extracts by chinese women and about chinese women ranging from the sixth century ce to the modern day several of them never before published

heroines of jiangyong is the first english translation of a set of verse narratives recorded in the unique women s script nushu of rural jiangyong county hunan in southern china this selection of chinese folk literature provides a rare window into the everyday life of rural daughters wives and mothers as

they transmit valuable lessons about surviving in a patriarchal society that is often harsh and unforgiving featuring strong female protagonists the ballads deal with moral issues dangers women face outside the family home and the difficulties of childbirth the women s script which represents units of sound in the local chinese dialect was discovered by scholars in the late twentieth century creating a stir in china and abroad this volume offers a full translation of all the longer ballads in women s script providing an exceptional opportunity to observe which specific narratives appealed to rural women in traditional china the translations are preceded by a brief introduction to women s script and its scholarship and a discussion of each of the twelve selections

this book analyzes major chinese governmental publications that deal with sexuality in 1950 when the new marriage law was enacted and 1980 with the second marriage law evans chinese univ of westminster is well grounded in both feminist and chinese studies which allows her to deepen her analysis with references to china s present day pop culture and conversations she has had with chinese colleagues her major finding is that chinese discourses consistently use medical and or scientific explanations of gender differences to essentially denigrate women evans s analysis is consistent with much that has been written on china s political system that it cannot survive without maintaining order and stability however she assumes that the audience is fluent in postmodernist language

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