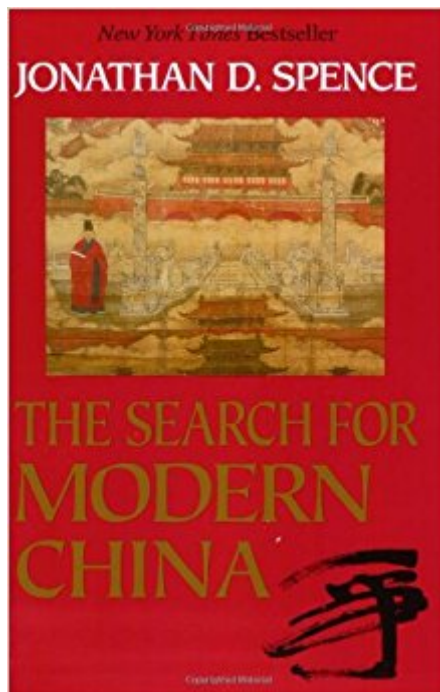


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The Search For Modern China



Synopsis

"A remarkable achievement...vivid...fluent, graceful.... A publishing event." •Boston Globe In this widely acclaimed history of modern China, Jonathan Spence achieves a fine blend of narrative richness and efficiency. Praised as "a miracle of readability and scholarly authority," (Jonathan Mirsky) The Search for Modern China offers a matchless introduction to China's history.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Spence advocates democracy in China and presents contemporary views of its oppressive history, including Chiang Kai-Shek's fascist supporters and the bloodbath known as the Cultural Revolution.

"A splendid achievement, this sweeping . . . epic chronicle compresses four centuries of political and social change into a sharply observant narrative," said PW . Photos. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

YA --The difficulty of finding a complete, one-volume history of China is no longer a problem with publication of this work, which covers Chinese history from the 16th-century Ming Dynasty to the 1989 "China Spring" demonstrations. The 200+ photographs and illustrations, many in color and previously unpublished, include historical notes that add understanding to the art and the stories illustrated. The text is written in an informative manner that will appeal to students; their lack of knowledge of Chinese history is forestalled by the comprehensive glossary that explains phrases, people, and events. High-school teachers will bless you for buying this well-researched volume.-Dolores Steinhauer, Jefferson Sci-Tech, Alexandria, VA Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc.

I took a Modern Chinese History course with Professor Yeh at UC Berkeley. A large portion of her class is based around this book. The book does a wonderful job of explaining the timeline of modern Chinese history and all the major events. It describes and analyzes all the big major events such as end of the Ming Dynasty, Opium Wars, The Boxer Uprising, arrival of communism in China and Soviet influence. I especially liked the later chapters about the Cultural Revolution, the behind the curtain workings of the Mao regime and the rise of the free market economy with the resurrection of Deng Xiaoping. I definitely learned a lot from this book and will not be reselling my copy.

I used Spence to help me build a lecture quickly for my World History class. The prose is very readable and provides interesting information and "flavor." My colleague recommends it as a good introductory text for a specialized class on Chinese history as well but I have not used this text in that capacity.

Incredible wealth of knowledge. Spence's writing is impeccably clear and never dry. He doesn't provide much narrative but it's understandable due to the sheer amount of material he covers.

I thought this was the history book but it's actually a collection of primary sources. Definitely an interesting book, but not what I had wanted originally.

Very interesting book

There is some underlining throughout the book. It was like that today when I got it. Other wise the book is perfect.

I have read other histories of China but Mr. Spence presents it in a very readable way and highlight things glossed over in other book.

Great for my research paper I'm doing. Spence does a great job at covering much of the history of China in extraordinary detail.

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