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this new book provides an accessible and wide ranging introduction to the main features of chinese society drawing on a wealth of material the author offers a fresh understanding of a unique society that has undergone continuous transformation and upheaval throughout the twentieth century understanding chinese society looks in all its richness at the society with the largest population on earth in order to explore long term change and continuity the book examines china from pre revolutionary times to today s rapidly modernising society although the focus is on recent change particular attention is paid to china s cultural traditions and hierarchical relationships in familial and wider social

settings and their fate in the modern world successive chapters investigate changes in the relations of rural and urban sectors of society in the structure of families in political and economic power in cultural hegemony education and the media and in patterns of social inequality a final chapter asks whether chinese society is becoming more complex and differentiated in the course of modernisation and considers recent debates on the growth of civil society and democratisation this book will be indispensable for anyone studying chinese society asian societies and comparative sociology

as china gains power economically politically and militarily and interaction between the chinese and people outside china increases it becomes more and more important that we understand the social factors that influence the daily lives of china s population this new introductory textbook is suitable for all students taking a course on chinese society it presents both historical and contemporary contexts and the latest available research findings with chapters covering many key aspects of life in china including religion social policy and welfare the history and impact of the chinese communist party familial relationships ethnicity gender the media and the education system this textbook gives the reader a user friendly and comprehensive introduction to the most important issues affecting chinese society today it also includes handy pedagogical features such as a chronology of the people s republic of china further reading suggestions and related novels films and autobiographies armed with such a book readers will not only gain a deeper understanding of chinese society but a rewarding appreciation for the people cultures and social organizations of the world s most populous country written by a team of contributors from the uk china australia singapore and hong kong understanding chinese society is suitable for anyone studying chinese society chinese studies and asian sociology

a lucid and fascinating work about chinese society and values fei s account of how china differs from the west is every bit as telling now as it was when this book was first published almost half a century ago orville schell what are the fundamental characteristics of chinese society and how does it differ from the west in from the soil china s foremost sociologist offered his insights based on fieldwork in china and residence in the west into this fascinating question vivid and clearly written it has long been a classic of chinese sociology widely read by chinese it is wonderful finally to have it available in english david arkush university of iowa

chinese society has seen phenomenal change in the last 30 years two of the most profound changes have been the rise of the individual in both public and private spheres and the consequent individualization of chinese society itself yet despite china s recent dramatic entrance into global politics and economics neither of these significant shifts has been fully analysed china may indeed present an alternative model of social transformation in the age of globalisation so its path to development may have particular implications for the developing world the individualization of chinese society reveals how individual agency has been on the rise since the 1970s and how this has impacted on

everyday life and chinese society more broadly the book presents a wide range of detailed case studies on the impact of economic policy patterns of kinship changes in marriage relations and the socio economic position of women the development of youth culture the politics of consumerism and shifting power relations in everyday life

there is growing interest in social transformation in contemporary china with much work published on the subject this book is different from other books in that it presents an overview of the work of chinese sociologists on how chinese society is changing it reports on a great deal of original research by leading outstanding chinese scholars including extensive fieldwork and large scale social change survey data and covers comprehensively the full range of aspects of the subject it assesses developments since the beginning of reform in china and provides overall a comprehensive understanding of china s social development and of the likely impact of future social changes on china

china s rapid economic growth modernization and globalization have led to astounding social changes contemporary china provides a fascinating portrayal of society and social change in the contemporary people s republic of china this book introduces readers to key sociological perspectives themes and debates about chinese society it explores topics such as family life citizenship gender ethnicity labour religion education class and rural urban inequalities it considers china s imperial past the social and institutional legacies of the maoist era and the momentous forces shaping it in the present it also emphasises diversity and multiplicity encouraging readers to consider new perspectives and rethink western stereotypes about china and its people real life case studies illustrate the key features of social relations and change in china definitions of key terms discussion questions and lists of further reading help consolidate learning including full colour maps and photographs this book offers remarkable insight into chinese society and social change

this title is part of uc press s voices revived program which commemorates university of california press s mission to seek out and cultivate the brightest minds and give them voice reach and impact drawing on a backlist dating to 1893 voices revived makes high quality peer reviewed scholarship accessible once again using print on demand technology this title was originally published in 1961

this bestselling introduction to chinese society uses the themes of resistance and protest to explore the complexity of life in contemporary china an interdisciplinary and international team of china scholars draw on perspectives from sociology anthropology psychology history and political science and covers a broad range of issues topics covered include labour and environmental disputes rural and ethnic conflict migration legal challenges intellectual and religious dissidence opposition to family planning the newly revised third edition adds two new chapters on gender and the family and the reform of the hukou system thus providing a comprehensive text for both undergraduates and specialists in the field encouraging the reader to challenge conventional images of contemporary chinese society

the concept of civil society was borrowed from eighteenth century europe to provide a framework for understanding the transition to post authoritarian regimes in latin america and postcommunist regimes elsewhere in china the democracy movement forced the concept onto the intellectual agenda during the struggle to come to terms with the growth of dissent and the failure of student activism to find a secure foothold the question that drives this book is whether this concept is useful for analyzing china and if so in what ways and within what limits part one stakes out the three main positions that civil society as defined in the western context is useful for analyzing china that the concept needs to be revised to include state led civil society and that the concept must be jettisoned in favor of one derived entirely from the chinese context part two presents four case studies of universities youth trade unions and rural society in addition to being the first broadly based book on civil society in china the important contribution of this book is that it recognizes that it is necessary to retheorize civil society as linked to the state contrary to the western notion of civil society as opposed to the state

in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries merchants in china were incorporated into the bourgeoisie and constituted a vital part of the upstart capitalists the lowermost class in ancient china s social hierarchy has thus become a strong force of social transformation in the modern era from the angle of the interaction between the merchant and modern society this book examines the factors behind the rise of the merchant class in china in terms of its cultural traits inner structure and business modes first it analyzes the features and historical standings of merchant culture which came into existence on the basis of reworking and integrating neo confucianism it argues that merchant culture pushed china s early enlightenment movement to a new level then the rise of the bourgeoisie and their role in the evolution of modern chinese society are studied thoroughly more importantly by examining the golden age of the merchant after the 1911 revolution and its end brought by the northern expedition this book studies the dilemmas faced by chinese merchants finally it probes into the reasons why it was hard for china to go beyond modern society that is completing the transition from commodity economy to capitalist economy this book will deepen the understanding of china s merchant class and modern chinese society scholars and students in economics history sociology and cultural studies will be attracted by it

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this new fifth edition of information resources in toxicology offers a consolidated entry portal for the study research and practice of toxicology both volumes represents a unique wide ranging curated international annotated bibliography and directory of major resources in toxicology and allied fields such as environmental and occupational health chemical safety and risk assessment the editors and authors are among the leaders of the profession sharing their cumulative wisdom in toxicology s subdisciplines this edition keeps pace with the digital world in directing and linking readers to relevant websites and other online tools due to the increasing size of the hardcopy publication the current edition has been divided into two volumes to make it easier to handle and consult volume 1 background resources and tools arranged in 5 parts begins with chapters on the science of toxicology its history and informatics framework in part 1 part 2 continues with chapters organized by more specific subject such as cancer clinical toxicology genetic toxicology etc the categorization of chapters by resource format for example journals and newsletters technical reports organizations constitutes part 3 part 4 further considers toxicology s presence via the internet databases and software tools among the miscellaneous topics in the concluding part 5 are laws and regulations professional education grants and funding and patents volume 2 the global arena offers contributed chapters focusing on the toxicology contributions of over 40 countries followed by a glossary of toxicological terms and an appendix of popular quotations related to the field the book offered in both print and electronic formats is carefully structured indexed and cross referenced to enable users to easily find answers to their questions or serendipitously locate useful knowledge they were not originally aware they needed among the many timely topics receiving increased emphasis are disaster preparedness nanotechnology omics risk assessment societal implications such as ethics and the precautionary principle climate change and children s environmental health opens with an overview of the international toxicology scene organizations and activities involved with both the science and regulatory framework and a specific look at the european union s efforts offers an extensive collection of chapters covering over 40 countries and their toxicological infrastructure which includes listings of major books and journals organizations professional societies universities poison control centers legislation and online databases provides the second edition of the international union of pure and applied chemistry s glossary of terms used in toxicology a carefully constructed and peer reviewed collation of critical terms in the science concludes with a potpourri of quotes concerning toxicology and their use in the arts and popular culture paired with volume one which offers chapters on a host of toxicology sub disciplines this set offers the most comprehensive compendium of print digital and organizational resources in the toxicological sciences with over120 chapters contributions by experts and leaders in the field

contains list of members

australia is one of the most ethnically diverse societies in the world today from its ancient indigenous origins to british colonisation followed by waves of european then international migration in the twentieth century the island continent is home to people from all over the globe

each new wave of settlers has had a profound impact on australian society and culture the australian people documents the dramatic history of australian settlement and describes the rich ethnic and cultural inheritance of the nation through the contributions of its people it is one of the largest reference works of its kind with approximately 250 expert contributors and almost one million words illustrated in colour and black and white the book is both a comprehensive encyclopedia and a survey of the controversial debates about citizenship and multiculturalism now that australia has attained the centenary of its federation

this title is part of uc press s voices revived program which commemorates university of california press s mission to seek out and cultivate the brightest minds and give them voice reach and impact drawing on a backlist dating to 1893 voices revived makes high quality peer reviewed scholarship accessible once again using print on demand technology this title was originally published in 1985

this authoritative volume a large scale empirical work comparable to pitirim sorokin s social mobility is a penetrating and comprehensive study of social stratification and mobility in traditional chinese society and a highly significant addition to the theoretical and factual foundations of contemporary social science it offers an authentic portrayal not only of social mobility but of social life in china in general at the time of its original publication in the 1960s it includes the life histories of the upper class scholars active and retired officials merchants and wealthy landlords and an analysis of social statistics drawn from one chinese county which provides new interpretations of the processes of social mobility the relationship of this class to society as a whole and the motives of upwardly mobile individuals each life history comprises at least five generations and its resulting accounts touch upon the lives of 1 200 persons and help place the development of the gentry in illuminating context within the population as a whole chow s book offers a welcome method of comparison of two societies that have both birth and mobile elites as china entered the world system its open class system changed from fluidity to disorganization regarding its character as such it was transformed into an innovating society in which the earlier system could not or did not work social mobility in traditional chinese society is unique in its field for the successful correlation of conceptual framework with its detailed wealth of empirical findings it will be welcomed by all students of social science international relations and asian studies

before 1978 china was backward economically politically diplomatically and was extremely isolated the country had a few diplomatic allies like north korea russia and vietnam however in the past three decades the country has witnessed robust changes that have aroused the interest of the westerners in knowing more about the country this book provides first hand information on china s social changes and economic transformation it enables readers to understand the chinese society vividly dynamically and practically it examines various facets of the chinese society ranging from famous landmarks popular customs festivals food daily chores etc the book also offers tips for those who are willing to live work and run a business in china

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