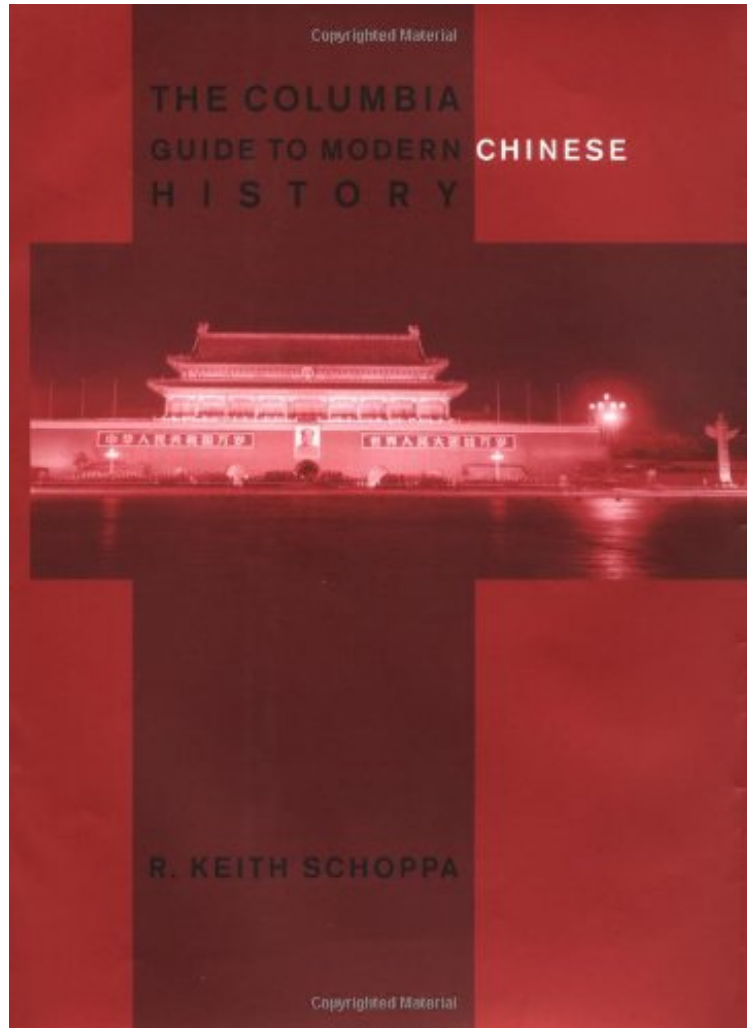


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The Columbia Guide to Modern Chinese History

R. Keith Schoppa

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R. Keith Schoppa : The Columbia Guide to Modern Chinese History before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Columbia Guide to Modern Chinese History:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. EssentialBy Sharon AmmermanBought this to prepare for a Chinese teaching certification exam, and now plan to use it for a high school Chinese history course. The "story" of history woven in this volume is clear and powerful, and the organized resources are invaluable to a beginning history student or a long-term buff. LOVE the extended glossary of events, terms, figures, etc.2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Very ShipshapeBy Thomas F. OgaraAn excellent quick synopsis of modern China. Gives an historical overview, biographies of the major players, and descriptions of all the recent historical trends that make China what it is today, all in 300 pages.My only reason to withhold five stars is that I felt the treatment of the last forty years or so

was a bit cursory. But then, this is a history book, and not a current events review. I'd recommend it to anybody who is looking for a quick but thorough treatment of the subject. 4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Just the Right Amount of Information
By Dean
If you are considering doing business in China, are concerned about global geopolitical developments, or just interested in history and current affairs, this is the book for you. It presents a thorough, yet highly engaging overview of the developments that have led to the modern Chinese State. If you are only going to read one book on China, this would be the one.

China, the world's oldest and most populous state, remains an enigma to most people in the West, even at a time when that country is playing an increasingly prominent role on the international stage. At the heart of modern Chinese history have been the efforts of the Chinese people to transform their polity into a modern nation state, the Confucian orthodoxy into an ideology that can help direct that process, and an agrarian economy into an industrial one. These efforts are ongoing and of great importance. This book is both an introduction to the major features of modern Chinese history and a resource for researchers interested in virtually any topic relating to the Chinese experience of the last 220 years. This valuable reference contains: a historical narrative providing a comprehensive overview of five core aspects of Chinese history: domestic politics, society, the economy, the world of culture and thought, and relations with the outside world; a compendium of 250 short, descriptive articles on key figures, events, and terms; a resource guide containing approximately 500 annotated entries for the most authoritative sources for further research in English, as well as descriptions of important films depicting modern China and a guide to electronic resources; and appendices, including a chronology, excerpts from key primary source documents, and a wealth of tables and graphs on demographic, social, and economic trends.

Schoppa's guide to Chinese history since 1770 is a short but surprisingly useful beginner's research tool... [his] book should be in the reference sections of high school as well as college libraries and may be useful as a text in Chinese politics courses. (Choice)
About the Author
R. Keith Schoppa holds the Doehler Chair in Asian History at Loyola College. He is the author of *Blood Road: The Mystery of Shen Dingyi in Revolutionary China*, *Xiang Lake: Nine Centuries of Chinese Life*, and *Chinese Elites and Political Change*.