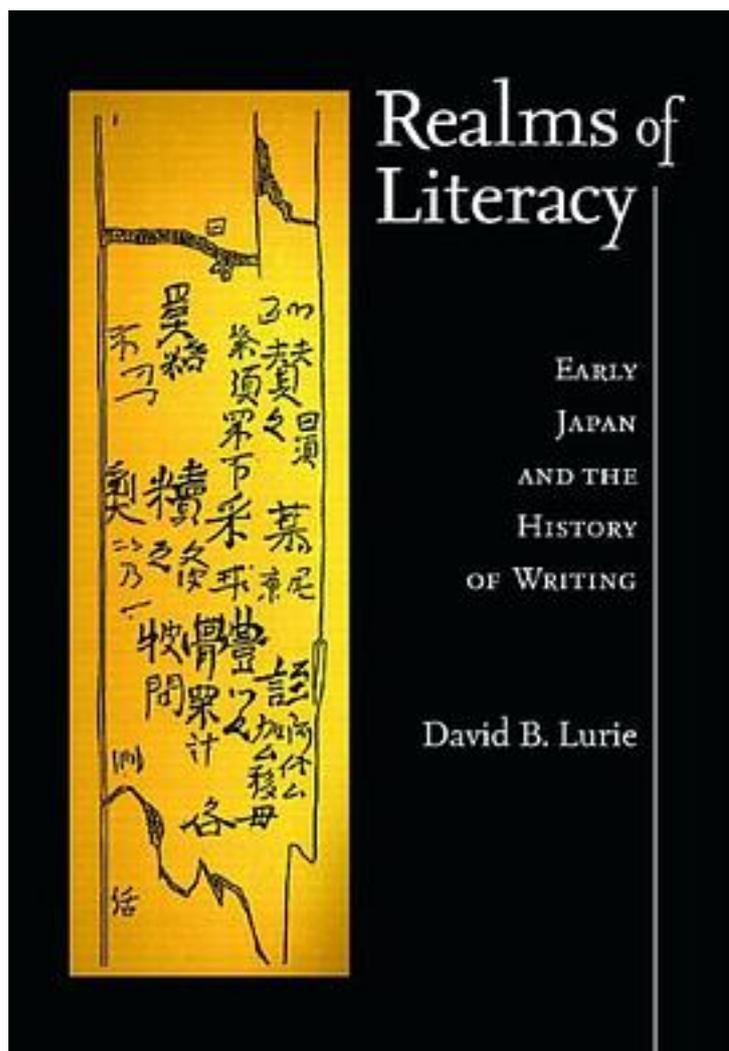# Realms of Literacy

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著者:David B. Lurie

出版者:Harvard University Asia Center

出版时间:2011

装帧:Hardcover

isbn:9780674060654

In the world history of writing, Japan presents an unusually detailed record of transition to literacy. Extant materials attest to the social, cultural, and political contexts and consequences of the advent of writing and reading, from the earliest appearance of imported artifacts with Chinese inscriptions in the first century BCE, through the production of texts within the Japanese archipelago in the fifth century, to the widespread literacies and the simultaneous rise of a full-fledged state in the late seventh and eighth centuries. David B. Lurie explores the complex processes of adaptation and invention that defined the early Japanese transition from orality to textuality. Drawing on archaeological and archival sources varying in content, style, and medium, this book highlights the diverse modes and uses of writing that coexisted in a variety of configurations among different social groups. It offers new perspectives on the pragmatic contexts and varied natures of multiple simultaneous literacies, the relations between languages and systems of inscription, and the aesthetic dimensions of writing. Lurie's investigation into the textual practices of early Japan illuminates not only the cultural history of East Asia but also the broader comparative history of writing and literacy in the ancient world.

作者介绍:

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标签

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评论

大概是讨论对象太过繁难的关系，文脉有些纷杂，看得出来在术语与表达上（过分）斟词酌句之处。基本上消解了一系列粗暴的二元对立和单线程叙事，前半部把literacy和pre-literacy的简单对立复杂化为不同形态的literacy，从而宣告了对于单一、确定的书写起源的搜寻的徒劳无功；后半部从训读出发，否决了传统所谓和汉语言上的对立，转而提出书写风格层面的多样性，顺带否定了从训假到音假的线性发展过程。就看问题的视角而言讨论万叶集中不同层面的context一节最有启发意义。最终章也有用，将国学者放回书写史中，转过来看国学者构造出来的对立是如何在三个世纪的时间内逐渐在知识界之外生根发芽，成长为今天如此根深蒂固的思维定式。

作者在學術研究上的嚴謹精神和對日文與中文從ancient
period開始的關係的理解讓人敬佩。他的書直接打臉了那些說古事記和中國神話傳說，萬葉集和漢詩沒神馬關係，全是獨一無二的純日本文學的學者們。

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书评

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