

Inheritance of Loss

*China, Japan,
and the Political
Economy of
Redemption after
Empire*

Inheritance of Loss



Yukiko Koga

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出版者:University Of Chicago Press

出版时间:2016-11-28

装帧:Paperback

isbn:9780226412139

How do contemporary generations come to terms with losses inflicted by imperialism, colonialism, and war that took place decades ago? How do descendants of perpetrators and victims establish new relations in today's globalized economy? With *Inheritance of Loss*, Yukiko Koga approaches these questions through the unique lens of inheritance, focusing on Northeast China, the former site of the Japanese puppet state Manchukuo, where municipal governments now court Japanese as investors and tourists. As China transitions to a market-oriented society, this region is restoring long-neglected colonial-era structures to boost tourism and inviting former colonial industries to create special economic zones, all while inadvertently unearthing chemical weapons abandoned by the Imperial Japanese Army at the end of World War II.

Inheritance of Loss chronicles these sites of colonial inheritance—tourist destinations, corporate zones, and mustard gas exposure sites—to illustrate attempts by ordinary Chinese and Japanese to reckon with their shared yet contested pasts. In her explorations of everyday life, Koga directs us to see how the violence and injustice that occurred after the demise of the Japanese Empire compound the losses that later generations must account for, and inevitably inherit.

作者介绍:

Yukiko Koga is an anthropologist teaching at the City University of New York's Hunter College.

She specializes in legal anthropology, urban space, post-colonial & post-imperial relations, history & memory, and transnational East Asia (China and Japan).

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选题不错!

殖民残存与市场经济在当代东北的碰撞、中日复杂微妙的纠葛。对于“遗产”和“认真”的词汇分析非常精准。场景描绘清晰动人，有身临其境之感，体现了作者如新闻记者般的观察与洞察力。不过不时掺杂理论，大大影响理解。

作者是17年东亚人类学会分会许焯光奖得主

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