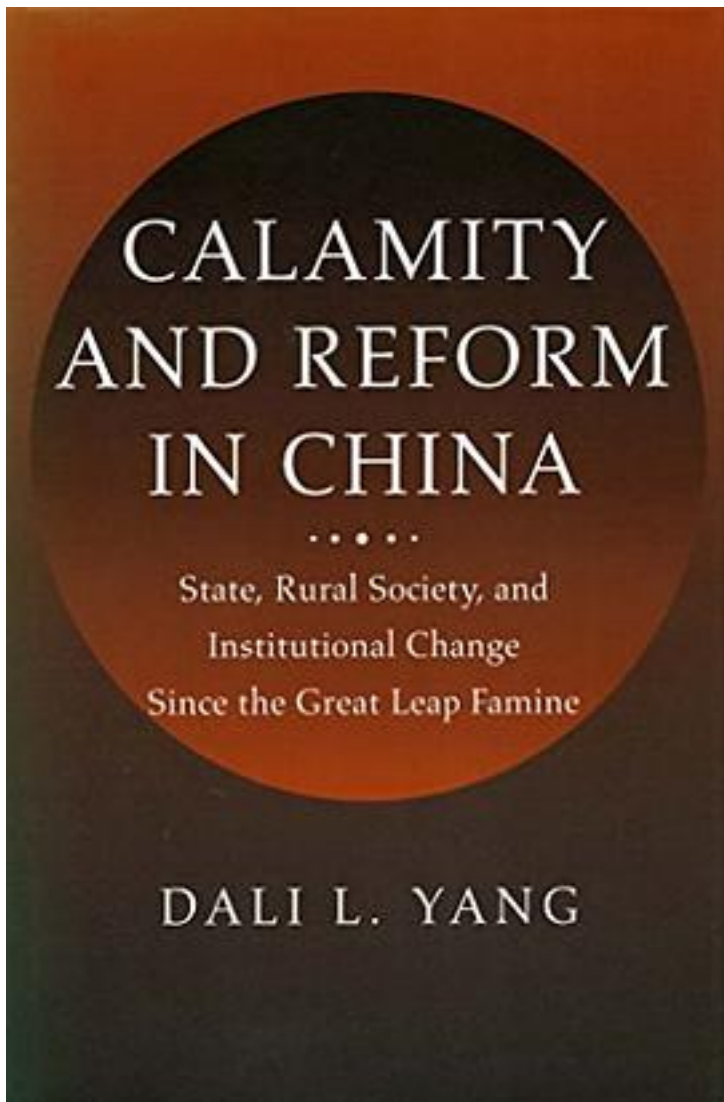


Calamity and Reform in China



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China's Great Leap Famine of 1959-61 resulted in 30 million deaths, making it easily the worst famine in human history. Yet unlike the Cultural Revolution - that other massive catastrophe of Mao's rule - the Great Leap Forward has received scant scholarly attention. This is partly because victims of the ensuing famine were inarticulate farmers and partly because many key players in that inglorious era are members of the current elite who tightly guard the archives. Despite these impediments, the author has marshalled an impressive array of historical documents to provide the first comprehensive treatment of the political causes and consequences of the Great Leap Famine. The Famine is important because it furnished the crucial historical motives for dismantling the rural collective institutional structure in post-Mao China two decades later and motivating tens of millions of ordinary Chinese to enact the reforms.

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标签

政治学

中国研究

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评论

在political science里算好的吧。。

不管论证的内容是否会被后续史料逐渐修正，故事和逻辑绝对是非常精彩的。

cognitive approach to institutional change. 80s reform resulted from GLF, as opposed to CR. development of TVE, change in state-society relationship

formalistic social science 过了头

能读到作者的关怀，理论逻辑上说得通，然而证据不足以支撑。写作上更像史学

一种解释

cognitive bias/history is path dependent, crisis的exogenous shock

我认为这是要了解大饥荒和农村变革的不可缺少的英文文献。这本书框架清晰，结合了社科的多种研究方法，也没有过分贪心地沉醉于历史细节，非常适合摘选章节给那种没啥中国背景的学生做课后阅读。更难能可贵的是，Yang围绕大饥荒的产生及其政治、社会遗产讲的这个故事非常完整。我信了。可与David Zweig的Agrarian Radicalism配合服用。

大概是个throwback classic吧，实证上，机制太难做了。

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书评

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