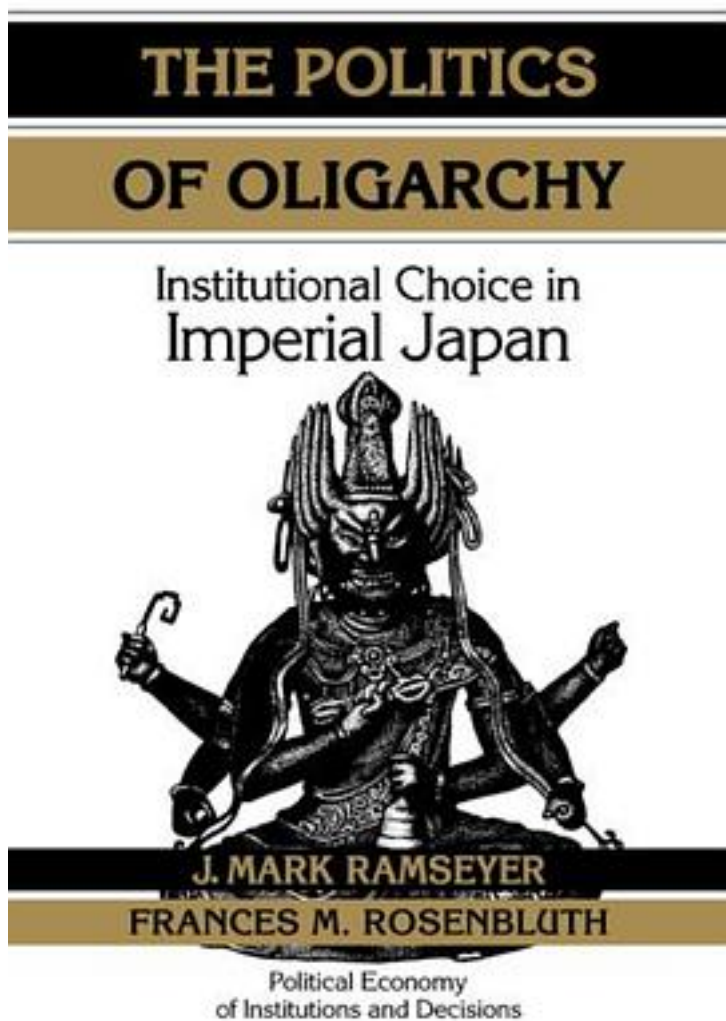


The Politics of Oligarchy



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This book examines a key question of modern Japanese politics: why the Meiji oligarchs were unable to design institutions capable of protecting their power. The authors question why the oligarchs chose the political institutions they did, and what the consequences of those choices were for Japan's political competition, economic development, and diplomatic relations. Indeed, they argue, it was the oligarchs' very inability to agree among themselves on how to rule that prompted them to cut the military loose from civilian control--a decision that was to have disastrous consequences not only for Japan but for the rest of the world.

作者介绍:

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2. The collapse of oligarchy: failed attempts at cartel-maintenance

3. Concession or facade: the Meiji constitution

4. Electoral rules and party competition: the struggle for political survival

5. The bureaucracy: who ruled whom?

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11. Conclusion: institutions and political control

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标签

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评论

优点是逻辑一致而清晰

要不是校对和翻译 估计这辈子也不会碰这种书...还是有点意思的

在此书的日文版前言里，作者这样写道，触及战前史的此书的研究，对于日本读者而言大概会难免产生”多么高慢的美国人“的想法吧，然而相较于历史学的研究，此书想提供给读者一个分析战前史不同的视角。的确，仅就学术框架而言，此书的理论绝非新奇。自三谷太一郎和板野润治以来，寡头之间的内争推动了国会的开设，推动了民主化的前行。而元老制度的崩坏促进了明治宪法体制最终的建前和本音相互冲突，并且走向灭亡的解释都是学界的常谈。但是，首尾一贯的提出完整的政治经济学的理性选择的制度主义框架，则的确有赖于此书的功劳。就史料的运用而言，此书出版之后伊藤之雄在Levithan上发表了异常严厉的酷评，自然从证据的实证层面此书的缺点也完全如同伊藤的评论一样。但是，伊藤所不能否认的是此书理论的解释性是非常完整的。绝对值得精读一下

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